

SB0531/890113/1

BY: Environment and Transportation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 531
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 4, strike “in the Department of Human Resources”; in line 6, after “for” insert “Program”; in line 12, strike “the Department” and substitute “a certain department”; and in line 17, before “defining” insert “making certain provisions of this Act contingent on the taking effect of another Act;”.

On page 2, after line 1, insert:

“BY adding to

Article - Housing and Community Development

Section 4-2301 through 4-2307 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 23. Housing Navigator and Aftercare Program”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2006 Volume and 2016 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 22, strike “**HOUSING COUNSELING AND AFTERCARE**” and substitute “**PROGRAM**”.

On page 3, in line 15, strike “**COUNSELORS**” and substitute “**NAVIGATORS**”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 5, strike in their entirety lines 10 and 11 and substitute:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Housing and Community Development

(Over)

SUBTITLE 23. HOUSING NAVIGATOR AND AFTERCARE PROGRAM.

4-2301.

IN THIS SUBTITLE, "PROGRAM" MEANS THE HOUSING NAVIGATOR AND AFTERCARE PROGRAM.

4-2302.

THERE IS A HOUSING NAVIGATOR AND AFTERCARE PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

4-2303.

THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO ASSIST FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE EXPERIENCING, OR WHO ARE IN IMMINENT DANGER OF, A HOUSING CRISIS IN OBTAINING AND MAINTAINING PERMANENT HOUSING.

4-2304.

A FAMILY MAY APPLY FOR PROGRAM SERVICES IF THE FAMILY IS THE RECIPIENT OF OR IS IN THE PROCESS OF APPLYING FOR TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE, AS DEFINED IN § 5-301 OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ARTICLE.

4-2305.

A HOUSING NAVIGATOR SHALL ASSIST A FAMILY OR AN INDIVIDUAL CLIENT WITH SECURING AND MAINTAINING PERMANENT, AFFORDABLE HOUSING BY:

(1) ASSISTING THE CLIENT WITH SEARCHING FOR AND OBTAINING PERMANENT, AFFORDABLE HOUSING;

(2) DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE, CURRENT LIST OF HOUSING RESOURCES AND EXPANDING THE LIST OF HOUSING RESOURCES TO INCLUDE NEW RESOURCES;

(3) ESTABLISHING A WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CLIENT AND ADVOCATING FOR THE CLIENT WITH LANDLORDS, PROPERTY MANAGERS, REALTY COMPANIES, AND OTHER SOURCES OF LOW-INCOME HOUSING;

(4) WORKING WITH A CLIENT'S CASE MANAGER, WHEN APPLICABLE, TO COORDINATE SERVICES TO THE CLIENT;

(5) ASSISTING THE CLIENT, AS NEEDED, WITH ISSUES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO CHRONIC HOUSING PROBLEMS, SUCH AS BUDGETING AND HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT; AND

(6) PERFORMING OTHER DUTIES AS ASSIGNED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

4-2306.

(A) PROGRAM FUNDS MAY BE USED FOR:

(1) SALARY AND FICA FOR HOUSING NAVIGATORS AND AFTERCARE CASE MANAGERS;

(2) CLIENT-RELATED EXPENSES, INCLUDING:

(Over)

- (I) FIRST AND FINAL MONTHS' RENT;
 - (II) TRANSPORTATION FOR HOUSING SEARCHES;
 - (III) MOVING EXPENSES;
 - (IV) ESSENTIAL FURNISHINGS;
 - (V) STORAGE;
 - (VI) ARREARAGES;
 - (VII) CREDIT CHECKS AND HOUSING APPLICATION FEES;
 - (VIII) SECURITY DEPOSITS;
 - (IX) UTILITY DEPOSITS; AND
 - (X) OTHER IDENTIFIED NEEDS; AND
- (3) OTHER ITEMS THAT THE DEPARTMENT DESIGNATES.

(B) A LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY SHALL BE DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO MANAGE THE PROGRAM IN A PARTICULAR SUBDIVISION, PROVIDE SERVICES, AND PROVIDE FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL COSTS, INCLUDING OPERATING COSTS, RELATED TO THE PROGRAM.

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SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET, BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PROGRAM OF \$516,828.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That if Section 2 of this Act takes effect, Section 1 of this Act shall be null and void without the necessity of further action by the General Assembly.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017, contingent on the taking effect of Chapter (H.B. 134) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2017, and if Chapter (H.B. 134) does not take effect, Section 2 of this Act shall be null and void without the necessity of further action by the General Assembly.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.”.