

HOUSE BILL 672

D4

01r0035

By: **Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Departmental – Human Services)**
Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2020
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Children in Need of Assistance – Qualified Residential Treatment Program –**
3 **Definition**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of a “qualified residential treatment program”
5 for purposes of certain provisions of law relating to the placement of children in need
6 of assistance to require that a program, rather than discharge planning, must meet
7 certain license and accreditation requirements; and generally relating to qualified
8 residential treatment programs.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
11 Section 3–801(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
16 Section 3–801(v)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

22 3–801.

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

24 (v) “Qualified residential treatment program” means a program within a licensed

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 child care institution that provides continuous, 24-hour care and supportive services to
2 children in a residential, nonfamily home setting that:

3 (1) Has a trauma-informed treatment model that is designed to address
4 the clinical and other needs of children with serious emotional or behavioral disorders or
5 disturbances;

6 (2) Is able to implement the specific treatment recommended in an
7 assessment completed by a qualified individual;

8 (3) Has registered or licensed nursing staff and other licensed clinical staff
9 who are:

10 (i) On site according to the treatment model and during business
11 hours; and

12 (ii) Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;

13 (4) Appropriately facilitates outreach to family members and integrates
14 the family members into the treatment of the children; [and]

15 (5) Is able to provide discharge planning that[:

16 (i) Provides] **PROVIDES** family-based aftercare support for at least
17 6 months following discharge;

18 [(ii)] **(6)** Is licensed in accordance with § 471(a)(10) of the Social
19 Security Act; and

20 [(iii)] **(7)** Is accredited by an approved independent nonprofit
21 organization.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 October 1, 2020.