

SENATE BILL 190

E4

(PRE-FILED)

4r0719
CF 4r0718

By: **Senator Muse**

Requested: September 26, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Law Enforcement – Wellness Checks – Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a law enforcement agency that receives a certain request for
4 a wellness check of an individual to immediately conduct a wellness check or submit
5 a request for the relevant law enforcement agency to conduct a wellness check; and
6 generally relating to law enforcement agencies and wellness checks.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section 3–531

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 **3–531.**

16 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
17 INDICATED.

18 (2) “QUALIFIED REQUEST” MEANS A VERBAL OR WRITTEN REQUEST
19 THAT INCLUDES SUFFICIENT INFORMATION REGARDING A SPECIFIC
20 LIFE-THREATENING CONCERN FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION OR RESPONSE.

21 (3) “WELLNESS CHECK” MEANS AN IN-PERSON VISIT BY A LAW
22 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CONCERNING THE WELL BEING OF AN INDIVIDUAL.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) (1) IF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY RECEIVES A QUALIFIED**
2 **REQUEST FOR A WELLNESS CHECK OF AN INDIVIDUAL LOCATED IN THE LAW**
3 **ENFORCEMENT AGENCY'S JURISDICTION, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL**
4 **IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT A WELLNESS CHECK OF THE INDIVIDUAL.**

5 **(2) IF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY RECEIVES A QUALIFIED**
6 **REQUEST FOR A WELLNESS CHECK OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT LOCATED IN THE**
7 **LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY'S JURISDICTION, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**
8 **SHALL IMMEDIATELY SUBMIT A REQUEST TO THE RELEVANT LAW ENFORCEMENT**
9 **AGENCY IN THIS STATE OR ANOTHER STATE TO CONDUCT A WELLNESS CHECK OF**
10 **THE INDIVIDUAL.**

11 **(C) A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT RECEIVES A QUALIFIED REQUEST**
12 **UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS**
13 **SECTION REGARDLESS OF WHERE THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY MAKING THE**
14 **QUALIFIED REQUEST IS LOCATED.**

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2024.