HOUSE BILL 785

By: Delegate R. Lewis
Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2022
Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 9, 2022

CHAPTER _____

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – District Court – Jobs Court Pilot Program

FOR the purpose of establishing the Jobs Court Pilot Program in the District Court sitting in Baltimore City; requiring the Administrative Office of the Courts to take certain actions including providing a certain report, in consultation with the Baltimore Workforce Development Board, to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to the establishment of the Jobs Court Pilot Program in Baltimore City.

BY adding to
Article – Criminal Procedure
Section 6–236
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 – Criminal Procedure

6–236.

(A) THERE IS A JOBS COURT PILOT PROGRAM IN THE DISTRICT COURT SITTING IN BALTIMORE CITY.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.
Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.
(B) The purpose of the pilot program is to reduce recidivism by offering defendants an opportunity to participate in full-time job training and job placement programs as a condition of probation, an alternative to incarceration, or a condition of pretrial release.

(C) To accomplish the purpose of the pilot program, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall develop a plan to implement and monitor the pilot program.

(D) (1) On or before June 30, 2025, the Administrative Office of the Courts, in consultation with the Baltimore Workforce Development Board, shall submit an interim report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the operation and results of the pilot program.

(2) On or before June 30, 2027, the Administrative Office of the Courts, in consultation with the Baltimore Workforce Development Board, shall submit a final report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the operation and results of the pilot program.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That for in each of fiscal years 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028, the Governor shall include in the annual State budget an appropriation of at least $500,000 to the Baltimore Workforce Development Board, to be distributed to local workforce investment boards or other nonprofit entities that participate in the pilot program by identifying employers and training programs.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 6 years and, at the end of June 30, 2028, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.