

SENATE BILL 77

D2

7lr0843

(PRE-FILED)

By: Senator Simonaire

Requested: October 12, 2016

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2017

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Anne Arundel County and Harford County – Courthouse Dog and Child Witness**
3 **Pilot Program**

4 FOR the purpose of expanding the application of the Courthouse Dog and Child Witness
5 Pilot Program to civil court proceedings by altering the definition of “child witness”;
6 and generally relating to the Courthouse Dog and Child Witness Pilot Program.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Chapter 467 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016
9 Section 1

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Chapter 467 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016
12 Section 2

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

15 **Chapter 467 of the Acts of 2016**

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That:

18 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

19 (2) “Child witness” means a witness who is a minor when the witness
20 testifies in a [criminal] COURT proceeding.

21 (3) “Facility dog” means a dog that has:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



4 (3) ensure that the details of the pilot program are publicly available.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 October 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of September
12 30, 2019, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
13 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
15 1, 2017.