

# SENATE BILL 1218

C8

8lr3845  
CF HB 1224

---

By: **Senator Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 28, 2018

Assigned to: Rules

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Ending Youth Homelessness Act of 2018**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Ending Youth Homelessness Grant Program;  
4 specifying the purposes of the Program; requiring the Department of Housing and  
5 Community Development to administer the Program and establish certain  
6 procedures; authorizing certain uses of grants under the Program; establishing the  
7 Ending Youth Homelessness Grant Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; specifying  
8 the purpose of the Fund; requiring the Department to administer the Fund;  
9 requiring the State Treasurer to hold the Fund and the Comptroller to account for  
10 the Fund; specifying the contents of the Fund; specifying the purpose for which the  
11 Fund may be used; providing for the investment of money in and expenditures from  
12 the Fund; requiring the Department to follow a certain grant approval process;  
13 specifying that eligible recipients of grant funding are limited to certain types of  
14 programs; requiring the Department to establish for all grant recipients certain  
15 performance standards and reporting requirements; requiring the Department to  
16 serve as the lead State agency for a certain program; requiring the Secretary of  
17 Housing and Community Development to report to the General Assembly on or  
18 before a certain date; specifying authorized spending purposes for any funds  
19 appropriated for programs under this Act; authorizing the Secretary to adopt  
20 regulations under certain circumstances; defining certain terms; and generally  
21 relating to the Ending Youth Homelessness Grant Program.

22 BY adding to

23 Article – Housing and Community Development

24 Section 11.5–101 through 11.5–111 to be under the new title “Title 11.5. Ending  
25 Youth Homelessness Act”

26 Annotated Code of Maryland

27 (2006 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

28 Preamble

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Every night, thousands of homeless youth in Maryland go to sleep  
2 without the safety, stability, and support of a family or home; and

3 WHEREAS, This population is exposed to an increased level of violence, human  
4 trafficking, and exploitation resulting in a higher incidence of mental health problems,  
5 substance abuse, illness, and death; and

6 WHEREAS, Racial minority youth and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth  
7 are overrepresented among unaccompanied homeless youth and young adults; and

8 WHEREAS, The prevention and reduction of youth and young adult homelessness,  
9 protection of unaccompanied homeless youth, and reduction of disparities based on race,  
10 sexual orientation, and gender is of key concern to the State; and

11 WHEREAS, The intent of the legislature is to further enhance the State's efforts to  
12 encourage family reconciliation or permanent housing and support through foster care  
13 when family reconciliation is not a viable alternative; and

14 WHEREAS, Providing appropriate, relevant, and readily accessible housing and  
15 services is critical for addressing one-time, episodic, or longer-term homelessness among  
16 youth and young adults, and ensuring that youth and young adults remain safe, housed,  
17 and connected to family; and

18 WHEREAS, It is the goal of the General Assembly that every homeless youth and  
19 young adult in our State will have the opportunity to engage in education or employment  
20 training and be able to access employment; and

21 WHEREAS, With both education and employment support and opportunities, young  
22 adults will have the skills they need to become self-sufficient and independent; and

23 WHEREAS, Successfully addressing youth and young adult homelessness ensures  
24 that homeless youth and young adults in our State have the support they need to thrive  
25 and avoid involvement in the justice system, human trafficking, long-term, avoidable use  
26 of public benefits, and extended youth homelessness; now, therefore,

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

29 **Article – Housing and Community Development**

30 **TITLE 11.5. ENDING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS ACT.**

31 **11.5–101.**

32 **(A) IN THIS TITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
33 **INDICATED.**



1 (XI) OUTPATIENT HEALTH, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, AND  
2 SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES;

3 (XII) TRANSPORTATION;

4 (XIII) OUTREACH SERVICES;

5 (XIV) HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION SERVICES;

6 (XV) AFTERCARE SERVICES; AND

7 (XVI) OTHER SERVICES AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE  
8 SECRETARY.

9 (E) (1) "UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL OF  
10 24 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER WHO IS NOT IN THE PHYSICAL CUSTODY OF A PARENT  
11 OR GUARDIAN AND LACKS A FIXED, REGULAR, AND ADEQUATE NIGHTTIME  
12 RESIDENCE.

