

HOUSE BILL 93

E4

(PRE-FILED)

11r0956
CF 11r1223

By: **Delegate Henson**

Requested: October 13, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Local Youth Violence Review Committees**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a county to establish a certain local youth violence review
4 committee; specifying that certain officials may organize a local committee; providing
5 for membership of a local committee; authorizing certain member entities of a local
6 committee to designate certain representatives; providing for the election of a chair
7 of a local committee; establishing the purpose of a local committee; requiring a local
8 committee to establish certain protocols; requiring a local committee to meet with
9 certain frequency to review the status of certain cases, make certain
10 recommendations, and provide certain reports; requiring a local committee to
11 determine the number and type of cases that the local committee will review;
12 requiring that a local committee delay reviewing certain cases under certain
13 circumstances; requiring that a local committee be provided with immediate access
14 to certain information and records on request by the chair and as necessary;
15 requiring meetings of a local committee be closed to the public under certain
16 circumstances; requiring meetings of a local committee be open to the public under
17 certain circumstances; prohibiting the disclosure of certain information at a public
18 meeting of a local committee; authorizing a local committee to request the presence
19 of certain individuals at certain meetings under certain circumstances; establishing
20 the confidentiality and limiting the disclosure of certain records; providing that
21 statistical compilations and reports that do not contain certain information are
22 public records; prohibiting the questioning in any civil or criminal proceeding of
23 certain persons regarding certain information; authorizing a certain person to testify
24 to certain information under certain circumstances; providing that certain
25 information and records of a local committee are not subject to subpoena, discovery,
26 or introduction into evidence in certain court proceedings under certain
27 circumstances; providing that certain information, documents, and records are not
28 immune from subpoena, discovery, or introduction into evidence solely because of
29 certain circumstances; establishing certain criminal penalties; defining certain
30 terms; and generally relating to local youth violence review committees.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
2 Article – Criminal Law
3 Section 3–201(a) and (d)
4 Annotated Code of Maryland
5 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

6 BY adding to
7 Article – Public Safety
8 Section 1–601 through 1–607 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 6. Local Youth
9 Violence Review Committees”
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Criminal Law**

15 3–201.

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

17 (d) “Serious physical injury” means physical injury that:

18 (1) creates a substantial risk of death; or

19 (2) causes permanent or protracted serious:

20 (i) disfigurement;

21 (ii) loss of the function of any bodily member or organ; or

22 (iii) impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ.

23 **Article – Public Safety**

24 **SUBTITLE 6. LOCAL YOUTH VIOLENCE REVIEW COMMITTEES.**

25 **1–601.**

26 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
27 INDICATED.

1 (B) "LOCAL COMMITTEE" MEANS THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND
2 MULTIAGENCY YOUTH VIOLENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED FOR A COUNTY
3 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE.

4 (C) "SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 3-201 OF
5 THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE.

6 (D) "YOUTH" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS.
7 1-602.

8 (A) A COUNTY IS AUTHORIZED TO ESTABLISH A YOUTH VIOLENCE REVIEW
9 COMMITTEE.

10 (B) IN A COUNTY, THE STATE'S ATTORNEY AND THE HEAD OF THE PRIMARY
11 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY MAY ORGANIZE A LOCAL COMMITTEE.

12 1-603.

13 (A) THE MEMBERS OF A LOCAL COMMITTEE SHALL BE DRAWN FROM THE
14 FOLLOWING PERSONS, ORGANIZATIONS, AGENCIES, AND AREAS OF EXPERTISE,
15 FROM WITHIN THE COUNTY, AS AVAILABLE:

- 16 (1) LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES;
- 17 (2) THE STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE;
- 18 (3) THE LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT;
- 19 (4) THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES;
- 20 (5) THE DIVISION OF PAROLE AND PROBATION;
- 21 (6) HOSPITALS;
- 22 (7) JUDGES OF THE DISTRICT COURT AND CIRCUIT COURTS;
- 23 (8) CLERKS OF THE DISTRICT COURT AND CIRCUIT COURTS;
- 24 (9) THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE; AND
- 25 (10) ANY OTHER PERSON NECESSARY TO THE WORK OF THE LOCAL
26 COMMITTEE, RECOMMENDED BY THE LOCAL COMMITTEE.

