

HOUSE BILL 413

D1

1lr1088

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Wells**

Requested: October 23, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Judges – Implicit Bias – Testing, Training, and Evaluation**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Court Administrator to ensure that each judge in
4 the State receives certain tests, training, and evaluation for implicit bias; requiring
5 the Administrator to ensure that certain data on implicit bias is made available to
6 the public in a certain manner; and generally relating to judges and implicit bias.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

9 Section 13–101(a)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2020 Replacement Volume)

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

14 Section 13–101.2

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2020 Replacement Volume)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

20 13–101.

21 (a) There is an Administrative Office of the Courts, headed by the State Court
22 Administrator. The Administrator is appointed by and holds office during the pleasure of
23 the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland. The Administrator shall have the
24 compensation provided in the State budget. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 have a seal in the form the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals approves. The courts of the
2 State shall take judicial notice of the seal.

3 **13-101.2.**

4 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "JUDGE" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1-101 OF
5 THIS ARTICLE.

6 (B) (1) THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ENSURE THAT EACH
7 JUDGE:

8 (I) UNDERGOES A TEST FOR IMPLICIT BIAS AS EARLY AS IS
9 PRACTICABLE AFTER ASSUMING OFFICE;

10 (II) RECEIVES TRAINING TO ADDRESS IMPLICIT BIAS; AND

11 (III) AFTER RECEIVING TRAINING TO ADDRESS IMPLICIT BIAS,
12 UNDERGOES AN EVALUATION TO MEASURE THE RESULTS OF THE TRAINING.

13 (2) THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR SHALL ENSURE THAT
14 ANONYMIZED DATA ON ALL TESTS AND EVALUATIONS REQUIRED BY THIS
15 SUBSECTION BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC ON A WEBSITE OR BY REQUEST.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2021.