

HOUSE BILL 1182

Unofficial Copy  
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SB 166/99 - FIN

2000 Regular Session  
0lr2393  
CF 0lr1718

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By: **Delegate V. Jones**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Youthbuild Act**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Youthbuild Act; providing certain  
4 education, job skills training, counseling, and leadership development training  
5 opportunities to certain disadvantaged youth; requiring funds for a Youthbuild  
6 program to be used for certain services; defining certain terms; authorizing the  
7 Secretary of Housing and Community Development to make certain grants to  
8 carry out the provisions of this Act; requiring the Secretary to establish and  
9 implement the Maryland Youthbuild program under certain circumstances;  
10 establishing a list of services to be provided under this Act; requiring a certain  
11 stipend and wage for participation by certain disadvantaged youth under this  
12 Act; setting a certain time limitation for participation in this program;  
13 establishing certain eligibility requirements for participation by certain  
14 disadvantaged youth under this Act; establishing certain eligibility  
15 requirements for participation by certain entities under this Act; and generally  
16 relating to establishing the Maryland Youthbuild Act under the Department of  
17 Housing and Community Development.

18 BY adding to  
19 Article 83B - Department Housing and Community Development  
20 Section 14-101 through 14-108, inclusive, to be under the new title "Title 14.  
21 Maryland Youthbuild Act"  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

24 Preamble

25 WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland declares that it is necessary:

26 (1) To enable economically disadvantaged youth, especially youth who have  
27 not finished high school, to obtain the education, job skills training, personal  
28 counseling, leadership development skills training, job placement assistance, and  
29 long-term follow-up services necessary for them to achieve permanent economic  
30 self-sufficiency;

1 (2) To provide valuable community service that addresses urgent community  
2 needs, including the demand for affordable housing and the need for young role  
3 models and mentors for younger teenagers and children;

4 (3) To provide communities the opportunity to establish or rebuild  
5 neighborhood stability in economically depressed and low-income areas, as well as  
6 historic areas requiring restoration or preservation;

7 (4) To provide economically disadvantaged youth and youth who have not  
8 finished high school an opportunity for meaningful participation in society;

9 (5) To allow communities to expand the supply of affordable housing for  
10 homeless and other low-income individuals by utilizing the energies and talents of  
11 economically disadvantaged youth who have not graduated from high school; and

12 (6) To foster the development of leadership skills and a commitment to  
13 community development among youth; now, therefore,

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

16 **Article 83B - Department of Housing and Community Development**

17 TITLE 14. MARYLAND YOUTHBUILD ACT.

18 14-101.

19 (A) IN THIS TITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

20 (B) "APPLICANT" MEANS A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE NOT-FOR-PROFIT AGENCY  
21 ELIGIBLE TO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING UNDER FEDERAL  
22 OR STATE EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS.

23 (C) "LOCAL DEPARTMENT" MEANS A LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITY IN A  
24 COUNTY OR IN BALTIMORE CITY CREATED OR CONTINUED UNDER THE PROVISIONS  
25 OF ARTICLE 88A, § 13 OF THE CODE.

26 (D) "SECRETARY" MEANS THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING  
27 AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

28 (E) "VERY LOW INCOME" MEANS THE INCOME OF A PERSON OR HOUSEHOLD  
29 WHOSE INCOME IS AT OR BELOW 50% OF THE MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, ADJUSTED  
30 FOR HOUSEHOLD SIZE, FOR THE COUNTY WHERE THE HOUSEHOLD IS LOCATED.

31 (F) "YOUTHBUILD" MEANS ANY PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES DISADVANTAGED  
32 YOUTH WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP  
33 DEVELOPMENT, ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, AND TRAINING IN THE  
34 CONSTRUCTION OR REHABILITATION OF HOUSING FOR SPECIAL NEED  
35 POPULATIONS, VERY LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS, OR LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS.

1 14-102.

