

HOUSE BILL 1107

F3

3lr2204

By: **Delegate Chisholm**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Anne Arundel County – School–Age Children Mental Health Support System**
3 **Pilot Program**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the School–Age Children Mental Health Support System
5 Pilot Program in Anne Arundel County to help implement the goals and
6 recommendations of the Anne Arundel Mental Health Task Force; requiring the
7 Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, Inc., to take certain actions relating to
8 the Program, subject to a certain exception; and generally relating to the
9 School–Age Children Mental Health Support System Pilot Program in Anne Arundel
10 County.

11 BY adding to
12 Article – Education
13 Section 7–452
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2022 Replacement Volume)

16 Preamble

17 WHEREAS, The Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, Inc., has met local
18 needs by establishing or collaborating to create a mentoring program for school–age
19 children with mental and behavioral health needs and their families and expanded
20 school–based services; now, therefore,

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

23 **Article – Education**

24 **7–452.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN**
2 **MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SYSTEM PILOT PROGRAM.**

3 **(B) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.**

4 **(C) (1) THERE IS A SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT**
5 **SYSTEM PILOT PROGRAM IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.**

6 **(2) A SCHOOL-AGE CHILD MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM ONLY**
7 **THROUGH SELF-REFERRAL.**

8 **(D) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO HELP IMPLEMENT THE GOALS**
9 **AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ANNE ARUNDEL MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE**
10 **WITH A FOCUS ON PROVIDING MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORTS TO**
11 **SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY THROUGH:**

12 **(1) THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO THE**
13 **INCREASE IN MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF STUDENTS;**

14 **(2) THE IDENTIFICATION OF PROACTIVE MEASURES AND BEST**
15 **PRACTICES TO ADDRESS MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF**
16 **SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN;**

17 **(3) THE COORDINATION OF SERVICES AND COMMUNICATION AMONG**
18 **THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT, AND LOCAL HEALTH PROVIDERS;**
19 **AND**

20 **(4) THE IMPROVED DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO SCHOOL-AGE**
21 **CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

22 **(E) THE PROGRAM SHALL BE CONDUCTED DURING THE 2024-2025 AND**
23 **2025-2026 SCHOOL YEARS.**

24 **(F) THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AGENCY, INC., SHALL:**

25 **(1) PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM TO FACILITATE THE**
26 **COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION OF SERVICES TO SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN**
27 **PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM; AND**

28 **(2) DESIGNATE TWO FULL-TIME BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**
29 **COORDINATORS TO COORDINATE CARE FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN IN NEED OF**
30 **MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORTS.**

1 **(G) (1) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2024, AND AUGUST 1, 2025, THE ANNE**
2 **ARUNDEL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AGENCY, INC., SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO**
3 **THE MEMBERS OF THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL**
4 **ASSEMBLY AND THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
5 **§ 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE**
6 **PROGRAM.**

7 **(2) EACH REPORT REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
8 **SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:**

9 **(I) DATA ON THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF CHILDREN**
10 **PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM;**

11 **(II) INFORMATION ON THE MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**
12 **SUPPORTS PROVIDED; AND**

13 **(III) INFORMATION ON THE STEPS TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT**
14 **IMPLICIT BIAS DID NOT FACTOR INTO THE SELECTION OF CHILDREN FOR**
15 **PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM.**

16 **(H) (1) FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2025 AND 2026, THE GOVERNOR**
17 **SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION IN AN AMOUNT**
18 **SUFFICIENT TO FUND THE TWO FULL-TIME BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE**
19 **COORDINATOR POSITIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.**

20 **(2) IF SUFFICIENT FUNDING IS NOT APPROPRIATED FOR A FISCAL**
21 **YEAR, THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AGENCY, INC., IS NOT**
22 **REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM DURING THAT FISCAL YEAR.**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
24 1, 2023. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2026,
25 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
26 of no further force and effect.