13 (2) "UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH" INCLUDES AN INDIVIDUAL  
14 24 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER WHO:

15 (I) LIVES IN A SUPERVISED PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY  
16 OPERATED SHELTER DESIGNATED TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY LIVING  
17 ARRANGEMENTS;

18 (II) LIVES IN A MOTEL, HOTEL, OR CAMPGROUND DUE TO LACK  
19 OF ALTERNATIVE ADEQUATE ACCOMMODATIONS;

20 (III) SHARES THE HOUSING OF OTHER INDIVIDUALS DUE TO LOSS  
21 OF HOUSING, ECONOMIC HARDSHIP, OR SIMILAR REASON;

22 (IV) LIVES IN A TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM OR OTHER  
23 TIME-LIMITED HOUSING; OR

24 (V) HAS A PRIMARY NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE WHICH IS A PUBLIC  
25 OR PRIVATE PLACE NOT DESIGNED OR ORDINARILY USED AS A REGULAR SLEEPING  
26 ACCOMMODATION FOR INDIVIDUALS, SUCH AS A CAR, A PARK, AN ABANDONED  
27 BUILDING, A BUS OR TRAIN STATION, OR AN AIRPORT.

28 (F) (1) "YOUTH AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL 24  
29 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER WHOSE STATUS OR CIRCUMSTANCES INDICATE A  
30 SIGNIFICANT DANGER OF EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

1           **(2) “YOUTH AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS” INCLUDES:**

2                   **(I) AN INDIVIDUAL 24 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER EXITING A**  
3 **PUBLICLY FUNDED INSTITUTION OR SYSTEM OF CARE;**

4                   **(II) AN INDIVIDUAL 24 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER WHO HAS**  
5 **PREVIOUSLY EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS;**

6                   **(III) AN INDIVIDUAL 24 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER WHOSE**  
7 **PRIMARY CAREGIVERS ARE CURRENTLY HOMELESS OR HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN**  
8 **HOMELESS; AND**

9                   **(IV) AN INDIVIDUAL 24 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER WHO**  
10 **EXPERIENCES SERIOUS OR SUSTAINED CONFLICT WITH THE INDIVIDUAL’S**  
11 **CAREGIVERS THAT IS LIKELY TO RESULT IN FAMILY SEPARATION.**

12 **11.5–102.**

13           **(A) (1) THERE IS AN ENDING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS GRANT PROGRAM.**

14                   **(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:**

15                   **(I) PREVENT AND END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN THE STATE;**  
16 **AND**

17                   **(II) ADDRESS RELATED DISPARITIES BASED ON RACE,**  
18 **ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AND GENDER IDENTITY.**

19           **(B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.**

20                   **(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH:**

21                   **(I) APPLICATION PROCEDURES; AND**

22                   **(II) ANY OTHER PROCEDURES OR CRITERIA NECESSARY TO**  
23 **CARRY OUT THIS TITLE.**

24           **(C) (1) THE PROGRAM SHALL BE A COMPETITIVE, PERFORMANCE–BASED**  
25 **GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR**  
26 **UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH AND YOUTH AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS.**

27                   **(2) THE PROGRAM MAY PROVIDE A GRANT ONLY TO SERVICES THAT**

1 ARE VOLUNTARY AND INDIVIDUALIZED.

2 (3) RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS FROM THE PROGRAM MAY PROVIDE  
3 SUPPORTIVE SERVICES DIRECTLY, OR MAY PROVIDE SERVICES THROUGH  
4 SUB-RECIPIENTS OR PARTNERS.

5 (4) RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS FROM THE PROGRAM SHALL CONDUCT  
6 AN ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND UPDATE AND ADJUST  
7 THE SERVICES OFFERED ACCORDINGLY.

8 (5) GRANTS APPROPRIATED FROM THE PROGRAM SHALL BE  
9 ALLOCATED BASED ON AN ASSESSMENT OF THE GAPS IN EXISTING RESOURCES,  
10 WITH A PRIMARY FOCUS ON ENSURING ACCESS TO PERMANENT AFFORDABLE  
11 HOUSING.

12 11.5-103.

13 (A) THERE IS AN ENDING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS GRANT FUND.

14 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO THE PROGRAM.

15 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

16 (D) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT  
17 SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

18 (2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,  
19 AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

20 (E) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

21 (1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND; AND

22 (2) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR  
23 THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

24 (F) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR GRANTS MADE BY THE  
25 DEPARTMENT FOR THE PROGRAM.

26 (G) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND  
27 IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.

28 (2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO

1 THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.

2 (H) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE  
3 WITH THE STATE BUDGET.

4 11.5-104.

5 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A GRANT APPROVAL PROCESS  
6 THAT IS INCLUSIVE OF CURRENTLY AND FORMERLY HOMELESS YOUTH FROM  
7 DIVERSE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS WITHIN THE STATE.