2 (A) THE SECRETARY SHALL:

3 (1) MAKE GRANTS TO APPLICANTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CARRYING OUT  
4 YOUTHBUILD PROGRAMS AS APPROVED UNDER THIS TITLE; AND

5 (2) ENSURE ALL PROGRAMS FUNDED UNDER THIS TITLE REFLECT  
6 STRONG YOUTH AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

7 (B) THE SECRETARY SHALL:

8 (1) ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT, IN COOPERATION WITH THE  
9 DIRECTORS OF LOCAL DEPARTMENTS, A YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM THAT MEETS THE  
10 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS TITLE;

11 (2) SUPERVISE THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM  
12 UNDER THIS TITLE BY THE LOCAL DEPARTMENTS;

13 (3) EVALUATE THE PERFORMANCE OF A PROGRAM FUNDED UNDER  
14 THIS TITLE; AND

15 (4) ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS  
16 TITLE.

17 14-103.

18 (A) FUNDING UNDER THIS TITLE SHALL BE USED BY EACH YOUTHBUILD  
19 PROGRAM TO PROVIDE AT A MINIMUM THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

20 (1) (I) ACQUISITION, REHABILITATION, ACQUISITION AND  
21 REHABILITATION, OR CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING AND RELATED FACILITIES TO BE  
22 USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING HOME OWNERSHIP FOR DISADVANTAGED  
23 PERSONS; AND

24 (II) REHABILITATION OR CONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNITY  
25 FACILITIES OWNED BY NOT-FOR-PROFIT OR PUBLIC AGENCIES;

26 (2) INTEGRATED EDUCATION AND JOB SKILLS TRAINING SERVICES AND  
27 ACTIVITIES THAT ARE EVENLY DIVIDED WITHIN THE PROGRAM, WITH 50% OF A  
28 STUDENT'S TIME SPENT IN CLASSROOM-BASED INSTRUCTION, COUNSELING, AND  
29 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTRUCTION, AND 50% OF A STUDENT'S TIME SPENT IN  
30 EXPERIENTIAL TRAINING ON THE CONSTRUCTION SITE;

31 (3) COUNSELING SERVICES DESIGNED TO ASSIST PARTICIPANTS TO  
32 POSITIVELY PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY; AND

33 (4) LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING THAT PROVIDES  
34 PARTICIPANTS WITH MEANINGFUL OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP LEADERSHIP  
35 SKILLS SUCH AS DECISION MAKING, PROBLEM SOLVING, AND NEGOTIATING; AND

1 ENCOURAGEMENT TO DEVELOP STRONG PEER GROUP TIES THAT SUPPORT THEIR  
2 MUTUAL PURSUIT OF SKILLS AND VALUES.

3 (B) (1) A TRAINING SUBSIDY, LIVING ALLOWANCE, OR STIPEND THAT IS NO  
4 LESS THAN MINIMUM WAGE SHALL BE PROVIDED TO PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS FOR  
5 THE TIME SPENT AT THE WORKSITE IN CONSTRUCTION TRAINING; AND FOR THOSE  
6 PARTICIPANTS WHO RECEIVE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, THIS TRAINING SUBSIDY, LIVING  
7 ALLOWANCE, OR STIPEND SHALL NOT AFFECT THEIR HOUSING BENEFITS, MEDICAL  
8 BENEFITS, CHILD CARE BENEFITS, OR FOOD STAMP BENEFITS.

9 (2) TRAINING SUBSIDIES, LIVING ALLOWANCES, AND STIPENDS MAY BE  
10 DISTRIBUTED IN A MANNER THAT OFFERS INCENTIVES FOR GOOD PERFORMANCE.

11 (C) FULL-TIME PARTICIPATION IN A YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM SHALL BE  
12 OFFERED FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN 6 MONTHS AND NOT EXCEEDING 24  
13 MONTHS.

14 (D) A PROGRAM FUNDED UNDER THIS TITLE SHALL ASSIST GRADUATES IN  
15 OBTAINING JOBS, PARTICULARLY JOBS IN THE CONSTRUCTION FIELD.

16 14-104.

