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By: **Delegate Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2005

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Juvenile Services - Regional Youth Facilities**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Juvenile Services, on or before a  
4 certain date, to establish and operate certain regional facilities; requiring the  
5 facilities to be used for certain purposes; prohibiting a facility from containing  
6 more than a certain number of beds; requiring that the facilities be located in  
7 certain areas of the State; requiring the Secretary of Juvenile Services to  
8 appoint a director for each facility; providing for the duties and salary of a  
9 director; requiring the Secretary to develop policies to provide certain programs  
10 in each facility for certain youth; declaring a certain intent of the General  
11 Assembly; and generally relating to the establishment of regional facilities in  
12 certain locations to provide certain services to certain youths by the Department  
13 of Juvenile Services.

14 BY adding to

15 Article 83C - Juvenile Services

16 Section 2-117.1

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2003 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article 83C - Juvenile Services**

22 2-117.1.

23 (A) (1) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2008, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
24 ESTABLISH AND OPERATE REGIONAL, WILDERNESS-BASED TREATMENT FACILITIES.

25 (2) THE FACILITIES SHALL BE USED TO DIAGNOSE, CARE FOR, TRAIN,  
26 EDUCATE, AND REHABILITATE YOUTH IN NEED OF THESE SERVICES WHO  
27 SUBSTANTIALLY MEET THE CHARACTERISTICS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF  
28 THIS SECTION.

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1 (3) A FACILITY MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE THAN 50 BEDS.

2 (4) THE FACILITIES SHALL BE LOCATED IN:

3 (I) THE VICTOR CULLEN CENTER IN FREDERICK COUNTY;

4 (II) THE PALMER STATE PARK IN HARFORD COUNTY;

5 (III) THE CEDARVILLE STATE FOREST IN PRINCE GEORGE'S AND  
6 CHARLES COUNTIES; AND

7 (IV) THE POCOMOKE RIVER STATE FOREST IN WORCESTER COUNTY.

8 (B) (1) THE SECRETARY SHALL APPOINT A DIRECTOR FOR EACH FACILITY.

9 (2) A DIRECTOR:

10 (I) IS ENTITLED TO THE SALARY PROVIDED IN THE STATE  
11 BUDGET;

12 (II) SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE SECRETARY; AND

13 (III) HAS THE DUTIES THAT THE SECRETARY ASSIGNS.

14 (C) THE SECRETARY SHALL DEVELOP POLICIES TO PROVIDE PROGRAMS IN  
15 EACH FACILITY FOR YOUTH WHO:

16 (1) ARE AT LEAST 12 YEARS OLD, BUT UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS;

17 (2) ARE IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION;

18 (3) ARE ASSESSED AS LOW TO MODERATE RISK, BASED ON A VALIDATED  
19 RISK INSTRUMENT;

20 (4) RESIDE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE FACILITY;

21 (5) HAVE BEEN RECENTLY ADJUDICATED DELINQUENT FOR A  
22 NONVIOLENT OFFENSE;

23 (6) ARE DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE;

24 (7) DEMONSTRATE AN ABILITY TO FUNCTION IN A STRUCTURED  
25 ENVIRONMENT;

26 (8) HAVE NO PRIOR ESCAPE HISTORY;

27 (9) DEMONSTRATE A WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM;  
28 AND

29 (10) HAVE A PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR LEGAL CUSTODIAN WHO AGREES TO  
30 ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the  
2 General Assembly that, commencing in fiscal year 2006, the Governor include in the  
3 annual State budget sufficient funds to fully implement this Act by January 1, 2008.

4 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
5 effect October 1, 2005.