

HOUSE BILL 66

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By: **Delegate Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2015

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Human Services – No Wrong Door Pilot Program

FOR the purpose of establishing the No Wrong Door Pilot Program in the Department of Human Resources; specifying the purpose, goals, and duties of the Program; requiring the Department to administer the Program, to develop requirements for grant applications, and, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop certain criteria for the evaluation of grant applications; requiring the Department to review grant applications and award grants based on certain evaluation criteria and to track and assess Program outcomes; authorizing the Department, beginning on a certain date, to award grants to private or public entities under the Program; requiring each grantee under the Program annually to report certain information to the Department; requiring certain units of the State annually to provide the Department with information regarding the number of individuals and families connected to services through each grantee; requiring the Department annually to convene the grantees under the Program for a certain symposium; requiring the Department annually to report certain information and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; authorizing the Department to adopt regulations to carry out certain provisions of law; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget for certain fiscal years a certain appropriation for the Program; providing for the termination of this Act; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the No Wrong Door Pilot Program.

BY adding to

Article – Human Services

Section 6–801 through 6–809 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 8. No Wrong Door Pilot Program”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2007 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – Human Services**SUBTITLE 8. NO WRONG DOOR PILOT PROGRAM.****6–801.**

IN THIS SUBTITLE, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE NO WRONG DOOR PILOT PROGRAM.

6–802.

(A) THERE IS A NO WRONG DOOR PILOT PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO ENSURE, IN A FLEXIBLE AND INNOVATIVE MANNER, THAT LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS OF THE STATE HAVE ACCESS TO THE SERVICES NEEDED TO SUSTAIN THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

(C) THE GOALS OF THE PROGRAM ARE TO:

(1) ADDRESS GAPS IN SERVICES;

(2) INCREASE ACCESS TO AVAILABLE SERVICES;

(3) PROVIDE ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS;

(4) FOSTER BETTER COORDINATION BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDERS, INCLUDING FAITH- AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE; AND

(5) ENCOURAGE STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE TRACKING AND DATA SHARING TO INFORM AND IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY.

(D) THE PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE GRANTS ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS TO IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE AND GOALS OF THE PROGRAM, SUCH AS:

(1) OFFERING OUTSTATIONED CASEWORKERS OR BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY COUNSELORS;

(2) OFFERING NONBUSINESS HOURS;

(3) ASSISTING CLIENTS WITH A RANGE OF SERVICES THAT CROSS DEPARTMENTAL LINES;

(4) ADOPTING TECHNOLOGIES TO ASSIST WITH APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICES;

(5) CREATING FORMAL TRAINING PROGRAMS ON SERVICES AVAILABLE ACROSS THE STATE;

(6) TARGETING UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS; AND

(7) CREATING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.

6-803.

THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM;

(2) DEVELOP REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS;

(3) IN CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS, DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR THE EVALUATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS THAT SHALL INCLUDE THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY TO:

(I) LEVERAGE OTHER FUNDING;

(II) CONNECT CLIENTS WITH A VARIETY OF SERVICES AND PROGRAMS;

(III) BRING INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES TO THE STATE;

(IV) COLLABORATE WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERS;

(V) UNDERSTAND THE LEVEL AND TYPE OF NEEDS IN THE COMMUNITY; AND

(VI) CONTRIBUTE TO GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY;

(4) REVIEW GRANT APPLICATIONS AND AWARD GRANTS BASED ON THE EVALUATION CRITERIA DEVELOPED UNDER ITEM (3) OF THIS SECTION; AND

(5) TRACK AND ASSESS PROGRAM OUTCOMES.

6-804.

BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2016, THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD GRANTS TO PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ENTITIES UNDER THE PROGRAM.

6-805.

EACH GRANTEE UNDER THE PROGRAM ANNUALLY SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT:

- (1) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES SCREENED FOR SERVICE NEEDS;**
- (2) THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS ASSISTED;**
- (3) THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF PROGRAMS TO WHICH REFERRALS WERE MADE;**
- (4) A DESCRIPTION OF OUTREACH EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN; AND**
- (5) A DESCRIPTION OF SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES, DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED, AND LESSONS LEARNED.**

6-806.

THE FOLLOWING UNITS OF THE STATE ANNUALLY SHALL PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT WITH INFORMATION REGARDING THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES CONNECTED TO SERVICES THROUGH EACH GRANTEE UNDER THE PROGRAM:

- (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;**
- (2) THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE;**
- (3) THE DEPARTMENT OF AGING;**
- (4) THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT;**
- (5) THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS; AND**
- (6) THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, AND REGULATION.**

6-807.

THE DEPARTMENT ANNUALLY SHALL:

(1) CONVENE THE GRANTEEES UNDER THE PROGRAM FOR A ONE-DAY SYMPOSIUM TO DISCUSS THE SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES FACED BY GRANTEEES; AND

(2) REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

(I) FOR EACH GRANT AWARDED UNDER THE PROGRAM:

1. THE NAME AND LOCATION OF THE ENTITY RECEIVING THE GRANT;

2. THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT; AND

3. THE INTENDED USE OF THE GRANT;

(II) THE MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM;

(III) A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY PROGRAM GRANTEEES UNDER § 6-805 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

(IV) A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY UNITS OF THE STATE UNDER § 6-806 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

(V) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRATEGIES THAT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

6-808.

THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

6-809.

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017, FISCAL YEAR 2018, AND FISCAL YEAR 2019, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET AN APPROPRIATION OF AT LEAST \$500,000 FOR THE PROGRAM.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2015. It shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and, at the end of June 30, 2019, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.