A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Human Services – Universal Basic Income for Transition–Age Youth – Establishment

FOR the purpose of establishing the Universal Basic Income for Transition–Age Youth Program in the Department of Human Services; providing that payments made under the Program may not be considered income or resources for purposes of determining eligibility for certain benefits; requiring the Department to report annually on the Program to the General Assembly; and generally relating to the Universal Basic Income for Transition–Age Youth Program.

BY adding to

Article – Human Services
Section 5–5C–01 through 5–5C–04 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 5C. Universal Basic Income for Transition–Age Youth”

Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 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 – Human Services

SUBTITLE 5C. UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME FOR TRANSITION–AGE YOUTH.

5–5C–01.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
(B) “Program” means the Universal Basic Income for Transition–Age Youth Program.

(C) “Universal basic income” means unconditional cash payments of equal amounts distributed monthly to eligible individuals.

5–5C–02.

(A) There is a Universal Basic Income for Transition–Age Youth Program within the Department.

(B) The purpose of the Program is to provide for the economic security of individuals aging out of the out–of–home placement program.

5–5C–03.

(A) An individual shall be eligible for a universal basic income of $1,000 per month for a period of 3 years if:

(1) the individual resided in an out–of–home placement on the individual’s 18th birthday, regardless of the age at which the individual entered out–of–home placement; and

(2) the individual’s 18th birthday is on or after October 1, 2022.

(B) Payments issued under this section may not be considered income or resources for purposes of determining eligibility to receive benefits or the amounts of benefits received for the following, as permitted by federal law:

(1) the Maryland Medical Assistance Program;

(2) the Maryland Earned Income Tax Credit; or

(3) state and federal financial aid and college support programs.

5–5C–04.

On or before October 1, 2023, and each October 1 thereafter, the Department shall submit a report to the General Assembly, in
ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THAT
CONTAINS DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION AND OUTCOME MEASURES OF PROGRAM
RECIPIENTS DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR, INCLUDING, AT A MINIMUM:

(1) THE STARTING INCOME OF EACH RECIPIENT, EXCLUSIVE OF
UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME PAYMENTS;

(2) GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ABOUT EACH RECIPIENT, INCLUDING
COUNTY, CITY, AND ZIP CODE OF RESIDENCE;

(3) THE EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF EACH RECIPIENT BEFORE
RECEIVING UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME PAYMENTS; AND

(4) THE HOUSING STATUS OF EACH RECIPIENT BEFORE RECEIVING
UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME PAYMENTS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
October 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of October
1, 2027, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
abrogated and of no further force and effect.