

BY: Appropriations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 796
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 3, strike “the Department of Human Resources and”; in line 4, strike “jointly”; in line 6, after “centers;” insert “requiring that the State Victims of Crime Fund be used to support the centers;”; in line 10, strike “Department of Human Resources” and substitute “Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention”; in line 15, strike “input into”; and strike beginning with “altering” in line 15 down through “date;” in line 21; and in line 24, after “Section” insert “11-916, 11-919, and”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, after line 5, insert:

“11-916.

(a) There is a State Victims of Crime Fund.

(b) (1) The Fund shall be used to pay for [carrying out]:

(i) CARRYING OUT Article 47 of the Maryland Declaration of Rights;

(ii) CARRYING OUT the guidelines for the treatment and assistance for victims and witnesses of crimes and delinquent acts provided in §§ 11-1002 and 11-1003 of this title; [and]

(iii) CARRYING OUT any laws enacted to benefit victims and witnesses of crimes and delinquent acts; AND

(Over)

**(IV) SUPPORTING CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS ESTABLISHED
UNDER § 11-923(G) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

(2) The Fund may pay for the administrative costs of the Fund.

(c) The Board shall administer the Fund.

11-919.

(a) There is a grant program.

(b) The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention shall:

(1) adopt regulations for the administration and award of grants
under Part II of this subtitle; and

(2) submit all approved grant applications to the Board.

(c) The Board shall:

(1) approve each grant application received by the Governor's Office of
Crime Control and Prevention before any money is released from the Fund; [and]

(2) ensure that the money obtained from unclaimed restitution under
§ 17-317(a)(3)(i) of the Commercial Law Article is used for annual grants to provide
legal counsel to victims of crimes and delinquent acts to protect the victims' rights as
provided by law; AND

**(3) ENSURE THAT GRANTS TO CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS
ESTABLISHED UNDER § 11-923(G) OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL:**

(I) SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS; AND

(II) SUPPLEMENT AND NOT SUPPLANT MONEY THAT THE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS RECEIVE FROM OTHER SOURCES.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On pages 3 and 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 28 on page 3 through line 13 on page 4, inclusive.

On page 4, in lines 14, 18, and 22, in each instance, strike the bracket; in lines 14, 18, and 22, strike “(E)”, “(F)”, and “(G)”, respectively; strike beginning with the colon in line 15 down through “(1)” in line 16; strike beginning with “; AND” in line 16 down through “CENTERS” in line 17; strike beginning with “AND” in line 18 down through “CENTERS” in line 19; in line 20, strike “AND CENTERS”; strike beginning with “, WITH” in line 22 down through “PREVENTION,” in line 23; and in line 24, strike “AND CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 4, after line 25, insert:

“(G) (1) THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION SHALL ESTABLISH AND SUSTAIN CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS IN THE STATE.

(2) THE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS:

(I) MAY BE BASED IN PRIVATE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, OR A PARTNERSHIP AMONG ANY OF THESE ENTITIES;

(Over)

(II) SHALL BE DEVELOPED AND LOCATED TO FACILITATE THEIR USE BY ALLEGED VICTIMS RESIDING IN THE SURROUNDING AREAS;

(III) SHALL INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN AND SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS;

(IV) SHALL PROVIDE OR FACILITATE REFERRALS TO APPROPRIATE COUNSELING, LEGAL, MEDICAL, AND ADVOCACY SERVICES FOR VICTIMS; AND

(V) SHALL BE INCLUDED IN ALL JOINT INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 5-706 OF THE FAMILY LAW ARTICLE.

(3) THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION MAY CONTRACT WITH PUBLIC OR PRIVATE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO OPERATE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS.

(4) MONEY FOR CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE ANNUAL STATE BUDGET AND SHALL BE USED TO SUPPLEMENT, BUT NOT SUPPLANT, MONEY THAT THE PROGRAMS RECEIVE FROM OTHER SOURCES.

(5) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1 EACH YEAR, THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY."

On pages 4 and 5, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 26 on page 4 through line 8 on page 5, inclusive.

On page 5, in line 9, strike "3." and substitute "2.".