

SENATE BILL 962

E4

9lr2886

By: **Senator Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2019

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Correctional Services – Offender Rehabilitation and Reentry Program –**
3 **Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services,
5 on or before a certain date, to establish an Offender Rehabilitation and Reentry
6 Program; providing for the purpose of the program; requiring the Governor to include
7 certain funds annually in the State budget for certain purposes; requiring the
8 Department to cooperate with, assist, and provide technical assistance to qualified
9 reentry service programs that provide certain services to ex-offenders, provide
10 certain grants, and develop certain procedures; requiring the Department to adopt
11 certain regulations; and generally relating to offender rehabilitation and reentry.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Correctional Services

14 Section 2–501 through 2–503 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 5. Offender
15 Rehabilitation and Reentry Program”

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Correctional Services**

21 **SUBTITLE 5. OFFENDER REHABILITATION AND REENTRY PROGRAM.**

22 **2–501.**

23 **(A) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2020, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH**
24 **AN OFFENDER REHABILITATION AND REENTRY PROGRAM.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE AND COORDINATE THE**
2 **DELIVERY OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO RECENTLY RELEASED EX-OFFENDERS TO**
3 **FACILITATE TRANSITION BACK INTO THE COMMUNITY, REDUCE RECIDIVISM, AND**
4 **ASSIST IN JOB TRAINING AND PLACEMENT, HOUSING, HEALTH, LITERACY, AND**
5 **EDUCATION.**

6 **(C) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2021, THE GOVERNOR SHALL ANNUALLY**
7 **INCLUDE \$250,000 IN THE STATE BUDGET TO ACCOMPLISH THE PURPOSES OF THIS**
8 **SUBTITLE.**

9 **2-502.**

10 **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

11 **(1) COOPERATE WITH, ASSIST, AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**
12 **TO QUALIFIED REENTRY SERVICE PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING**
13 **SERVICES TO EX-OFFENDERS:**

14 **(I) DOCUMENTATION ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING DRIVER'S**
15 **LICENSES, BIRTH CERTIFICATES, AND SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS;**

16 **(II) LITERACY ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING OBTAINING A GED;**

17 **(III) EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT AND JOB READINESS, INCLUDING**
18 **PLACEMENT IN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS;**

19 **(IV) FAMILY, CHILDREN, AND PARENTING RESOURCES,**
20 **INCLUDING OBTAINING CHILD SUPPORT MODIFICATIONS;**

21 **(V) FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND EDUCATION, INCLUDING**
22 **INFORMATION ON FILING TAXES, OBTAINING FINANCIAL AID FOR EDUCATION,**
23 **EMERGENCY SERVICES, AND ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL AND STATE BENEFITS;**

24 **(VI) FOOD AND CLOTHING;**

25 **(VII) MEDICAL CARE AND HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE;**

26 **(VIII) MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT;**

27 **(IX) LEGAL AID AND EXPUNGEMENT INFORMATION; AND**

1 **(X) VICTIM RESOURCES, INCLUDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**
2 **PROTECTION;**

3 **(2) PROVIDE GRANTS TO DESIGNATED LOCAL REENTRY SERVICE**
4 **PROGRAMS FROM STATE FUNDS DEDICATED FOR THE OFFENDER REHABILITATION**
5 **AND REENTRY PROGRAM; AND**

6 **(3) DEVELOP PROCEDURES FOR A LOCAL REENTRY SERVICE**
7 **PROGRAM TO APPLY FOR A GRANT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE.**

8 **2-503.**

9 **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
10 **SUBTITLE.**

11 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**
12 **October 1, 2019.**