8 (B) THE GRANT APPROVAL PROCESS SHALL:

9 (1) ENSURE THAT YOUTH ARE INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING AND  
10 EVALUATION ACTIVITIES;

11 (2) ENSURE THAT YOUTH HAVE DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY;

12 (3) ADEQUATELY SUPPORT YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN THE GRANT  
13 APPROVAL PROCESS; AND

14 (4) COMPENSATE YOUTH FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE GRANT  
15 APPROVAL PROCESS.

16 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENGAGE CURRENTLY OR FORMERLY  
17 HOMELESS YOUTH AND REPRESENTATIVES OF SERVICE PROVIDER OR ADVOCACY  
18 ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADDRESS YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
19 REQUESTS OR PROPOSALS OR OTHER GRANT APPLICATION MATERIALS AS MAY BE  
20 REQUIRED UNDER THIS TITLE.

21 11.5-105.

22 ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS OF GRANT FUNDING ARE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING  
23 TYPES OF PROGRAMS:

24 (1) STREET AND COMMUNITY-BASED OUTREACH AND DROP-IN  
25 PROGRAMS THAT:

26 (I) LOCATE, CONTACT, AND PROVIDE INFORMATION,  
27 REFERRALS, AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES;

28 (II) PROVIDE WALK-IN ACCESS TO CRISIS INTERVENTION AND  
29 ONGOING SUPPORTIVE SERVICES THAT INCLUDE ONE-TO-ONE CASE MANAGEMENT

1 SERVICES ON A SELF-REFERRAL BASIS; OR

2 (III) HELP UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH AND YOUTH AT  
3 RISK OF HOMELESSNESS ACCESS AND MAINTAIN SAFE, DECENT, AND AFFORDABLE  
4 HOUSING;

5 (2) EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAMS THAT:

6 (I) PROVIDE UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH AND YOUTH  
7 AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS WITH REFERRAL AND WALK-IN ACCESS TO EMERGENCY  
8 SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL CARE; AND

9 (II) PROVIDE UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH WITH:

10 1. SAFE, DIGNIFIED SHELTER THAT INCLUDES PRIVATE  
11 SHOWER FACILITIES, BEDS, LOCKERS OR OTHER STORAGE OPTIONS, AND THREE  
12 MEALS EACH DAY;

13 2. ASSISTANCE WITH REUNIFICATION WITH THEIR  
14 FAMILY OR LEGAL GUARDIAN WHEN REQUIRED OR APPROPRIATE; AND

15 3. ASSISTANCE TO ACCESS AND MAINTAIN SAFE,  
16 DECENT, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING; AND

17 (3) HOUSING PROGRAMS, EITHER TIME-LIMITED OR  
18 NONTIME-LIMITED, THAT:

19 (I) PROVIDE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES; AND

20 (II) AID PARTICIPANTS IN OBTAINING PERMANENT, SAFE,  
21 DECENT, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

22 11.5-106.

23 (A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL FOR ALL RECIPIENTS OF A GRANT:

24 (I) ESTABLISH PERFORMANCE STANDARDS;

25 (II) MONITOR PERFORMANCE; AND

26 (III) REQUIRE DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING.

27 (2) THE STANDARDS REQUIRED BY PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS



1 SUBSECTION SHALL:

2 (I) INCORPORATE EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES AND  
3 INTERVENTIONS;

4 (II) REQUIRE GRANT RECIPIENTS TO DEMONSTRATE THE  
5 CAPACITY TO COMPETENTLY SERVE GROUPS OVERREPRESENTED IN THE HOMELESS  
6 YOUTH POPULATION, INCLUDING RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY YOUTH AND  
7 LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER YOUTH;

8 (III) EVALUATE YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT,  
9 INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO INTEGRATE CURRENTLY AND FORMERLY HOMELESS  
10 YOUTH INTO STAFFING AND GOVERNANCE ROLES; AND

11 (IV) REQUIRE PARTICIPATION IN YOUTH REACH MARYLAND.

12 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MONITOR PERFORMANCE AND COLLECT  
13 DATA FROM GRANTEEES TO ENSURE HIGH-QUALITY SERVICES AND EQUITABLE  
14 OUTCOMES.

15 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENGAGE CURRENTLY AND FORMERLY  
16 HOMELESS YOUTH AND REPRESENTATIVES OF SERVICE PROVIDER OR ADVOCACY  
17 ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADDRESS YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
18 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND DATA COLLECTION TOOLS UNDER THIS SECTION.