1 **(B) THE MEMBERS DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) THROUGH (9) OF**
2 **THIS SECTION MAY DESIGNATE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THEIR DEPARTMENTS OR**
3 **OFFICES TO REPRESENT THE MEMBERS ON THE LOCAL COMMITTEE.**

4 **(C) EACH LOCAL COMMITTEE SHALL ELECT A CHAIR BY MAJORITY VOTE**
5 **FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS.**

6 **1-604.**

7 **(A) THE PURPOSE OF A LOCAL COMMITTEE IS TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AND**
8 **HOMICIDES INVOLVING YOUTH ASSAILANTS AND YOUTH VICTIMS BY:**

9 **(1) PROMOTING COOPERATION AND COORDINATION AMONG**
10 **AGENCIES INVOLVED IN INVESTIGATING DEATHS RELATED TO YOUTH VIOLENCE;**

11 **(2) DEVELOPING AND PROVIDING YOUTH SERVICES;**

12 **(3) DEVELOPING AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE CAUSES AND**
13 **INCIDENCE OF YOUTH VIOLENCE AND YOUTH-RELATED HOMICIDE IN THE COUNTY;**
14 **AND**

15 **(4) DEVELOPING PLANS FOR AND RECOMMENDING CHANGES WITHIN**
16 **THE AGENCIES THE MEMBERS REPRESENT.**

17 **(B) TO ACHIEVE ITS PURPOSE, A LOCAL COMMITTEE SHALL:**

18 **(1) ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A PROTOCOL FOR THE LOCAL**
19 **COMMITTEE;**

20 **(2) AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, REVIEW**
21 **HOMICIDES AND CASES OF SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY RELATED TO YOUTH**
22 **VIOLENCE THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN THE COUNTY;**

23 **(3) MEET ON A REGULAR BASIS AS DETERMINED BY THE LOCAL**
24 **COMMITTEE, AT LEAST ANNUALLY, TO:**

25 **(I) REVIEW THE STATUS OF YOUTH-RELATED HOMICIDE CASES**
26 **IN THE COUNTY;**

27 **(II) RECOMMEND ACTIONS TO IMPROVE COORDINATION OF**
28 **SERVICES AND INVESTIGATIONS AMONG MEMBER AGENCIES; AND**

1 (III) RECOMMEND ACTIONS WITHIN THE MEMBER AGENCIES TO
2 PREVENT DEATHS RELATED TO YOUTH VIOLENCE; AND

3 (4) PROVIDE REPORTS THAT INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS:

4 (I) TO IMPROVE COORDINATION OF SERVICES AND
5 INVESTIGATIONS;

6 (II) TO IMPLEMENT CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY THE LOCAL
7 COMMITTEE WITHIN MEMBER AGENCIES; AND

8 (III) ON NEEDED CHANGES TO STATE AND LOCAL LAW, POLICY,
9 AND PRACTICE TO PREVENT DEATHS RELATED TO YOUTH VIOLENCE.

10 (C) (1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A
11 LOCAL COMMITTEE SHALL DETERMINE THE NUMBER AND TYPES OF CASES THE
12 COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW.

13 (2) A LOCAL COMMITTEE MAY REVIEW CRIMINAL CASES ONLY AT THE
14 CONCLUSION OF THE CASE IN TRIAL COURT OR AFTER THE INVESTIGATION OF A
15 SUICIDE HAS BEEN CLOSED.

16 1-605.

17 ON REQUEST OF THE CHAIR OF A LOCAL COMMITTEE AND AS NECESSARY TO
18 CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE AND DUTIES OF THE LOCAL COMMITTEE UNDER THIS
19 SUBTITLE, THE LOCAL COMMITTEE SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY PROVIDED:

20 (1) WITH ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND RECORDS BY A PROVIDER OF
21 MEDICAL CARE, INCLUDING DENTAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE, REGARDING A
22 PERSON WHOSE DEATH OR SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY IS BEING REVIEWED BY THE
23 LOCAL COMMITTEE; AND

24 (2) ACCESS TO ALL INFORMATION AND RECORDS MAINTAINED BY ANY
25 STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY, INCLUDING BIRTH CERTIFICATES, LAW
26 ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATIVE INFORMATION, MEDICAL EXAMINER INVESTIGATIVE
27 INFORMATION, PAROLE AND PROBATION INFORMATION AND RECORDS, AND
28 INFORMATION AND RECORDS OF A SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY THAT PROVIDED
29 SERVICES TO THE PERSON OR THE PERSON'S FAMILY.

30 1-606.

