
By: **Delegates Gutierrez, Anderson, Bronrott, Brown, Carter, Dumais,
Kelley, King, Lawton, Lee, Madaleno, Menes, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam,
Parker, Petzold, Ramirez, V. Turner, Vallario, and Zirkin**

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CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Delinquency Prevention and Diversion Services Task Force**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Delinquency Prevention and Diversion Services
4 Task Force; providing for the membership and cochairs of the Task Force;
5 requiring the Department of Juvenile Services to staff the Task Force; providing
6 that the members of the Task Force may not receive compensation but are
7 entitled to a certain reimbursement; establishing the duties of the Task Force;
8 requiring the Task Force to submit a certain report to the Governor and the
9 General Assembly by a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act;
10 and generally relating to the Delinquency Prevention and Diversion Services
11 Task Force.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That:

14 (a) There is a Delinquency Prevention and Diversion Services Task Force.

15 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

16 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, one to serve as cochair,
17 appointed by the President of the Senate;

18 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, one to serve as cochair,
19 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

20 (3) the Secretary of Juvenile Services, or the Secretary's designee;

1 (4) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's
2 designee;

3 (5) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's
4 designee;

5 (6) the Secretary of Human Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

6 (7) the Director of the Office of Group Home Licensing and Monitoring,
7 or the Director's designee;

8 (8) the Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and
9 Prevention, or the Director's designee;

10 (9) the Public Defender, or the Public Defender's designee;

11 (10) the following members, appointed by the Governor, from school
12 districts or local education agencies with student populations greater than 70,000:

13 (i) two local education agency board members;

14 (ii) two school superintendents, or the superintendents' designees;

15 (iii) two representatives of local social services agencies;

16 (iv) two representatives of youth service bureaus;

17 (v) two representatives of correctional facilities for youths;

18 (vi) two representatives of licensed health or mental health service
19 providers;

20 (vii) two principals of local middle or secondary schools, or the
21 principals' designees;

22 (viii) three youth representatives who were formerly referred to
23 intake as juveniles; and

24 (ix) three parents of youths referred to intake as juveniles; and

25 (11) the following members, appointed by the Governor, from school
26 districts or local education agencies with student populations of less than 70,000:

27 (i) one local education agency school board member;

28 (ii) two school superintendents, or the superintendents' designees;

29 (iii) one representative of a local social services agency; and

30 (iv) one principal of a local middle or secondary school, or the
31 principal's designee.

1 (c) The Department of Juvenile Services shall provide staff for the Task Force.

2 (d) A member of the Task Force:

3 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

4 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
5 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

6 (e) The Task Force shall:

7 (1) study, survey, and assess the adequacy, quality, and quantity of
8 delinquency prevention and diversion services currently being provided to the
9 juvenile offenders of this State, as defined in paragraph (2) of this subsection, by
10 public and private agencies, including mandated and wraparound services, such as:

- 11 (i) behavior management and counseling;
- 12 (ii) drug and alcohol treatment;
- 13 (iii) monitoring;
- 14 (iv) relocation;
- 15 (v) community service options;
- 16 (vi) family and parental counseling services;
- 17 (vii) mental health services;
- 18 (viii) job, career, and skills training;
- 19 (ix) work opportunities;
- 20 (x) tattoo removal;
- 21 (xi) mentoring;
- 22 (xii) social and health services;
- 23 (xiii) after-school programs;
- 24 (xiv) youth bureau services;
- 25 (xv) truancy prevention, stay-in-school, and dropout prevention
26 policies and programs;
- 27 (xvi) GED, vocational, and alternative high school programs;
- 28 (xvii) school re-entry options; and
- 29 (xviii) community conferencing programs;

1 (2) review delinquency prevention and diversion services that target the
2 estimated 55,000 youths referred to intake described in the Department of Juvenile
3 Services Gap Analysis Report submitted to the General Assembly on December 31,
4 2004, who:

5 (i) are processed by the Department at intake; and

6 (ii) are not adjudicated delinquent or committed to a juvenile
7 detention or correctional facility;

8 (3) conduct hearings and gather information and suggestions from
9 targeted juveniles, schools, the Department of Juvenile Services, local management
10 boards, and other service providers throughout the State;

11 (4) identify and document the current availability of delinquency
12 prevention and diversion services in the State, including:

13 (i) types of court-ordered and support programs;

14 (ii) where services are provided;

15 (iii) who provides services;

16 (iv) the demographic characteristics and number of youths who
17 receive the services; and

18 (v) the total and individual costs of services;

19 (5) identify best practices and successful models for delinquency
20 prevention and diversion programs in the State and in other states;

21 (6) assess and evaluate the adequacy of current juvenile services in
22 terms of:

23 (i) effectiveness of outcomes;

24 (ii) sufficiency of quantity and quality of services;

25 (iii) availability and accessibility; and

26 (iv) cost-effectiveness and cost-avoidance measures;

27 (7) identify the impact and consequences of gaps in juvenile services;

28 (8) report findings and recommend delinquency prevention and
29 diversion services improvements;

30 (9) develop criteria for requests for proposals to establish juvenile
31 delinquency prevention and diversion programs; and

1 (10) develop criteria for the award of grants to establish juvenile
2 delinquency prevention and diversion programs.

3 (f) On or before July 1, 2007, the Task Force shall report its findings and
4 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
5 Government Article, the General Assembly.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 July 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 3 months and, at the
8 end of September 30, 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly,
9 this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.