

HOUSE BILL 149

Unofficial Copy  
J1

1998 Regular Session  
(8r0609)

ENROLLED BILL

-- Environmental Matters/Economic and Environmental Affairs --

Introduced by **Delegates Morhaim and Nathan-Pulliam**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this  
\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker.

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Increasing the Availability of Substance Abuse**  
3 **Programs**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Increasing the Availability of  
5 Substance Abuse Programs; providing for the membership, duties, and staffing  
6 of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to certain persons by a  
7 certain date; *requiring the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration to find a*  
8 *certain location for a certain program*; providing for the effective date ~~and the~~  
9 ~~termination of this Act~~; *providing for the termination of certain provisions of this*  
10 *Act*; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Increasing the Availability  
11 of Substance Abuse Programs.

12 BY adding to  
13 Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments  
14 Section 18-316  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

1 *BY adding to*  
2 *Article - Health - General*  
3 *Section 8-901*  
4 *Annotated Code of Maryland*  
5 *(1994 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)*

6 Preamble

7 WHEREAS, A correlation exists between substance abuse and the commission of  
8 crime in the State; and

9 WHEREAS, In Baltimore City, for example, 50,000 drug addicts are responsible  
10 for committing 80% of the crime; and

11 WHEREAS, Substance abuse programs are effective in treating persons who are  
12 addicted to drugs and in reducing crime rates; and

13 WHEREAS, A drug addict in the State currently must endure a long wait to get  
14 into a substance abuse program; and

15 WHEREAS, Studies show that each \$1 invested in a substance abuse program  
16 saves the taxpayer \$7; and

17 WHEREAS, A need exists to increase funding for existing substance abuse  
18 programs, the availability of the programs for those who need treatment, and the  
19 evaluation of existing programs; now, therefore,

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

22 **Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments**

23 18-316.

24 (A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE TO STUDY INCREASING THE AVAILABILITY OF  
25 SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS.

26 (B) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

27 (1) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES APPOINTED BY THE  
28 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, ONE OF WHOM SHALL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE  
29 SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE OR ANOTHER MEMBER OF  
30 THAT COMMITTEE DESIGNATED BY THE CHAIRMAN;

31 (2) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND APPOINTED BY THE  
32 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

33 (3) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND  
34 MENTAL HYGIENE;

1           ~~(4)~~       (4)       ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN  
2 RESOURCES;

3           ~~(4)~~       ~~(5)~~       (5)       THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR A DESIGNEE OF THE ATTORNEY  
4 GENERAL;

5           ~~(5)~~       ~~(6)~~       (6)       ONE LICENSED PHYSICIAN WITH EXPERIENCE WORKING IN A  
6 SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM;

7           ~~(6)~~       ~~(7)~~       (7)       ONE REGISTERED NURSE WITH EXPERIENCE WORKING IN A  
8 SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM;

9           ~~(7)~~       ~~(8)~~       (8)       ONE LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER WITH EXPERIENCE WORKING  
10 IN A SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM;

11          ~~(8)~~       ~~(9)~~       (9)       ONE LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST WITH EXPERIENCE WORKING  
12 IN A SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM;

13          ~~(9)~~       ~~(10)~~       (10)       ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
14 PROGRAM;

15          ~~(10)~~       ~~(11)~~       (11)       ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A CITY SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
16 PROGRAM;

17          (12)       ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF  
18 SOCIAL SERVICE DIRECTORS;

19          ~~(11)~~       ~~(13)~~       (13)       ONE FORMER ADDICT;

20          ~~(12)~~       ~~(14)~~       (14)       ONE POLICE OFFICER;

21          ~~(13)~~       ~~(15)~~       (15)       ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
22 CORRECTIONS;

23          ~~(14)~~       ~~(16)~~       (16)       ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE  
24 JUSTICE;

25          ~~(15)~~       ~~(17)~~       (17)       ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH,  
26 AND FAMILIES;

27          ~~(16)~~       ~~(18)~~       (18)       ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF HOSPITALS IN THE STATE;

28          ~~(17)~~       ~~(19)~~       (19)       ONE OPERATOR FROM A SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM; AND

29          ~~(18)~~       ~~(20)~~       (20)       ONE EXPERIENCED ADDICTIONS COUNSELOR.

30       (C)       THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE TASK FORCE.

31       (D)       THE TASK FORCE SHALL DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR  
32 INCREASING THE FUNDING AND THE AVAILABILITY OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
33 PROGRAMS IN THE STATE BY:

1 (1) EXAMINING THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN  
 2 THE STATE, AND THE NUMBER OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS THAT EXIST TO  
 3 ADDRESS THE PROBLEM;

4 (2) COLLECTING DATA TO DETERMINE THE CORRELATION BETWEEN  
 5 SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND THE COMMISSION OF CRIMES;

6 (3) DETERMINING THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
 7 PROGRAMS ARE ACCESSIBLE TO THOSE ADDICTED TO DRUGS AND ALCOHOL WHO  
 8 SEEK TREATMENT;

9 (4) DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING CURRENTLY AVAILABLE  
 10 FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS;

11 (5) TAKING ANY OTHER ACTION NECESSARY AND PROPER TO CARRY  
 12 OUT THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION; ~~AND~~

13 ~~(6)~~ (6) EXAMINING THE AVAILABILITY OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS  
 14 DESIGNED FOR WOMEN, PREGNANT WOMEN, AND WOMEN WITH CHILDREN, AS WELL  
 15 AS THE OUTCOMES OF THESE PROGRAMS IN RELATION TO THE LENGTH OF STAY;

16 ~~(7)~~ (7) EXAMINING THE HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE AVAILABLE IN THE  
 17 STATE FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT;

18 ~~(8)~~ (8) MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY  
 19 OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS, BOTH SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM;

20 ~~(9)~~ (9) EXAMINING THE REASONS FOR PUBLIC OPPOSITION TO  
 21 SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS; AND

22 ~~(10)~~ (10) MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO DECREASE PUBLIC  
 23 OPPOSITION TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS TO ENSURE THAT SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
 24 PROGRAMS ARE ACCESSIBLE THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO THOSE ADDICTED TO  
 25 DRUGS WHO SEEK TREATMENT.

26 (E) MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION  
 27 EXCEPT THAT THE MEMBERS MAY BE REIMBURSED FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE  
 28 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

29 (F) THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, IN COOPERATION  
 30 WITH OTHER APPROPRIATE STATE AND LOCAL UNITS, SHALL PROVIDE STAFF  
 31 SUPPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE WITHIN EXISTING  
 32 BUDGETED RESOURCES.

33 (G) THE TASK FORCE SHALL ISSUE A FINAL REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS,  
 34 RECOMMENDATIONS, AND COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO THE GOVERNOR AND,  
 35 SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL  
 36 ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2000.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland  
2 read as follows:

3 Article - Health - General

4 8-901.

5 THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL FIND AN APPROPRIATE BERTH IN AN AREA THAT  
6 IS SAFE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS FOR A SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM KNOWN AS THE  
7 U.S.S. SANCTUARY.

8 SECTION ~~2.~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act  
9 shall take effect June 1, 1998. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6  
10 months and, at the end of January 1, 2000, with no further action required by the  
11 General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

12 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall  
13 take effect June 1, 1998.