

# HOUSE BILL 460

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5lr0546

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By: **Delegates Rosenberg and Haynes**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2015

Assigned to: Appropriations

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 14, 2015

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Couples Advancing Together Pilot Program – Eligibility and Extension**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the requirement relating to the number of counties in which  
4 the Secretary of Human Resources is required to establish the Couples Advancing  
5 Together Pilot Program; altering the provision of law relating to the number of  
6 couples to be assisted by the Program; repealing the requirement that an individual  
7 be an adult under a certain age to be eligible to participate in the Program; requiring  
8 a couple to be raising together a child under a certain age to be eligible to participate  
9 in the Program; altering the termination date of the Program; and generally relating  
10 to the Couples Advancing Together Pilot Program.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
12 Article – Human Services  
13 Section 5–318.1(a)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2007 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article – Human Services  
18 Section 5–318.1(b) and (e)  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2007 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
22 Chapter 367 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2013

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**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Section 3

2 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
3 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

4 **Article – Human Services**

5 5–318.1.

6 (a) In this section, “Program” means the Couples Advancing Together Pilot  
7 Program in the Department.

8 (b) (1) In cooperation with the local directors and in consultation with the  
9 Commission on Responsible Fatherhood, the Secretary shall establish a Couples Advancing  
10 Together Pilot Program.

11 (2) The purpose of the Program is to assist [100] couples that qualify as a  
12 family eligible for the FIP to move toward stable relationships and family friendly  
13 employment, for one or both parents of a child who resides with the family, in order to  
14 improve their economic circumstances and provide support for lasting family units.

15 (3) (I) The Program shall be established ~~INITIALLY~~ in [at least three  
16 counties] **ONE COUNTY**.

17 (II) **ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2017 2015, THE PROGRAM SHALL BE**  
18 ~~ESTABLISHED IN TWO ADDITIONAL COUNTIES.~~

19 ~~(4) (I) BEFORE JULY 1, 2017, THE PROGRAM SHALL ASSIST 100~~  
20 ~~COUPLES.~~

21 ~~(II) ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2017, THE PROGRAM SHALL ASSIST~~  
22 ~~150 COUPLES ASSIST 50 COUPLES.~~

23 (e) To be eligible to participate in the Program, [an individual must be an adult  
24 under the age of 36 years] **A COUPLE MUST BE RAISING TOGETHER A CHILD UNDER**  
25 **THE AGE OF 14 YEARS.**

26 **Chapter 367 of the Acts of 2013**

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
28 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of [2] ~~7~~ **3** years and 1 month and, at the end  
29 of June 30, [2015] ~~2020~~ **2016**, with no further action required by the General Assembly,  
30 this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
32 1, 2015.