

## **Chapter 496**

**(Senate Bill 536)**

AN ACT concerning

### **Department of Juvenile Services – Graduated Responses – Report**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Juvenile Services to report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date on the implementation of a system of graduated responses for children under the jurisdiction of the Department; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Department of Juvenile Services and graduated responses.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) In this section, “graduated responses” means an accountability–based series of sanctions, including incentives, treatment, and services, applicable to children within the juvenile justice system, administered to hold children accountable for their actions and to protect communities from the effects of juvenile delinquency by providing appropriate sanctions for every act for which a child is adjudicated delinquent, by encouraging law–abiding behavior, and by preventing subsequent involvement in the juvenile justice system.

(b) On or before December 1, 2014, the Department of Juvenile Services shall report to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and the House Judiciary Committee, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, on the implementation of a system of graduated responses for children under the jurisdiction of the Department.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2013.

**Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2013.**