

SENATE BILL 175

E3

71r1528

By: **Senators Zirkin and Muse**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2007

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 24, 2007

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Juveniles – Mentoring Program – “Maryland Rising”**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Juvenile Services to establish a
4 statewide program of volunteer mentors for children ~~in detention or who have~~
5 ~~spent a certain amount of time in a committed placement; requiring the~~
6 ~~Program to try and place mentors in a certain manner;~~ establishing that the
7 Program shall be called “Maryland Rising”; establishing the purpose of the
8 Program; requiring the Department of Juvenile Services to develop a statewide
9 network of State and community agencies, volunteer organizations, and other
10 groups to recruit mentors; providing for the role of mentors; authorizing the
11 Department to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to a mentoring
12 Program in the Department of Juvenile Services called “Maryland Rising”.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Human Services

15 Section 9–240.1

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (As enacted by Chapter _____ (S.B. 6) of the Acts of the General Assembly of

18 2007)

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

3 **Article - Human Services**

4 **9-240.1.**

5 (A) (1) **THE SECRETARY SHALL ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO ATTEMPT**
6 **TO PROVIDE A VOLUNTEER MENTOR FOR EACH CHILD IN THE STATE WHO IS IN**
7 **DETENTION, AS DEFINED IN § 3-8A-01(N) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE, OR HAS**
8 **SPENT AT LEAST 30 DAYS IN A COMMITTED PLACEMENT.**

9 ~~(2) IN ASSIGNING A MENTOR, THE PROGRAM SHALL TRY TO~~
10 ~~CHOOSE A MENTOR THAT CAN STAY WITH THE CHILD FROM THE INITIAL~~
11 ~~DETENTION THROUGH ANY AFTERCARE THAT IS REQUIRED.~~

12 ~~(3)~~ (2) **THE PROGRAM SHALL BE CALLED “MARYLAND**
13 **RISING”.**

14 (B) **THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE INDIVIDUALIZED**
15 **ATTENTION TO A CHILD:**

16 (1) **TO DECREASE THE CHILD’S DELINQUENT OR VIOLENT**
17 **BEHAVIOR IN THE COMMUNITY; AND**

18 (2) **TO INCREASE THE CHILD’S POTENTIAL FOR BECOMING A**
19 **PRODUCTIVE, SUCCESSFUL MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY.**

20 (C) (1) **TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM, THE**
21 **DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A STATEWIDE NETWORK OF STATE AGENCIES,**
22 **COMMUNITY AGENCIES, CITIZEN ACTION GROUPS, SOCIAL SERVICES**
23 **PROVIDERS, VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS, COLLEGE STUDENT GROUPS, AND**
24 **OTHER GROUPS WHO WILL RECRUIT VOLUNTEER MENTORS FOR CHILDREN IN**
25 **DETENTION THE PROGRAM.**

26 (2) **A MENTOR SHALL HAVE FREQUENT CONTACT WITH THE**
27 **CHILD AND MAY PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES TO THE CHILD:**

28 (I) **INFORMAL COUNSELING;**

- 1 **(II) TUTORING;**
- 2 **(III) ASSISTING THE CHILD WITH LIFE SKILLS TRAINING;**
- 3 **(IV) WORKING WITH THE CHILD’S FAMILY OR GUARDIAN;**
- 4 **(V) INTERACTING WITH THE CHILD’S SCHOOL OR**
5 **EMPLOYER, IF NECESSARY; AND**
- 6 **(VI) OTHER INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORT SERVICES THAT**
7 **HELP THE CHILD AVOID NEGATIVE BEHAVIORS AND BECOME A SUCCESSFUL,**
8 **PRODUCTIVE MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY.**

9 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS**
10 **SECTION.**

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2007.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.