1 **(A) MEETINGS OF A LOCAL COMMITTEE SHALL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**
2 **AND NOT SUBJECT TO TITLE 3 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE WHEN THE**
3 **LOCAL COMMITTEE IS DISCUSSING INDIVIDUAL CASES.**

4 **(B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, MEETINGS OF A LOCAL**
5 **COMMITTEE SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND SUBJECT TO TITLE 3 OF THE**
6 **GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE WHEN THE LOCAL COMMITTEE IS NOT DISCUSSING**
7 **INDIVIDUAL CASES.**

8 **(C) (1) INFORMATION IDENTIFYING A DECEASED PERSON, A FAMILY**
9 **MEMBER, OR AN ALLEGED OR SUSPECTED PERPETRATOR MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED**
10 **DURING A PUBLIC MEETING.**

11 **(2) INFORMATION REGARDING THE INVOLVEMENT OF ANY AGENCY,**
12 **ORGANIZATION, OR PERSON WITH A DECEASED PERSON OR THE PERSON'S FAMILY**
13 **MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED DURING A PUBLIC MEETING.**

14 **(D) THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT A LOCAL COMMITTEE FROM**
15 **REQUESTING THE ATTENDANCE AT A COMMITTEE MEETING OF A PERSON WHO HAS**
16 **INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE EXERCISE OF THE COMMITTEE'S PURPOSE AND**
17 **DUTIES UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

18 **(E) A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS A MISDEMEANOR AND IS PUNISHABLE**
19 **BY A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$500 OR IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 90 DAYS OR**
20 **BOTH.**

21 **1-607.**

22 **(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION,**
23 **ALL INFORMATION AND RECORDS ACQUIRED BY A LOCAL COMMITTEE IN THE**
24 **EXERCISE OF ITS PURPOSE AND DUTIES UNDER THIS SUBTITLE:**

25 **(1) ARE CONFIDENTIAL;**

26 **(2) ARE EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER TITLE 4 OF THE**
27 **GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE; AND**

28 **(3) MAY BE DISCLOSED ONLY AS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE**
29 **LOCAL COMMITTEE'S DUTIES AND PURPOSES.**

30 **(B) STATISTICAL COMPILATIONS OF DATA THAT DO NOT CONTAIN ANY**
31 **INFORMATION THAT WOULD PERMIT THE IDENTIFICATION OF ANY PERSON TO BE**
32 **ASCERTAINED ARE PUBLIC RECORDS.**

1 (C) REPORTS OF A LOCAL COMMITTEE THAT DO NOT CONTAIN ANY
2 INFORMATION THAT WOULD PERMIT THE IDENTIFICATION OF ANY PERSON TO BE
3 ASCERTAINED ARE PUBLIC INFORMATION.

4 (D) EXCEPT AS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT A LOCAL COMMITTEE'S PURPOSE
5 AND DUTIES UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, MEMBERS OF A LOCAL COMMITTEE AND
6 PERSONS ATTENDING A LOCAL COMMITTEE MEETING MAY NOT DISCLOSE:

7 (1) WHAT TRANSPIRED AT A MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC UNDER
8 § 1-606 OF THIS SUBTITLE; OR

9 (2) ANY INFORMATION THE DISCLOSURE OF WHICH IS PROHIBITED BY
10 THIS SECTION.

11 (E) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,
12 MEMBERS OF A LOCAL COMMITTEE, PERSONS ATTENDING A LOCAL COMMITTEE
13 MEETING, AND PERSONS WHO PRESENT INFORMATION TO A LOCAL COMMITTEE MAY
14 NOT BE QUESTIONED IN ANY CIVIL OR CRIMINAL PROCEEDING REGARDING
15 INFORMATION PRESENTED IN OR OPINIONS FORMED AS A RESULT OF A MEETING.

16 (2) A PERSON MAY TESTIFY TO INFORMATION OBTAINED
17 INDEPENDENTLY OF THE LOCAL COMMITTEE OR THAT IS PUBLIC INFORMATION.

18 (F) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,
19 INFORMATION, DOCUMENTS, AND RECORDS OF A LOCAL COMMITTEE ARE NOT
20 SUBJECT TO SUBPOENA, DISCOVERY, OR INTRODUCTION INTO EVIDENCE IN ANY
21 CIVIL OR CRIMINAL PROCEEDING.

22 (2) INFORMATION, DOCUMENTS, AND RECORDS OTHERWISE
23 AVAILABLE FROM OTHER SOURCES ARE NOT IMMUNE FROM SUBPOENA, DISCOVERY,
24 OR INTRODUCTION INTO EVIDENCE THROUGH THOSE SOURCES SOLELY BECAUSE
25 THEY WERE PRESENTED DURING PROCEEDINGS OF A LOCAL COMMITTEE OR ARE
26 MAINTAINED BY A LOCAL COMMITTEE.

27 (G) A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS A MISDEMEANOR AND IS PUNISHABLE
28 BY A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$500 OR IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 90 DAYS OR
29 BOTH.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 October 1, 2021.