

HOUSE BILL 852

O1

5lr2074

By: Delegates Carter, Aumann, Brooks, Conaway, Glass, Glenn, Gutierrez, Haynes, Impallaria, Jacobs, Lierman, McCray, Oaks, Pena-Melnyk, Rey, B. Robinson, Shoemaker, Valentino-Smith, and M. Washington

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2015

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 16, 2015

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Human Resources – Homeless Shelters – ~~Safety and Security Measures~~ Best**
3 **Practices and Models**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Interagency Council on Homelessness to ~~study issues~~
5 ~~relating to the safety and security of individuals who stay in certain shelters for~~
6 ~~homeless individuals and make certain recommendations on measures to be adopted~~
7 ~~by certain shelters; requiring the Department of Human Resources to include in~~
8 ~~certain regulations certain measures to be adopted by certain shelters for homeless~~
9 ~~individuals~~ determine certain best practices and models for providing emergency
10 shelter and shelter diversion; and generally relating to safety and security measures
11 to be adopted by shelters for homeless individuals a determination by the
12 Interagency Council on Homelessness of best practices and models for providing
13 emergency shelter and shelter diversion.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Human Services
16 Section 6-423 ~~and 6-424~~
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2007 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

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 Article – Human Services

2 6–423.

3 The Council shall:

4 (1) coordinate State policy and working relationships among State, local,
5 and nonprofit agencies concerning efforts to remedy and prevent homelessness;

6 (2) coordinate data sharing between local Continuums of Care;

7 (3) coordinate outreach to each Continuum of Care to develop joint
8 strategies that impact State and federal funding efforts to remedy and prevent
9 homelessness;10 (4) determine comprehensive and effective collaborative strategies and
11 best practices for remediation and prevention of homelessness in the State, in particular
12 addressing the differing needs of the State’s geographic areas;13 (5) review and analyze the need for and availability of affordable and
14 accessible housing resources to address the needs of homeless individuals throughout the
15 State;16 (6) recommend changes necessary to alleviate or prevent homelessness,
17 including making recommendations annually to the General Assembly, in accordance with
18 § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, and appropriate State agencies and
19 organizations regarding effective policies, effective distribution of resources, and access to
20 available services and programs;21 (7) identify supportive services for special populations, including veterans,
22 youth, families, and individuals with behavioral health problems;23 (8) disseminate information and educate the public about the prevalence
24 and causes of and responses to homelessness; [and]25 (9) solicit input from the advocacy community, the business community,
26 the faith community, and consumers regarding policy and program development; AND27 ~~(10) STUDY ISSUES RELATING TO THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF~~
28 ~~INDIVIDUALS WHO STAY IN SHELTERS FOR HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS AND~~
29 ~~RECOMMEND TO THE DEPARTMENT SAFETY AND SECURITY MEASURES THAT~~
30 ~~SHOULD BE ADOPTED BY PROVIDERS OF SHELTERS FOR HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS~~
31 DETERMINE BEST PRACTICES AND MODELS FOR PROVIDING EMERGENCY SHELTER
32 AND SHELTER DIVERSION, INCLUDING ENSURING THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND
33 SECURITY OF SHELTER RESIDENTS, PROVIDING CLIENT-CENTERED AND
34 TRAUMA-INFORMED SUPPORT SERVICES, AND ENSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO

1 PROTECTED CLASSES UNDER APPLICABLE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL CIVIL
2 RIGHTS LAWS.

3 ~~6-424.~~

4 ~~(A) The Department shall adopt regulations to govern the development,~~
5 ~~implementation, and evaluation of policies and programs to make homelessness rare and,~~
6 ~~if it occurs, of brief duration.~~

7 ~~(B) THE REGULATIONS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS~~
8 ~~SECTION SHALL INCLUDE MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED BY SHELTERS FOR HOMELESS~~
9 ~~INDIVIDUALS TO PROVIDE THOSE INDIVIDUALS WITH SAFETY AND SECURITY WHILE~~
10 ~~STAYING IN A SHELTER, INCLUDING ANY RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COUNCIL~~
11 ~~UNDER § 6-423(10) OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 2015.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.