

Chapter 481

(Senate Bill 314)

AN ACT concerning

State Personnel – Traumatic Events – Mental Health Support Services

FOR the purpose of requiring a certain unit of State government to ~~make available~~ obtain mental health support services ~~to~~ for certain individuals affected by a traumatic event that occurs in a facility of the unit and results in the death of an individual; requiring certain mental health support services to be made available to certain employees ~~for a certain purpose and~~ within a certain period of time; defining ~~a certain term~~ certain terms; and generally relating to the provision of mental health support services by units of State government.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – State Government

Section 8–306(a)(4)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – State Personnel and Pensions

Section 5–401 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 4. Mental Health Services for Traumatic Events”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

Article – State Government

8–306.

(a) (4) “State facility” means a facility that is owned, leased, or operated by the State for the purpose of providing health, juvenile, or correctional services to clients or inmates.

Article – State Personnel and Pensions

SUBTITLE 4. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR TRAUMATIC EVENTS.

5–401.

(A) (1) IN THIS SUBTITLE, “UNIT” MEANS THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “STATE FACILITY” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8-306(A) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

(3) “UNIT” MEANS A UNIT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF STATE GOVERNMENT.

(B) A UNIT SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICES TO ANY EMPLOYEE OR OTHER INDIVIDUAL AFFECTED BY IF A TRAUMATIC EVENT THAT OCCURS IN A STATE FACILITY OF THE A UNIT AND RESULTS IN THE DEATH OF AN INDIVIDUAL INDIVIDUAL, THE UNIT SHALL OBTAIN MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ANY EMPLOYEE OF THE UNIT AFFECTED BY THE TRAUMATIC EVENT.

(C) THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE:

(1) TO AN EMPLOYEE TO ENSURE THAT THE EMPLOYEE HAS THE MENTAL ABILITY TO RESUME THE EMPLOYEE’S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES; AND

(2) PROVIDED WITHIN 48 HOURS AFTER THE TRAUMATIC EVENT OCCURS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2012.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2012.