17 (A) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS MAY BE USED:

18 (1) TO CARRY OUT THE ACTIVITIES LISTED IN § 14-103 OF THIS TITLE;

19 (2) FOR LEGAL FEES FOR HOUSING ACQUISITION;

20 (3) FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF THE PROGRAM WHICH MAY NOT  
21 EXCEED 15% OF THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED, OR SUCH HIGHER  
22 PERCENTAGE AS THE SECRETARY DETERMINES IS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT  
23 CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT OF A PRIVATE, NONPROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED  
24 ORGANIZATION; AND

25 (4) FOR STAFF TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RELATED TO  
26 DEVELOPING AND CARRYING OUT THE YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM.

27 (B) THE SECRETARY MAY RESERVE UP TO 5% OF THE MARYLAND  
28 YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH  
29 YOUTHBUILD USA TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND  
30 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE PROVISION OF TRAINING AND TECHNICAL  
31 ASSISTANCE, AND IN THE MANAGEMENT, SUPERVISION, AND COORDINATION OF  
32 YOUTHBUILD PROGRAMS UNDER THIS ACT.

33 14-105.

34 (A) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS ARE YOUTHS 16 TO 24 YEARS OLD WHO ARE  
35 ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED AS DEFINED UNDER TITLE 29, SECTION 1503 OF  
36 THE UNITED STATES CODE AND WHO ARE PART OF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING  
37 GROUPS:

1 (1) INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT ATTENDING ANY SCHOOL AND HAVE  
2 NOT RECEIVED A SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR ITS EQUIVALENT;

3 (2) INDIVIDUALS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A TRADITIONAL OR  
4 ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL SETTING OR GED PROGRAM AND WHO ARE IN DANGER OF  
5 DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL; OR

6 (3) VERY LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS.

7 (B) UP TO 25% OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROGRAM MAY BE INDIVIDUALS  
8 WHO DO NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, BUT  
9 WHO HAVE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS DESPITE THE ATTAINMENT OF A HIGH SCHOOL  
10 DIPLOMA.

11 14-106.

12 (A) PRIORITY IN THE AWARDING OF FUNDS UNDER THIS ACT SHALL BE GIVEN  
13 TO APPLICANTS WITH EXPERIENCE IN OPERATING YOUTHBUILD PROGRAMS,  
14 THROUGH EITHER A YOUTHBUILD USA LICENSE OR FEDERAL HUD YOUTHBUILD  
15 FUNDING.

16 (B) THOSE ELIGIBLE TO BE AWARDED FUNDS UNDER THIS ACT ARE  
17 NOT-FOR-PROFIT PRIVATE AGENCIES, OR PUBLIC AGENCIES WITH EXPERIENCE  
18 OPERATING A YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM WITH A PLAN TO INCUBATE A YOUTHBUILD  
19 PROGRAM UNTIL IT CAN BE ESTABLISHED AS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT PRIVATE AGENCY.

20 (C) THE SECRETARY SHALL REQUIRE THAT AN APPLICATION FOR  
21 YOUTHBUILD FUNDS UNDER THIS ACT CONTAIN AT A MINIMUM:

22 (1) A REQUEST FOR AN IMPLEMENTATION GRANT, SPECIFYING THE  
23 AMOUNT OF THE GRANT REQUESTED AND ITS PROPOSED USES;

24 (2) A DESCRIPTION OF THE APPLICANT AND QUALIFICATIONS,  
25 INCLUDING THE APPLICANT'S:

26 (I) EXPERIENCE OPERATING A YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM;

27 (II) EXPERIENCE WITH HOUSING REHABILITATION OR  
28 CONSTRUCTION;

29 (III) EXPERIENCE WITH YOUTH, YOUTH EDUCATION, AND YOUTH  
30 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS;

31 (IV) EXPERIENCE WITH EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS; AND

32 (V) RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL UNIONS, YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP  
33 PROGRAMS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY GROUPS;

