

Chapter 460

(House Bill 1363)

AN ACT concerning

Human Services – Two Generation Family Economic Security Commission

FOR the purpose of establishing the Two Generation Family Economic Security Commission in the Department of Human Services; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Commission; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Commission to study, evaluate, and coordinate services and programs to address multigenerational poverty; authorizing the Commission to use certain funding to implement certain programs and to partner with local jurisdictions and local action agencies to implement the programs; requiring the Commission to submit an annual report of its studies and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; requiring units of executive agencies to cooperate with the Commission; requiring the Governor to provide funding for the Commission in the Department’s annual budget; specifying the terms of certain initial members of the Commission; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the Two Generation Family Economic Security Commission.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Human Services
Section 2–301
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Human Services
Section 2–601 through 2–606 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 6. Two
Generation Family Economic Security Commission”
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

Article – Human Services

2–301.

The following units are in the Department:

- (1) the Child Support Administration;

(2) the Family Investment Administration;

(3) the Social Services Administration;

(4) the Maryland Commission for Women; [and]

(5) **THE TWO GENERATION FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY COMMISSION; AND**

(6) any other unit that by law is declared to be part of the Department.

SUBTITLE 6. TWO GENERATION FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY COMMISSION.

2-601.

IN THIS SUBTITLE, “COMMISSION” MEANS THE TWO GENERATION FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY COMMISSION.

2-602.

(A) THERE IS A TWO GENERATION FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY COMMISSION IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(B) THE COMMISSION SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THROUGH THE SECRETARY.

2-603.

(A) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

(1) THE SECRETARY, WHO SHALL SERVE AS THE EX OFFICIO CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION;

(2) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE, APPOINTED AS FOLLOWS:

(I) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE; AND

(II) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE;

(3) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED AS FOLLOWS:

(I) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE; AND

(II) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES;

(4) THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

(5) THE SECRETARY OF DISABILITIES, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

(6) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

(7) THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

(8) THE SECRETARY OF LABOR, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

(9) THE SECRETARY OF JUVENILE SERVICES, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

(10) THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OR THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;

(11) ONE DIRECTOR OF A LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN SERVICES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORS;

(12) ONE COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER, APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICERS;

(13) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES; AND

(14) TWO PUBLIC MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE PARENT WITH EXPERIENCE IN CHILD WELFARE ADVOCACY OR COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIPS.

(B) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, APPOINTMENTS UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL ENSURE GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY AMONG THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION.

(C) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(11) THROUGH (14) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THE TERM OF A COMMISSIONER IS 4 YEARS.

(3) THE TERMS OF THE MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON OCTOBER 1, 2020.

(4) AT THE END OF A TERM, A COMMISSIONER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED.

(5) A COMMISSIONER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION.

(E) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION; BUT

(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

2-604.

(A) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

(I) INVESTIGATE POLICY CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE MITIGATION OF MULTIGENERATIONAL POVERTY;

(II) IDENTIFY SERVICES AND POLICIES WITHIN STATE PROGRAMS THAT CAN BE COORDINATED TO SUPPORT A MULTIGENERATIONAL APPROACH TO ADDRESSING POVERTY;

(III) IDENTIFY PROGRAM AND SERVICE GAPS AND INCONSISTENCIES AMONG FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL POLICIES;

(IV) IDENTIFY, TEST, AND RECOMMEND BEST PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED AT THE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LEVELS;

(V) SOLICIT INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES WITH DIRECT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE IN ADDRESSING MULTIGENERATIONAL POVERTY;

(VI) IDENTIFY TOOLS TO MEASURE AND PREDICT THE IMPACT OF THE BENEFIT CLIFF ON AN INDIVIDUAL FAMILY BASIS;

(VII) MEASURE THE IMPACT OF MULTIGENERATIONAL PROGRAMS;

(VIII) IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES TO COORDINATE MULTIGENERATIONAL SERVICES ACROSS MULTIPLE STATE AGENCIES; AND

(IX) COLLECT DATA TO BE USED IN EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAMS.

(2) THE COMMISSION MAY:

(I) UTILIZE FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS MULTIGENERATIONAL POVERTY; AND

(II) PARTNER WITH LOCAL JURISDICTIONS AND COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES, AND LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS INTERGENERATIONAL POVERTY.

(B) THROUGH THE SECRETARY, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON THE COMMISSION'S STUDIES TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

2-605.

EACH EXECUTIVE UNIT OF THE STATE SHALL COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE COMMISSION IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE COMMISSION'S DUTIES.

2-606.

THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE THE COMMISSION IN THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL BUDGET.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial members of the Two Generation Family Economic Security Commission appointed under § 2-603(a)(11) through (13) of the Human Services Article shall expire as follows:

- (1) one member in 2022;
- (2) two members in 2023; and
- (3) two members in 2024.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 8, 2020.