

HOUSE BILL 660

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2lr1664

By: **Delegates Guyton, Boyce, Forbes, Griffith, Jackson, Lehman, Metzgar, Rogers, Terrasa, and Valentino-Smith**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 8, 2022

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission to Study the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services**
3 **(Student Job Training Reformation Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission to Study the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~
5 Rehabilitation Services to evaluate and make recommendations on improving
6 various aspects of the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services' programs
7 and services; and generally relating to the Commission to Study the Division of
8 ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services.

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

11 (a) There is a Commission to Study the State Department of Education's Division
12 of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services.

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

14 ~~(1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of~~
15 ~~the Senate;~~

16 ~~(2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the~~
17 ~~House; and~~

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 ~~(3)~~ ~~the following members,~~ appointed by the State Superintendent of
2 Schools:

3 ~~(i)~~ (1) one parent of a student who reported a favorable outcome
4 after working with the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services;

5 ~~(ii)~~ (2) one parent of a student who reported an unfavorable
6 outcome after working with the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services;

7 ~~(iii)~~ (3) one individual who reported a favorable outcome after
8 working with the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services;

9 ~~(iv)~~ (4) one individual who reported an unfavorable outcome after
10 working with the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services;

11 ~~(v)~~ (5) one individual employed by a local school system as a
12 transition specialist;

13 ~~(vi)~~ (6) one individual employed by a private school as a transition
14 specialist;

15 ~~(vii)~~ (7) one individual employed by a local school system as a
16 special education teacher;

17 ~~(viii)~~ (8) one individual employed by a private school as a special
18 education teacher;

19 ~~(ix)~~ (9) one individual employed by the State Department of
20 Education as a transition specialist;

21 ~~(x)~~ (10) one individual employed by the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~
22 Rehabilitation Services with experience participating in individualized education program
23 team meetings;

24 ~~(xi)~~ (11) one individual employed by the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~
25 Rehabilitation Services with experience working in the Division's training programs;

26 ~~(xii)~~ (12) the State Coordinator for Autism Strategy;

27 ~~(xiii)~~ (13) one community behavioral health provider who provides
28 vocational programs and employment support;

29 ~~(xiv)~~ (14) one representative of a residential community and
30 vocational program;

31 ~~(xv)~~ (15) one representative of the State Board of Education;

1 ~~(xvi)~~ (16) one representative of the Developmental Disabilities
2 Administration;

3 ~~(xvii)~~ (17) one representative of the Maryland Association of
4 Nonpublic Special Education Facilities;

5 ~~(xviii)~~ (18) one representative of the Maryland Developmental
6 Disabilities Council;

7 ~~(xix)~~ (19) one representative of Arc Maryland;

8 ~~(xx)~~ (20) one representative of Disability Rights Maryland who:

9 ~~1=~~ (i) is an attorney; and

10 ~~2=~~ (ii) has experience working with the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~
11 Rehabilitation Services;

12 ~~(xxi)~~ (21) one attorney who:

13 ~~1=~~ (i) represents children and young adults with disabilities;
14 and

15 ~~2=~~ (ii) has experience working with the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~
16 Rehabilitation Services;

17 ~~(xxii)~~ (22) one representative of a community college; and

18 ~~(xxiii)~~ (23) other members considered necessary by the State
19 Superintendent of Schools.

20 (c) The Assistant State Superintendent of the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~
21 Rehabilitation Services shall chair the Commission.

22 (d) The Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services shall provide staff for
23 the Commission.

24 (e) A member of the Commission:

25 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

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

28 (f) The Commission shall evaluate and make recommendations on:

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1 (1) methods for improving stakeholder input on the Division of
2 ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services' programs and services;

3 (2) methods for improving the relationship and communication between
4 transition professionals working at the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services
5 and the Developmental Disabilities Administration;

6 (3) methods for improving the amount of time it takes to provide vocational
7 rehabilitation and transitional services;

8 (4) methods for improving public-private partnerships to assist more
9 Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services' clients;

10 (5) methods for improving accountability and transparency of the Division
11 of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services' programs and services;

12 (6) whether the eligibility criteria for the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~
13 Rehabilitation Services' programs and services should be altered;

14 (7) whether the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services should
15 continue to be a division of the State Department of Education or should be transferred to
16 another State agency;

17 (8) if the Commission determines that the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~
18 Rehabilitation Services should continue to be a division of the State Department of
19 Education, whether the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services should have a
20 governing board separate from the State Board of Education;

21 (9) whether there are specific budgetary requests that could support the
22 job training programs provided by the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~ Rehabilitation Services;
23 and

24 (10) any other improvements to the Division of ~~Rehabilitative~~
25 Rehabilitation Services' programs and services the Commission considers appropriate.

26 (g) The Commission shall meet at least five times between June 1, 2022, and
27 December 15, 2022.

28 (h) On or before December 15, 2022, the Commission shall report its findings and
29 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
30 Government Article, the General Assembly.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
32 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June
33 30, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
34 abrogated and of no further force and effect.