

HOUSE BILL 1136

D5, O4

4lr2260

By: **Delegates Boaf, Holmes, Taylor, and McCaskill**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2024

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Human Services – Youth Services Bureaus – Funding**
3 **(Youth Services Bureau Restoration Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing a requirement that a certain substance use disorder
5 assessment and referral training be provided by a certain entity; repealing a
6 requirement that youth services bureaus provide alternative leisure activities;
7 repealing a requirement that the proposed budget of the Department of Human
8 Services list eligible youth services bureaus and estimate the amount of State funds
9 to allocate to each; requiring State matching funds for a youth services bureau to be
10 paid directly to the youth services bureau; and generally relating to youth services
11 bureaus.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Human Services
14 Section 9–233
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Human Services**

20 9–233.

21 (a) In this section, “youth services bureau” means a community–based entity that
22 is operated:

23 (1) to provide community–oriented delinquency prevention, youth suicide
24 prevention, drug and alcohol [abuse] **USE DISORDER** prevention, and youth development;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) to ameliorate conditions that contribute to delinquency, youth suicide,
2 drug and alcohol [abuse] **USE DISORDER**, and family disruption; and

3 (3) to function as an advocate of youth needs.

4 (b) (1) The Department shall adopt regulations that set eligibility guidelines
5 for State funding of youth services bureaus under this section.

6 (2) The regulations shall require that each youth services bureau that
7 receives State funding:

8 (i) provide, at convenient hours:

9 1. individual, family, or group counseling;

10 2. referral and information services;

11 3. crisis intervention, including intervention relating to
12 youth suicide prevention;

13 4. alcohol and drug [abuse] **USE DISORDER** assessment and
14 referral services by staff who have received substance [abuse] **USE DISORDER** assessment
15 and referral training [from the Office of Education and Training for Addiction Services
16 (OETAS) in the Maryland Department of Health or from any other entity that the Secretary
17 determines to be qualified to provide substance abuse assessment and referral training];

18 5. informal counseling; and

19 6. in accordance with the needs of the community and subject
20 to the availability of funds:

21 A. tutoring;

22 B. [alternative leisure activities;

23 C.] employment assistance;

24 [D.] C. community education, including training and
25 information relating to youth suicide prevention;

26 [E.] D. aftercare services; and

27 [F.] E. other specialized services;

1 (ii) subject to subsection (c)(2) of this section, provide the services
2 described in item (i) of this paragraph free of charge or at a rate that its board of directors
3 establishes, in consultation with the Department, that is based on the client's family
4 income; and

5 (iii) dispose of all information and records on each individual
6 receiving services from the youth services bureau 5 years after services to the individual
7 terminate.

8 (c) (1) A youth services bureau may retain any fees charged under subsection
9 (b)(2)(ii) of this section.

10 (2) The fees authorized under subsection (b)(2)(ii) of this section do not
11 apply to youth referred to a youth services bureau by court order.

12 (d) (1) The Department shall:

13 (i) monitor the operations of each youth services bureau that
14 receives State funding;

15 (ii) evaluate annually the effectiveness of each youth services
16 bureau; and

17 (iii) discontinue funding a youth services bureau that is ineffective or
18 that, for 2 years, fails to meet the eligibility guidelines for State funding.

19 (2) The Department shall review and approve or disapprove an application
20 for State funding of a youth services bureau or proposed youth services bureau.

21 (e) (1) (i) The State and the local government shall jointly fund an eligible
22 youth services bureau.

23 (ii) The State shall provide 75% of the funding for an eligible youth
24 services bureau, as provided in the State budget.

25 (2) At the times that the Department specifies, each eligible youth services
26 bureau shall submit a proposed annual budget to the Department for review and approval.

27 (3) [The proposed budget of the Department shall list the eligible youth
28 services bureaus and estimate the amount of State funds to be allocated to each.

29 (4) (i) The local governing body that provides the matching funds for an
30 eligible youth services bureau [may choose to] **SHALL** have the State funds for the youth
31 services bureau paid directly to [its private sponsor or to the local governing body] **THE**
32 **YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU.**

1 (ii) Before the State funds are paid, the fiscal officer of the local
2 government shall certify in writing the source of the matching funds provided by the local
3 government.

4 (F) (1) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026, AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER,
5 THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION
6 OF AT LEAST \$4,800,000 TO FUND YOUTH SERVICES BUREAUS THAT MEET THE
7 REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.

8 (2) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS
9 PARAGRAPH, FROM THE FUNDING PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
10 SUBSECTION, EACH YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU SHALL RECEIVE AT LEAST \$200,000
11 FOR EACH LOCAL JURISDICTION PROVIDING MATCHING FUNDS UNDER SUBSECTION
12 (E) OF THIS SECTION.

13 (II) IF A YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU SERVES MORE THAN ONE
14 LOCAL JURISDICTION, THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU SHALL RECEIVE AT LEAST
15 \$200,000 FOR EACH LOCAL JURISDICTION PROVIDING MATCHING FUNDS UNDER
16 SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION.

17 (G) (1) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2026, AND EACH DECEMBER 1
18 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE SENATE
19 BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS
20 COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT
21 ARTICLE.

22 (2) THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
23 SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING DATA FROM EACH YOUTH SERVICES
24 BUREAU THAT RECEIVES STATE FUNDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION:

25 (I) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED, INCLUDING DETAILS
26 ON AGE, RACE, ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND GENDER IDENTITY;

27 (II) THE NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED;

28 (III) RESULTS OF PRE-POST EVALUATIONS USED BY EACH
29 BUREAU TO EVALUATE IMPROVEMENTS IN BEHAVIORAL ISSUES; AND

30 (IV) THE PERCENTAGE OF YOUTH SERVED WHO, FOLLOWING
31 THE COMPLETION OF SERVICES, DID NOT ENTER OR RE-ENTER THE JUVENILE
32 JUSTICE SYSTEM.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
34 1, 2024.