AN ACT concerning

Warrant Apprehension Reduction Grant
Public Safety – Warrants and Absconding

FOR the purpose of altering a certain definition of “absconding” as it relates to parole and probation, to include leaving an inpatient residential treatment facility that an individual was placed in under court order without the permission of a certain administrator; establishing warrant apprehension grants; requiring the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to administer funds for the grants; and generally relating to warrant apprehension and local law enforcement agencies, warrants and absconding.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Correctional Services
Section 6–101(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2017 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Correctional Services
Section 6–101(b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2017 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Public Safety
Section 4–1008
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Public Safety
Section 4–1011
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Correctional Services
(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) (1) “Absconding” means willfully evading supervision.

(2) “Absconding” includes leaving an inpatient residential treatment facility that an individual was placed in under a court order for drug or alcohol treatment without the permission of the administrator, as defined in § 8–101 of the Health–General Article.

(3) “Absconding” does not include missing a single appointment with a supervising authority.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Safety

4–1008.

A local government or nonprofit entity that receives funding under this subtitle:

(1) may use the funding only in accordance with the provisions of this subtitle; and

(2) shall comply with any data sharing and reporting requirements established by the Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services under § 4–1009 of this subtitle as a condition of receiving funding.

4–1011.

(A) In this section, “local law enforcement agency” means:

(1) a police department of a county or municipal corporation in the State; or

(2) the office of the sheriff that provides a law enforcement function in a county or municipal corporation in the State.

(B) For fiscal years 2024 through 2026, each year the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of $2,000,000 for local law enforcement agencies to be used as grants for warrant apprehension efforts.
(C) (1) The Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services shall administer the grant funds in accordance with § 4–1008 of this subtitle.

(2) Local law enforcement agencies may use the grant funds for the following purposes:

   (I) To reduce warrants in the agency’s jurisdiction;

   (II) To increase coordination and cooperation between local law enforcement and State and Federal agencies regarding outstanding warrants; and

   (III) To reduce the number of outstanding warrants related to violent crimes.

(D) The funds required to be included in the annual budget bill under subsection (B) of this section shall be used solely to supplement, and not supplant, funds otherwise available to local law enforcement agencies for warrant apprehension efforts.

(E) An eligible local law enforcement agency that receives a grant under subsection (B) of this section shall submit for each fiscal year the following to the Executive Director:

   (1) Proof of the expenditure of the grant funds and the purposes for which the funds were expended;

   (2) Total warrants in each county by type of warrant and related offense;

   (3) Total number of warrants reduced and suspects apprehended, delineated by offense; and

   (4) Any related outcome-based performance measures as required by § 4–1009 of this subtitle.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022. § 4–1004 Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and 6 months and, at the end of December 31, 2026,
Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, April 21, 2022.