

Chapter 13

(Senate Bill 110)

AN ACT concerning

**Developmental Disabilities Administration – Low Intensity Support Services –
Definition**

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “low intensity support services” as it relates to the Low Intensity Support Services Program in the Developmental Disabilities Administration; and generally relating to the Developmental Disabilities Administration and low intensity support services.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Health – General
Section 7–717
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

Article – Health – General

7–717.

(a) (1) In this part, “low intensity support services” means a program designed to:

(i) Enable a family to provide for the needs of a child or an adult [with developmental disability] **WHO IS** living in the home **AND HAS A SEVERE CHRONIC DISABILITY THAT:**

1. IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO A PHYSICAL OR MENTAL IMPAIRMENT, OTHER THAN THE SOLE DIAGNOSIS OF MENTAL ILLNESS, OR TO A COMBINATION OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL IMPAIRMENTS; AND

2. IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE INDEFINITELY; or

(ii) Support an adult [with developmental disability] **WHO IS** living in the community **AND HAS A SEVERE CHRONIC DISABILITY THAT:**

1. IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO A PHYSICAL OR MENTAL IMPAIRMENT, OTHER THAN THE SOLE DIAGNOSIS OF MENTAL ILLNESS, OR TO A COMBINATION OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL IMPAIRMENTS; AND

2. IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE INDEFINITELY.

(2) “Low intensity support services” includes the services and items listed in §§ 7–701(d) and 7–706(c) of this subtitle.

(b) There is a Low Intensity Support Services Program in the Administration.

(c) Low intensity support services shall be flexible to meet the needs of individuals or families.

(d) (1) The Administration shall establish a cap of no less than \$2,000 of low intensity support services per individual per fiscal year to a qualifying individual.

(2) The Administration may waive the cap on low intensity support services provided under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(e) (1) An individual seeking low intensity support services is not required to:

(i) Submit an application to the Department as provided in § 7–403 of this title; or

(ii) Complete an application for the Medical Assistance Program if the low intensity support services will be provided to a minor.

(2) The Department may develop a simplified application process for low intensity support services.

(f) The Administration shall deliver services to an eligible individual seeking low intensity support services dependent on the availability and allocation of funds provided by the Administration.

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

Approved by the Governor, April 14, 2015.