
By: **Delegates D. Davis, Jones, and Rosenberg**
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2004
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Community and Faith-Based Partnership Council**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Community and Faith-Based Partnership
4 Council; providing for the membership of the Council; requiring the Governor to
5 appoint certain members of the Council from certain lists submitted by certain
6 groups; requiring the Governor to appoint the chairman of the Council;
7 establishing the terms of certain appointed members; providing for the staffing
8 of the Council; requiring the Council to collect and disseminate certain
9 information, provide training and technical assistance to certain community and
10 faith-based organizations, study State programs and make certain
11 recommendations, develop programs to help citizens identify certain
12 organizations that provide certain services, develop certain guidelines, and
13 make a certain report annually; and generally relating to the Community and
14 Faith-Based Partnership Council.

15 BY adding to
16 Article - State Government
17 Section 9-2601 through 9-2603, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle
18 26. Community and Faith-Based Partnership Council"
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

21 Preamble

22 WHEREAS, Community and faith-based organizations are uniquely able to
23 provide services to Maryland citizens in need of assistance in meeting basic human
24 needs; and

25 WHEREAS, The General Assembly has long recognized the ability of
26 community and faith-based organizations to provide services to citizens and has
27 partnered with these organizations with capital improvements through legislative
28 initiatives in the State capital budget; and

29 WHEREAS, Partnerships between the State and community and faith-based
30 organizations facilitate the seamless provision of human services; and

1 WHEREAS, The General Assembly intends to continue to provide financial
2 assistance to community and faith-based organizations that provide human services;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, A mechanism is needed to connect community and faith-based
5 organizations and State agencies to better enable them to exchange information,
6 coordinate resources, provide technical assistance, and serve as a clearinghouse to
7 help meet the human services needs of Maryland citizens; now, therefore,

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

10 **Article - State Government**

11 SUBTITLE 26. COMMUNITY AND FAITH-BASED PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL.

12 9-2601.

13 IN THIS SUBTITLE, "COUNCIL" MEANS THE COMMUNITY AND FAITH-BASED
14 PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL.

15 9-2602.

16 (A) THERE IS A COMMUNITY AND FAITH-BASED PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL.

17 (B) THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

18 (1) THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN RESOURCES, OR THE SECRETARY'S
19 DESIGNEE;

20 (2) THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, OR
21 THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

22 (3) THE SECRETARY OF JUVENILE JUSTICE, OR THE SECRETARY'S
23 DESIGNEE;

24 (4) THE SPECIAL SECRETARY FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES, OR
25 THE SPECIAL SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

26 (5) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, OR THE
27 SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

28 (6) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY THE
29 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

30 (7) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE
31 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

1 (8) SIX REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, APPOINTED BY
2 THE GOVERNOR FROM A LIST OF 10 NAMES SUBMITTED BY THE MARYLAND
3 ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES;

4 (9) SIX REPRESENTATIVES OF FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT
5 PROVIDE HUMAN SERVICES, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR; AND

6 (10) SIX REPRESENTATIVES OF NONPROFIT, COMMUNITY
7 ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HUMAN SERVICES, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR
8 FROM A LIST OF 10 NAMES SUBMITTED BY THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF
9 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

10 (C) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, WHEN APPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE
11 COUNCIL, THE GOVERNOR SHALL ASSURE GEOGRAPHIC BALANCE AND PROMOTE
12 RACIAL, GENDER, AND RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY IN THE COUNCIL'S MEMBERSHIP.

13 (D) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL.

14 (E) (1) THE TERM OF A MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR IS 3 YEARS.

15 (2) THE TERMS OF APPOINTED MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS
16 REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ON OCTOBER
17 1, 2004.

18 (3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL A
19 SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED.

20 (4) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES
21 ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED.

22 (F) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT OF
23 HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE
24 JUSTICE, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, AND THE OFFICE
25 FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES SHALL JOINTLY PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT TO
26 THE COUNCIL.

27 (G) A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION BUT IS
28 ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE STANDARD STATE
29 TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

30 9-2603.

31 THE COUNCIL SHALL:

32 (1) COLLECT AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMS THAT
33 OFFER STATE OR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY AND
34 FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HUMAN SERVICES;

1 (2) PROVIDE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY
2 AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS SEEKING STATE OR FEDERAL FINANCIAL
3 ASSISTANCE;

4 (3) STUDY STATE PROGRAMS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT
5 WAYS TO MAKE PROGRAMS MORE ACCESSIBLE TO COMMUNITY AND FAITH-BASED
6 ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HUMAN SERVICES;

7 (4) DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR DIRECT OR INDIRECT FINANCIAL AID TO
8 COMMUNITY AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT SHALL ENSURE THAT NO
9 FUNDS ARE USED UNLESS THE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXPENDITURE
10 MONITORS THE RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION AND THE PROGRAMS IT ADMINISTERS TO
11 ENSURE:

12 (I) THAT THE FUNDS ARE NOT USED FOR SECTARIAN RELIGIOUS
13 INSTRUCTION, OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY PROGRAM OR DEPARTMENT OF
14 DIVINITY OF ANY RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION; AND

15 (II) COMPLIANCE, WHERE APPLICABLE, WITH THE
16 ANTI-DISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS OF TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964,
17 AS AMENDED;

18 (5) DEVELOP GUIDELINES AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO
19 COMMUNITY AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO ESTABLISH SEPARATE
20 CORPORATE ENTITIES TO OPERATE PUBLICLY FUNDED HUMAN SERVICE PROGRAMS;
21 AND

22 (6) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, REPORT TO THE
23 GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT
24 ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS
25 OF THE COUNCIL.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial
27 members of the Community and Faith-Based Partnership Council who are appointed
28 by the Governor shall expire as follows:

29 (1) six members in 2005;

30 (2) six members in 2006; and

31 (3) six members in 2007.

32 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
33 effect October 1, 2004.