19 11.5-107.

20 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SERVE AS THE LEAD STATE AGENCY FOR  
21 YOUTH REACH MARYLAND.

22 (B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WORK WITH YOUTH REACH  
23 MARYLAND TO PERFORM DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS IN ORDER TO  
24 DETERMINE THE NUMBER AND CHARACTER OF UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH  
25 IN EACH JURISDICTION IN THE STATE.

26 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT AND MONITOR A  
27 COORDINATING ENTITY TO OVERSEE THE DEPARTMENT'S INVOLVEMENT WITH  
28 YOUTH REACH MARYLAND.

29 (3) THE SELECTED COORDINATING ENTITY SHALL OVERSEE THE  
30 COLLECTION OF QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DATA THROUGH SURVEYS  
31 ADMINISTERED IN SCHOOLS AND THROUGH STREET AND COMMUNITY-BASED  
32 OUTREACH.

1           **(C) PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS SHALL IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES TO**  
2 **CONDUCT THE DATA COLLECTION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION**  
3 **ONCE EVERY 2 YEARS.**

4 **11.5–108.**

5           **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE SECRETARY SHALL REPORT TO**  
6 **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1246 OF THE STATE**  
7 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON:**

8           **(1) A LIST OF THE AREAS OF THE STATE WITH THE GREATEST NEED**  
9 **FOR SERVICES AND HOUSING FOR UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH AND YOUTH**  
10 **AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS, AND THE LEVEL AND NATURE OF THE NEEDS**  
11 **IDENTIFIED;**

12           **(2) DETAILS ABOUT GRANTS MADE, INCLUDING DISTRIBUTION OF**  
13 **FUNDS THROUGHOUT THE STATE;**

14           **(3) GRANTEE OUTCOME DATA, INCLUDING OUTCOMES BY RACE,**  
15 **SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, AND OTHER DEMOGRAPHICS;**

16           **(4) FOLLOW–UP INFORMATION, IF AVAILABLE, ON THE STATUS OF**  
17 **UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH AND WHETHER THEY HAVE STABLE HOUSING 6**  
18 **MONTHS, 12 MONTHS, AND 24 MONTHS AFTER SERVICES ARE PROVIDED;**

19           **(5) PROCEDURAL OR SYSTEMIC BARRIERS AFFECTING**  
20 **UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH, YOUTH AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS, AND**  
21 **GRANTEE PROGRAMS; AND**

22           **(6) ANY OTHER OUTCOMES FOR POPULATIONS SERVED BY THE**  
23 **PROGRAM TO DETERMINE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM AND THE**  
24 **EFFICACY OF FUNDING.**

25 **11.5–109.**

26           **(A) FUNDS APPROPRIATED OR OTHERWISE ALLOCATED FOR PROGRAMS**  
27 **UNDER THIS TITLE MAY BE EXPENDED FOR ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE AUTHORIZED BY**  
28 **THIS TITLE, AS WELL AS:**

29           **(1) OUTREACH;**

30           **(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE; AND**

1           **(3) CAPACITY BUILDING FOR RECIPIENT AND PROSPECTIVE**  
2 **RECIPIENT ENTITIES WITH THE GOAL OF BUILDING CAPACITY TO EFFECTIVELY**  
3 **MEET THE GREATEST NEED ON A STATEWIDE BASIS.**

4           **(B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY PARTNER OR CONTRACT TO PROVIDE**  
5 **PROGRAMS OR SERVICES AUTHORIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION,**  
6 **INCLUDING CONDUCTING TRAINING ON RACIAL EQUITY, HARM REDUCTION,**  
7 **TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE, AND NEEDS OF OVERREPRESENTED OR PARTICULARLY**  
8 **VULNERABLE GROUPS, INCLUDING:**

9           **(1) RACIAL MINORITY YOUTH;**

10           **(2) LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER YOUTH;**

11           **(3) MINORS;**

12           **(4) VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND INTIMATE PARTNER**  
13 **VIOLENCE;**

14           **(5) YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES;**

15           **(6) PREGNANT AND PARENTING YOUTH; AND**

16           **(7) IMMIGRANT YOUTH.**

17 **11.5–110.**

18           **THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS NECESSARY FOR THE**  
19 **EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS TITLE.**

20 **11.5–111.**

21           **THIS TITLE MAY BE CITED AS THE ENDING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS ACT.**

22           **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**  
23 **October 1, 2018.**