

# SENATE BILL 742

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By: **Senator Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2021

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Model Prisons For Youthful Offenders Study Act**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Model Prisons Study Workgroup; providing  
4 for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Workgroup; prohibiting a member of  
5 the Workgroup from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the  
6 reimbursement of certain expenses; establishing the duties of the Workgroup;  
7 requiring the Workgroup to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor  
8 and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination  
9 of this Act; and generally relating to the Maryland Model Prisons Study Workgroup.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
11 That:

12 (a) There is a Maryland Model Prisons Study Workgroup.

13 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

14 (1) three members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
15 of the Senate;

16 (2) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
17 the House;

18 (3) the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention,  
19 Youth, and Victim Services;

20 (4) the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or the  
21 Secretary's designee;

22 (5) the Secretary of Juvenile Services, or the Secretary's designee;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (6) the Attorney General of Maryland, or the Attorney General's designee;

2 (7) the Public Defender of Maryland, or the Public Defender's designee;

3 (8) a representative of the Maryland Judiciary, appointed by the Chief  
4 Judge of the Court of Appeals; and

5 (9) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

6 (i) one representative of local detention centers recommended by  
7 the Maryland Association of Counties;

8 (ii) one representative of local law enforcement agencies;

9 (iii) one representative of the Maryland Parole Commission;

10 (iv) three successfully rehabilitated individuals who had been  
11 committed to State prisons;

12 (v) three family members of currently incarcerated individuals;

13 (vi) one current prison medication program volunteer;

14 (vii) one current prison education program volunteer; and

15 (viii) one representative of the Maryland Department of Labor's  
16 Correctional Education Program.

17 (c) The Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth,  
18 and Victim Services shall be the Chair of the Workgroup.

19 (d) The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services shall  
20 provide staff for the Workgroup.

21 (e) A member of the Workgroup:

22 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

23 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
24 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

25 (f) The Workgroup shall:

26 (1) using a data-driven approach, develop a plan for fundamental changes  
27 to the culture and practices of State prisons to focus primarily on rehabilitation, restorative  
28 justice, and reduction of recidivism for all classifications of incarcerated individuals

1 prioritizing the classification of incarcerated individuals who committed offenses when  
2 under the age of 25 years; and

3 (2) request technical assistance from the Vera Institute of Justice to  
4 develop the policy framework for this study.

5 (g) On or before December 1, 2022, the Workgroup shall submit a report of its  
6 findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the  
7 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
9 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June  
10 30, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
11 abrogated and of no further force and effect.