

# SENATE BILL 35

E3

7lr0119

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Departmental – Juvenile Services)**

Requested: October 20, 2016

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2017

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Juvenile Law – Informal Adjustment – Mental Health Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that a juvenile informal adjustment process may exceed a  
4 certain length of time if a juvenile intake officer determines that additional time is  
5 necessary for a child to complete a certain mental health program; and generally  
6 relating to juvenile law.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
9 Section 3–8A–10(f)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

15 3–8A–10.

16 (f) (1) During the informal adjustment process, the child shall be subject to  
17 such supervision as the intake officer deems appropriate and if the intake officer decides to  
18 have an intake conference, the child and the child’s parent or guardian shall appear at the  
19 intake conference.

20 (2) The informal adjustment process may not exceed 90 days unless:

21 (i) That time is extended by the court; or

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   (ii)    The intake officer determines that additional time is necessary  
2 for the child to complete a substance abuse treatment **OR MENTAL HEALTH** program that  
3 is part of the informal adjustment process.

4                   (3)    If the victim, the child, and the child's parent or guardian do not consent  
5 to an informal adjustment, the intake officer shall authorize the filing of a petition or a  
6 peace order request or both or deny authorization to file a petition or a peace order request  
7 or both under subsection (g) of this section.

8                   (4)    If at any time before the completion of an agreed upon informal  
9 adjustment the intake officer believes that the informal adjustment cannot be completed  
10 successfully, the intake officer shall authorize the filing of a petition or a peace order  
11 request or both or deny authorization to file a petition or a peace order request or both  
12 under subsection (g) of this section.

13               SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2017.