

# HOUSE BILL 1344

E3

9lr3076

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By: **Delegates Haynes, Acevero, Chang, Corderman, Jackson, and McKay**

Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2019

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

Re-referred to: Appropriations, March 4, 2019

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 12, 2019

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Juvenile Services – Juvenile Strategic Reentry Program**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Juvenile Services to establish the Juvenile  
4 Strategic Reentry Program for children committed to the custody or under the  
5 guardianship of the Department of Juvenile Services; establishing the purpose of the  
6 Program; requiring the Department to direct reentry specialists to oversee the return  
7 of certain children to the community; requiring a reentry specialist to meet with a  
8 child a certain number of days before the release of the child from an out-of-home  
9 placement; requiring a reentry specialist to review certain items during a certain  
10 meeting; requiring the reentry specialist to invite the family of the child to attend  
11 and participate in the reentry planning process; requiring the reentry specialist to  
12 meet with the child and the family of the child after the child has been released from  
13 commitment and has been in the community for a certain number of days; requiring,  
14 after a certain initial meeting, the reentry specialist to meet with the child in  
15 intervals of a certain number of days ~~until the child reaches a certain age for a~~  
16 certain period of time; requiring a reentry specialist to report quarterly to the  
17 Department on the progress of the child; authorizing the Department to adopt  
18 certain regulations; and generally relating to the Juvenile Strategic Reentry  
19 Program and the Department of Juvenile Services.

20 BY adding to

21 Article – Human Services

22 Section 9-247

23 Annotated Code of Maryland

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



(2007 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

**Article – Human Services**

**9–247.**

**(A) THE SECRETARY SHALL ESTABLISH THE JUVENILE STRATEGIC REENTRY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN COMMITTED TO THE CUSTODY OR UNDER THE GUARDIANSHIP OF THE DEPARTMENT.**

**(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO REDUCE RECIDIVISM BY:**

**(1) PROVIDING SUPERVISION TO EACH CHILD WHO IS RETURNING HOME FROM COMMITTED CARE;**

**(2) ENGAGING THE FAMILY OF THE CHILD AT ALL KEY CASE PLANNING DECISION POINTS;**

**(3) CONNECTING THE CHILD TO APPROPRIATE LOCAL EDUCATION RESOURCES;**

**(4) CONNECTING THE CHILD TO LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES AND RESOURCES; AND**

**(5) IF THE CHILD IS IN NEED OF BEHAVIORAL OR SOMATIC HEALTH SERVICES, CONNECTING THE CHILD TO LOCAL RESOURCES TO PROVIDE CONTINUITY OF CARE.**

**(C) (1) TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DIRECT REENTRY SPECIALISTS TO OVERSEE THE RETURN OF CHILDREN DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION TO THE COMMUNITY.**

**(2) (I) A REENTRY SPECIALIST SHALL MEET WITH A CHILD 45 DAYS BEFORE THE RELEASE OF THE CHILD FROM AN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT.**

**(II) DURING THE MEETING, THE REENTRY SPECIALIST SHALL REVIEW THE HOUSING PLAN, EDUCATION AND OCCUPATIONAL NEEDS, ONGOING BEHAVIORAL OR SOMATIC HEALTH SERVICE REQUIREMENTS, AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS OF THE CHILD.**

**(III) THE REENTRY SPECIALIST SHALL INVITE THE FAMILY OF THE CHILD TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE REENTRY PLANNING PROCESS.**

1           **(3) AFTER THE CHILD IS RELEASED FROM COMMITMENT AND HAS**  
2 **BEEN IN THE COMMUNITY FOR 30 DAYS, THE REENTRY SPECIALIST SHALL MEET**  
3 **WITH THE CHILD AND THE FAMILY OF THE CHILD TO ASSESS WHETHER THE CHILD**  
4 **HAS ACCESSED ALL NEEDED SERVICES, HAS SUCCESSFULLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL,**  
5 **AND HAS REMAINED IN STABLE AND SUITABLE HOUSING.**

6           **(4) FOLLOWING THE INITIAL MEETING DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH**  
7 **(3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE REENTRY SPECIALIST SHALL MEET WITH THE CHILD**  
8 **EVERY 30 DAYS TO REVIEW WHETHER THE CHILD HAS ACCESSED ALL NEEDED**  
9 **SERVICES, HAS SUCCESSFULLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL, AND HAS REMAINED IN**  
10 **STABLE AND SUITABLE HOUSING UNTIL THE CHILD REACHES THE AGE OF 18 YEARS**  
11 **OR IS RELEASED FROM THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT, WHICHEVER**  
12 **OCCURS FIRST.**

13           **(D) A REENTRY SPECIALIST SHALL REPORT QUARTERLY TO THE**  
14 **DEPARTMENT REGARDING THE PROGRESS OF THE CHILD.**

15           **(E) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS**  
16 **SECTION.**

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

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.