

HOUSE BILL 1234

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By: **Delegate Kach**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2008

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 26, 2008

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Residential Centers and State Facilities - Study - Services for**
3 **~~Developmentally Disabled Individuals~~ Individuals with Developmental**
4 **Disabilities**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ~~to~~
6 ~~engage an independent consultant~~, in consultation with a certain employee
7 ~~organization and other interested stakeholders~~, to study and make
8 recommendations on issues related to the provision of services for
9 ~~developmentally disabled individuals in State residential centers and State~~
10 ~~facilities~~ individuals with developmental disabilities in State residential
11 centers; requiring the independent consultant to work with the Department and
12 ~~a certain employee organization in developing certain recommendations;~~
13 requiring the Department to submit a certain report to certain committees of
14 the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination
15 of this Act; and generally relating to a study of services for ~~developmentally~~
16 ~~disabled individuals in State residential centers and State facilities~~ individuals
17 with developmental disabilities in State residential centers.

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
19 MARYLAND, That:

20 (a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ~~shall engage an~~
21 ~~independent consultant to~~, in consultation with the employee organization designated
22 as the exclusive representative of the employees of the Department of Health and
23 Mental Hygiene and other interested stakeholders, shall study and make
24 recommendations on the following issues regarding the provision of services for

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 ~~developmentally disabled individuals in State residential centers and State facilities~~
2 individuals with developmental disabilities in State residential centers:

3 (1) any federal requirements or restrictions that limit or encourage
4 flexibility in providing services to ~~developmentally disabled individuals in State~~
5 ~~residential centers or State facilities~~ individuals with developmental disabilities in
6 State residential centers;

7 (2) the availability of federal funds for financing services for
8 ~~developmentally disabled individuals in State residential centers or State facilities~~
9 individuals with developmental disabilities in State residential centers and any
10 restrictions on the federal funds;

11 (3) methods of providing services to ~~developmentally disabled~~
12 ~~individuals~~ individuals with developmental disabilities in State residential centers by
13 public employees;

14 (4) the best practices regarding training requirements for individuals
15 providing both court-related and noncourt-related services; and

16 (5) appropriate staffing levels for employees in State residential
17 centers ~~and State facilities~~.

18 (b) ~~The independent consultant shall work with the Department of Health~~
19 ~~and Mental Hygiene and the employee organization designated as the exclusive~~
20 ~~representative of the employees of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in~~
21 ~~developing the recommendations required under subsection (a) of this section.~~

22 (e) On or before September 1, 2009, the Department of Health and Mental
23 Hygiene shall submit a report, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government
24 Article, to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and
25 the House Health and Government Operations Committee on the findings and
26 recommendations ~~of the independent consultant~~ under subsection (a) of this section.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of
29 September 30, 2009, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
30 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.