

HOUSE BILL 583

J1, E4

4lr4587
CF SB 475

By: **The Speaker (By Request – Administration) and Delegates Allen, Amprey, Bagnall, Bartlett, Bhandari, Bofo, Charkoudian, Conaway, Crutchfield, Ebersole, Edelson, Fennell, Foley, Forbes, Fraser–Hidalgo, Grossman, Guyton, Guzzone, Harris, Henson, Hill, Ivey, Jackson, S. Johnson, D. Jones, Kaiser, Kaufman, J. Long, Lopez, Love, McCaskill, Mireku–North, Palakovich Carr, Pasteur, Patterson, Phillips, Pruski, Qi, Roberson, Ruff, Ruth, Simmons, Simpson, Solomon, Spiegel, Taveras, Taylor, Toles, Turner, Watson, White Holland, Williams, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2024

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 5, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and
4 Intervention in the Maryland Department of Health to reduce firearm violence, harm
5 from firearm violence, and misuse of firearms in the State; and generally relating to
6 the Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Health – General

9 Section 13–5201 through 13–5205 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 52. Center
10 for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention”

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2023 Replacement Volume)

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

15 **Article – Health – General**

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 AGENCY TO ENSURE A ~~WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT~~ MULTIDEPARTMENTAL APPROACH
2 TO REDUCING FIREARM VIOLENCE;

3 (2) SOLICIT AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM, ~~AT A~~
4 ~~MINIMUM~~;

5 (I) COMMUNITIES DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED BY
6 FIREARM VIOLENCE; ~~AND~~

7 (II) PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS; AND

8 (III) ANY OTHER EXPERTS, GROUPS, OR ORGANIZATIONS AS THE
9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DETERMINES APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY; AND

10 (3) (I) ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2025, SUBMIT A PRELIMINARY
11 STATE PLAN FOR A PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH TO REDUCING FIREARM VIOLENCE
12 TO GUIDE THE WORK OF THE CENTER TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE
13 WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;
14 AND

15 (II) ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2029, AND EVERY 4 YEARS
16 THEREAFTER, SUBMIT A STATE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FIREARM VIOLENCE
17 REDUCTION USING PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGIES TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN
18 ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY.

20 (B) THE CENTER MAY:

21 (1) OFFER TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND
22 LOCAL AGENCIES, HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, AND COMMUNITY AND
23 FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO INCREASE CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT
24 EVIDENCE-BASED FIREARM VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION
25 STRATEGIES;

26 (2) ISSUE BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE AND MODEL PROCESSES IN
27 CONSULTATION WITH AFFECTED COMMUNITIES REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF
28 EVIDENCE-BASED FIREARM VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION
29 STRATEGIES;

30 (3) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME
31 PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES OR ANY SUCCESSOR AGENCY,
32 FACILITATE CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL DATA AND INFORMATION SHARING;

33 (4) CONDUCT PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS;

1 **(5) SHARE DATA AND COLLABORATE WITH HIGHER EDUCATION AND**
2 **RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF FIREARM VIOLENCE;**

3 **(6) PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF EVIDENCE-BASED FIREARM**
4 **VIOLENCE PREVENTION INITIATIVES IN AFFECTED COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT**
5 **THE STATE; AND**

6 **(7) ENGAGE IN ANY OTHER ACTIVITY CONSISTENT WITH THE**
7 **CENTER’S MISSION.**

8 **13-5205.**

9 **FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE**
10 **GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION**
11 **SUFFICIENT TO FUND THE CENTER.**

12 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**
13 **October 1, 2024.**

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.