A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Prince George’s County – National Center for Victims of Crime – Funding

FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor, in certain fiscal years, to include an appropriation in the annual budget bill to the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to be used as an operating grant to the National Center for Victims of Crime to create and enhance services to victims of crime in Prince George’s County; and generally relating to the enhancement of services for victims of crime.

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 – Public Safety

4–1011.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “Center” means the National Center for Victims of Crime.

(3) “Office” means the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(B) For fiscal years 2024 through 2026, each year the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of $750,000 to the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to be used solely as an operating grant to the Center for the purpose of creating and enhancing services to victims of crime in Prince George’s County.

(C) It is the intent of the General Assembly that funds provided under subsection (B) of this section be used to:

(1) Provide training and technical assistance for culturally specific programs and to workers who assist victims of crime;

(2) Provide funding and resources to enhance organizational resiliency, particularly in the criminal justice space;

(3) Build connections between victims of crime, service providers, and public safety agencies both State and local;

(4) Increase community and family cohesion and access to resources by decreasing barriers to service and funding;

(5) Create programs and initiatives to improve engagement between communities of color and law enforcement agencies; and

(6) Enhance victim services, particularly in underserved communities and communities of color.

(D) The Office shall:

(1) Establish a system of performance and outcome measurement to assess the effectiveness of the use of the funds provided to the Center; and

(2) As a condition of receipt of the funds, require the Center, on or before September 1, 2024, and each September 1 thereafter, to submit to the Office a report for the previous fiscal year on the uses of the provided funds.

(E) On or before December 15, 2026, the Office shall submit a report on the effectiveness of the use of the funds by the Center 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 July 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years, and at the end of June 30, 2027, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.