A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Correctional Services – Prerelease Unit

FOR the purpose of defining the term “prerelease unit” as it relates to prerelease services provided by the Division of Correction; and generally relating to prerelease units.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

   Article – Correctional Services
   Section 3–101(a), 3–301, and 3–303
   Annotated Code of Maryland
   (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY adding to

   Article – Correctional Services
   Section 3–101(d)
   Annotated Code of Maryland
   (2017 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Correctional Services


   (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

   (D) “PRERELEASE UNIT” MEANS A SEPARATE STRUCTURE IN WHICH THE SERVICES ENUMERATED IN § 3–303(B) OF THIS TITLE ARE PROVIDED AND THAT HAS SECURITY FEATURES FOR AN INMATE WHO:
(1) PRESENTS THE LEAST RISK OF VIOLENCE;
(2) PRESENTS THE LEAST RISK OF ESCAPE; AND
(3) HAS A RECORD OF SATISFACTORY INSTITUTIONAL BEHAVIOR.

The Commissioner may operate a prerelease unit for women.

(a) The Commissioner shall:

(1) develop comprehensive rehabilitative prerelease services; and

(2) make these services available to inmates of a prerelease unit for women.

(b) The comprehensive rehabilitative prerelease services shall:

(1) assist inmates in improving their education, upgrading vocational skills, and obtaining suitable employment;

(2) provide inmates with the opportunity to strengthen family and community relationships through extended family leave;

(3) assist inmates in improving their physical and mental health and reducing any tendency to abuse alcohol or drugs; and

(4) provide appropriate counseling, instruction, supervision, and medical and psychological treatment as necessary to help inmates achieve stable and productive roles in society.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2019.