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By: Senator Benson

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2021

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

## A BILL ENTITLED

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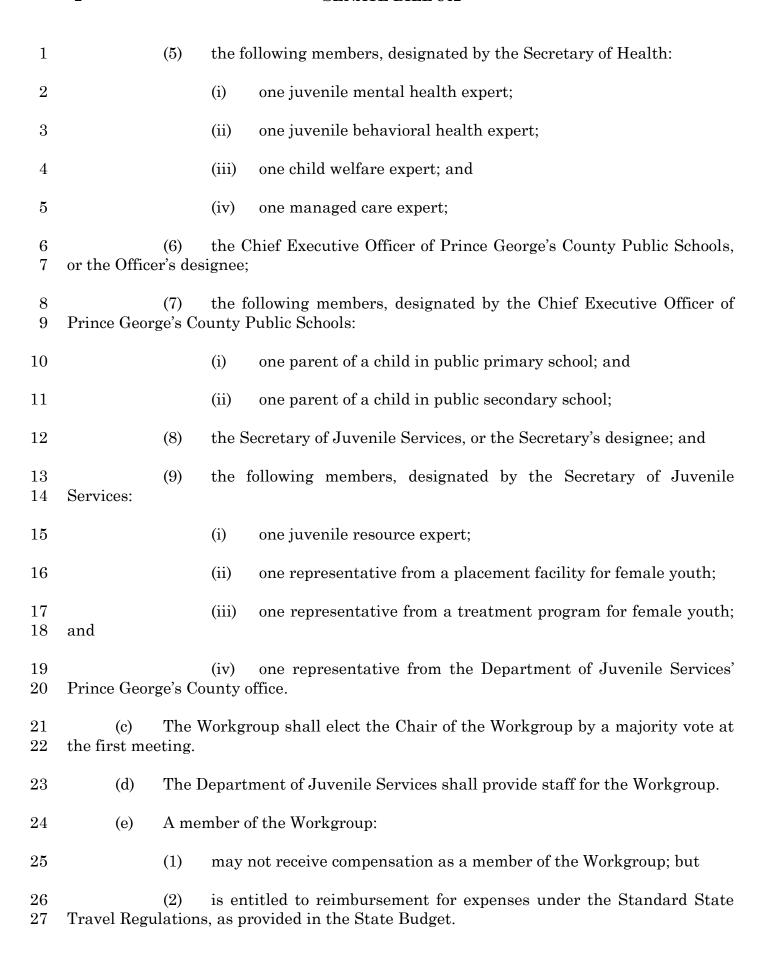
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Workgroup to Study the Assessment, Treatment, and Available Resources for Female Youth in Contact With the Justice System

- FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup to Study the Assessment, Treatment, and 4 5 Available Resources for Female Youth in Contact with the Justice System; providing 6 for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Workgroup; prohibiting a member of 7 the Workgroup from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the 8 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Workgroup to study and make 9 recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Workgroup to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; 10 11 providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Workgroup to 12 Study the Assessment, Treatment, and Available Resources for Female Youth in 13 Contact with the Justice System.
- SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, 15 That:
- 16 (a) There is a Workgroup to Study the Assessment, Treatment, and Available Resources for Female Youth in Contact with the Justice System.
- 18 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:
- 19 (1) the member of the Senate of Maryland representing District 24;
- 20 (2) one member of the House of Delegates representing District 24, 21 appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- 22 (3) the State's Attorney for Prince George's County, or the State's 23 Attorney's designee;
  - (4) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;





- 1 (f) The Workgroup shall review:
- 2 (1) the policies and procedures of the Department of Juvenile Services in responding to the needs of female youth within the justice system;
- 4 (2) the existing programs, treatment capabilities, and placement facilities 5 for females committed to the supervision of the Department of Juvenile Services;
- 6 (3) the proposed response by the Department of Juvenile Services to female 7 needs within the next 5 years;
- 8 (4) statewide data on females under the age of 18 charged with a 9 delinquent act, the percentage of recidivism for those females, and the nature of the 10 delinquent charges;
- 11 (5) the female youths' response and level of participation in the assigned 12 programs, treatment, and placement;
- 13 (6) the past, current, and proposed response of the Department of Juvenile 14 Services to the increase of female youth participating in violent delinquent acts;
- 15 (7) the resources available to the Department of Juvenile Services to 16 respond to the needs of female youth;
- 17 (8) the Department of Juvenile Services' standards of review and methods 18 of analysis of the needs of female youth; and
- 19 (9) the Department of Juvenile Services' tools for the evaluation and 20 diagnosis of female youth.
- 21 (g) On or before December 1, 2021, the Workgroup shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.