

# HOUSE BILL 1484

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By: **Delegates Nathan–Pulliam, Eckardt, Griffith, and Pena–Melyk**  
Introduced and read first time: February 26, 2013  
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Mental Health – Crisis Response – Standards and Protocols**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Mental Hygiene Administration, in consultation  
4 with core service agencies and representatives from law enforcement, to develop  
5 certain standards to be followed by mobile mental health crisis response teams  
6 in the State; requiring the Administration, in consultation with representatives  
7 from law enforcement, to develop certain protocols to be followed by emergency  
8 service operators; and generally relating to standards and protocols for mental  
9 health crisis response.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Health – General

12 Section 10–1501 and 10–1502 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 15. Mobile  
13 Mental Health Crisis Response Standards and Protocols”

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Health – General**

19 **SUBTITLE 15. MOBILE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE STANDARDS AND**  
20 **PROTOCOLS.**

21 **10–1501.**

22 **(A) THE ADMINISTRATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH CORE SERVICE**  
23 **AGENCIES AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT, SHALL DEVELOP**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 STANDARDS TO BE FOLLOWED BY MOBILE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE  
2 TEAMS IN THE STATE.

3 (B) THE STANDARDS DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS  
4 SECTION SHALL:

5 (1) SPECIFY THE INDIVIDUALS TO BE ON A MOBILE MENTAL  
6 HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM, THAT SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE MENTAL  
7 HEALTH PROVIDER; AND

8 (2) REQUIRE MEMBERS OF A MOBILE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS  
9 RESPONSE TEAM TO BE:

10 (I) TRAINED IN CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC COMPETENCY;  
11 AND

12 (II) RACIALLY AND ETHNICALLY DIVERSE.

13 (C) IN DEVELOPING THE STANDARDS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION  
14 (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONSIDER:

15 (1) BEST PRACTICES IN THE STATE; AND

16 (2) NATIONAL MODELS.

17 10-1502.

18 THE ADMINISTRATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM  
19 LAW ENFORCEMENT, SHALL DEVELOP PROTOCOLS TO BE FOLLOWED BY  
20 EMERGENCY SERVICE OPERATORS IN THE STATE ON WHEN TO REFER CALLS TO  
21 MOBILE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE TEAMS INSTEAD OF TO LAW  
22 ENFORCEMENT.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 2013.