

HOUSE BILL 1035

E3, F1

4lr0620

By: **Prince George's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2014

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County Juvenile Court and School Safety Workgroup –**
3 **Continuation, Membership, and Duties**

4 **PG 305–14**

5 FOR the purpose of altering the membership and duties of the Prince George's County
6 Juvenile Court and School Safety Workgroup; requiring the Workgroup to
7 report its findings and recommendations to the Prince George's County
8 Delegation on or before a certain date; extending the termination date of the
9 Workgroup; and generally relating to the Prince George's County Juvenile
10 Court and School Safety Workgroup.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Chapter 677 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2013
13 Section 1(b), (f), and (g) and 2

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

16 **Chapter 677 of the Acts of 2013**

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That:

19 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

20 (1) the Chair of the Prince George's County Delegation to the House of
21 Delegates, or the Chair's designee;

22 (2) the Chair of the Prince George's County Delegation to the Senate,
23 or the Chair's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) the Chair of the Prince George's County Council, or the Chair's
2 designee;

3 (4) a representative from the Prince George's County Police
4 Department, appointed by the Prince George's County Chief of Police;

5 (5) a representative from Prince George's County Public Schools,
6 appointed by the Superintendent of Prince George's County Public Schools;

7 (6) a representative from the Prince George's County Office of the
8 Sheriff, appointed by the Sheriff of Prince George's County;

9 (7) a representative from the Department of Juvenile Services
10 appointed to the Prince George's County region, appointed by the Secretary of Juvenile
11 Services;

12 (8) a representative from the Office of the Public Defender serving
13 District 5 who works in the Juvenile Protection Division, appointed by the District
14 Public Defender;

15 (9) a representative from the Office of the State's Attorney for Prince
16 George's County who works in the Juvenile Division, appointed by the Prince George's
17 County State's Attorney;

18 (10) a member of the Prince George's County School Board, appointed
19 by the chair of the School Board;

20 (11) a school psychologist working in Prince George's County, appointed
21 by the President of the Maryland School Psychologists' Association;

22 (12) the Director of Security Services for Prince George's County Public
23 Schools; and

24 (13) [the following] **TWO** members appointed by the Prince George's
25 County Executive[:

26 (i) a representative from the Commission for Children, Youth
27 and Families (Local Management Board); and

28 (ii) a representative of the Prince George's County Department
29 of Family Services].

30 (f) The Workgroup shall:

31 (1) review and analyze school arrest and referral data collected by the
32 Department of Juvenile Services and the Prince George's County school system and

1 based on that data, identify the most common offenses for which students are arrested
2 and referred to juvenile court;

3 (2) recommend interagency policies to reduce the number of
4 school-based arrests and referrals for certain misdemeanor offenses to the
5 Department of Juvenile Services and the juvenile court by diverting more youth to
6 school- and community-based programs, with the goal to decrease the
7 overrepresentation of African American youth in the juvenile justice system;

8 (3) recommend strategies to utilize more fully current resources and
9 expand school- and community-based support services for youth who exhibit behavior
10 problems in school;

11 (4) recommend a criteria-based, decision making process for referring
12 students to school- or community-based programs and services instead of to the
13 juvenile justice system for misdemeanor-type delinquent acts involving offenses
14 identified by the Workgroup;

15 (5) recommend criteria for diversion programs developed for juveniles
16 who have been charged with less serious delinquent acts and who the juvenile court
17 believe would benefit from community alternatives in lieu of probation or commitment
18 to the Department of Juvenile Services;

19 (6) [hold at least two public meetings before October 1, 2013, during
20 which the Workgroup seeks testimony from the public and juvenile advocacy groups]
21 **DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS ON OTHER RELEVANT ISSUES DETERMINED BY**
22 **THE WORKGROUP TO WARRANT FURTHER REVIEW, STUDY, OR CHANGE;** and

23 (7) develop a Collaborative Action Plan to reduce the number of
24 school-based arrests and referrals to the juvenile court.

25 (g) On or before December 15, [2013] **2014**, the Workgroup shall report its
26 findings, action plan, and recommendations to the Prince George's County Delegation.

27 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED**, That this Act shall take effect
28 June 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of [1 year] **2 YEARS** and 7 months
29 and, at the end of December 31, [2014] **2015**, with no further action required by the
30 General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

31 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED**, That this Act shall take effect
32 October 1, 2014.