34 (3) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION SITE FOR THE  
35 PROGRAM AND EVIDENCE OF SITE CONTROL;

1 (4) A DESCRIPTION OF THE EDUCATIONAL AND JOB TRAINING  
2 ACTIVITIES, WORK OPPORTUNITIES, AND OTHER SERVICES THAT WILL BE PROVIDED  
3 TO PARTICIPANTS;

4 (5) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OR  
5 REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN AND THE ANTICIPATED  
6 SCHEDULE FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTIVITIES;

7 (6) A DESCRIPTION OF THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE YOUTHS TO BE  
8 SERVED IN THE PROGRAM DURING THE GRANT PERIOD;

9 (7) A DESCRIPTION OF THE MANNER IN WHICH ELIGIBLE YOUTHS WILL  
10 BE RECRUITED AND SELECTED;

11 (8) A DESCRIPTION OF THE SPECIAL EFFORTS THAT WILL BE  
12 UNDERTAKEN TO RECRUIT ELIGIBLE YOUNG WOMEN, INCLUDING YOUNG WOMEN  
13 WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN, AND TO PROVIDE YOUNG WOMEN WITH APPROPRIATE  
14 SUPPORTS, ESPECIALLY CHILD CARE SUPPORTS;

15 (9) A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE PROPOSED PROGRAM WILL BE  
16 COORDINATED WITH OTHER FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES RELATING TO  
17 EDUCATION, PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, SOCIAL SERVICES, THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM,  
18 NATIONAL SERVICE, CRIME PREVENTION, AND JOB TRAINING;

19 (10) AN ASSURANCE THAT THERE WILL BE A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF  
20 ADEQUATELY TRAINED SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL IN THE PROGRAM;

21 (11) A DESCRIPTION OF THE APPLICANT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ANY  
22 LOCAL BUILDING TRADE UNIONS WHICH MAY EXIST REGARDING THEIR  
23 INVOLVEMENT IN TRAINING, AND THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE YOUTHBUILD  
24 PROGRAM WITH ESTABLISHED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS;

25 (12) A DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES THAT WILL BE UNDERTAKEN TO  
26 DEVELOP THE LEADERSHIP SKILLS OF PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING THEIR ROLE IN  
27 DECISION MAKING;

28 (13) A DETAILED BUDGET AND DESCRIPTION OF THE SYSTEM OF FISCAL  
29 CONTROLS AND AUDITING AND ACCOUNTABILITY PROCEDURES THAT WILL BE USED  
30 TO ENSURE FISCAL SOUNDNESS;

31 (14) A DESCRIPTION OF ANY CONTRACTS AND ARRANGEMENTS ENTERED  
32 INTO BETWEEN THE APPLICANT AND OTHER AGENCIES AND ENTITIES INCLUDING  
33 ALL IN KIND DONATIONS AND GRANTS FROM BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES  
34 THAT WILL SERVE TO AUGMENT MARYLAND YOUTHBUILD ACT FUNDS;

35 (15) AN IDENTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF THE FINANCING  
36 PROPOSED FOR ANY:

37 (I) ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY;

1 (II) REHABILITATION; OR

2 (III) CONSTRUCTION;

3 (16) AN IDENTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY THAT WILL  
4 OPERATE AND MANAGE THE PROPERTY;

5 (17) A CERTIFICATION THAT THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE  
6 REQUIREMENTS OF THE FAIR HOUSING ACT, TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF  
7 1964, SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973, AND THE AGE  
8 DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 1975, AND WILL AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHER FAIR HOUSING;  
9 AND

10 (18) IF APPLICABLE, THE QUALIFICATIONS AND PAST EXPERIENCE OF  
11 THE PERSON WHO WILL FILL THE FULL-TIME DIRECTOR POSITION.

12 14-107.

13 THE SECRETARY SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO YOUTHBUILD PROGRAMS MEETING  
14 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

15 14-108.

16 THIS ACT MAY BE CITED AS THE MARYLAND YOUTHBUILD ACT.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2000.