

# HOUSE BILL 1031

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By: **Delegates A. Washington, Campos, Chang, Haynes, Korman, Lierman,  
A. Miller, Morales, B. Robinson, Sophocleus, Vaughn, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2015

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Governor's Office for Children – Let's Play Maryland Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Let's Play Maryland Pilot Program in the Governor's  
4 Office for Children; specifying the purpose of the Program; requiring the Office to  
5 administer the Program, develop requirements for grant applications, develop  
6 certain criteria for the evaluation of grant applications, develop a process for  
7 authenticating the availability of certain matching funds, publish certain  
8 information about the Program on the Office's Web site, and review grant  
9 applications and award grants based on certain evaluation criteria; specifying  
10 certain eligibility requirements for participation in the Program; authorizing the  
11 Office, beginning on a certain date, to award grants to sports organizations or  
12 leagues under the Program; requiring each grantee under the Program, on or before  
13 certain dates, to report certain information to the Office; requiring the Office, on or  
14 before certain dates, to report to the General Assembly on the implementation and  
15 effectiveness of the Program; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget  
16 for certain fiscal years a certain appropriation for the Program; providing for the  
17 termination of this Act; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Let's  
18 Play Maryland Pilot Program.

19 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
20 Article – Human Services  
21 Section 8–101(a) and (m)  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2007 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

24 BY adding to  
25 Article – Human Services  
26 Section 8–1201 through 8–1209 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 12. Let's Play  
27 Maryland Pilot Program”  
28 Annotated Code of Maryland

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2007 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

**Article – Human Services**

8–101.

(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(m) “Office” means the Governor’s Office for Children.

**SUBTITLE 12. LET’S PLAY MARYLAND PILOT PROGRAM.**

8–1201.

**IN THIS SUBTITLE, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE LET’S PLAY MARYLAND PILOT PROGRAM.**

8–1202.

**THERE IS A LET’S PLAY MARYLAND PILOT PROGRAM IN THE OFFICE.**

8–1203.

**THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS TO SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS OR LEAGUES IN ORDER TO INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES TO PARTICIPATE IN ORGANIZED SPORTS.**

8–1204.

**THE OFFICE SHALL:**

**(1) ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM;**

**(2) DEVELOP REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS;**

**(3) DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR THE EVALUATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS, INCLUDING THE APPLICANT’S ABILITY TO:**

**(I) SERVE CHILDREN FROM FAMILIES EARNING LESS THAN 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL; AND**

1 (II) OBTAIN MATCHING FUNDS EQUAL TO THE REQUESTED  
2 GRANT AMOUNT;

3 (4) DEVELOP A PROCESS FOR AUTHENTICATING THE AVAILABILITY  
4 OF MATCHING FUNDS;

5 (5) PUBLISH INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING  
6 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS, ON THE OFFICE'S  
7 WEB SITE; AND

8 (6) REVIEW GRANT APPLICATIONS AND AWARD GRANTS BASED ON  
9 THE EVALUATION CRITERIA DEVELOPED UNDER ITEM (3) OF THIS SECTION.

10 8-1205.

11 TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM, A SPORTS ORGANIZATION  
12 OR LEAGUE SHALL:

13 (1) BE LOCATED IN THE STATE;

14 (2) SERVE CHILDREN AT LEAST HALF OF WHOM ARE FROM FAMILIES  
15 EARNING LESS THAN 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL; AND

16 (3) DEMONSTRATE THE AVAILABILITY OF, OR A COMMITMENT FOR,  
17 MATCHING FUNDS THAT EQUAL THE REQUESTED GRANT AMOUNT.

18 8-1206.

19 BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2016, THE OFFICE MAY AWARD GRANTS TO SPORTS  
20 ORGANIZATIONS OR LEAGUES UNDER THE PROGRAM.

21 8-1207.

22 ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF THE YEARS 2016 AND 2017, EACH GRANTEE  
23 UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL REPORT TO THE OFFICE ON THE USE OF THE GRANT,  
24 INCLUDING:

25 (1) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED;

26 (2) THE PERCENTAGE OF THE CHILDREN SERVED WHO ARE FROM  
27 FAMILIES EARNING LESS THAN 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL; AND

1                   **(3) THE SOURCE AND AMOUNT OF MATCHING FUNDS RECEIVED BY**  
2 **THE SPORTS ORGANIZATION OR LEAGUE.**

3 **8-1208.**

4                   **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 OF THE YEARS 2016 AND 2017, THE OFFICE**  
5 **SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF**  
6 **THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND**  
7 **EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM.**

8 **8-1209.**

9                   **FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2017 AND 2018, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE**  
10 **AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE PROGRAM.**

11                   **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July**  
12 **1, 2015. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2018,**  
13 **with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and**  
14 **of no further force and effect.**