

SENATE BILL 599

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5lr2571
CF 5lr2282

By: **Senators Hettleman and Augustine**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program – Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill for certain
4 fiscal years a certain appropriation to the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant
5 Program; and generally relating to funding for the Behavioral Health Crisis
6 Response Grant Program.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Health – General
9 Section 7.5–208(a), (b), and (f)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Health – General
14 Section 7.5–208(e)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Health – General**

20 7.5–208.

21 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

22 (2) “Mobile crisis team” has the meaning stated in § 10–1401 of this article.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) "Program" means the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant
2 Program.

3 (b) (1) There is a Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program in the
4 Department.

5 (2) The purpose of the Program is to provide funds to local jurisdictions to
6 establish and expand community behavioral health crisis response systems.

7 (e) The Governor shall include in the annual operating budget bill the following
8 amounts for the Program:

9 (1) \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2020;

10 (2) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2021;

11 (3) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2022;

12 (4) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2023;

13 (5) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2024; [and]

14 (6) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2025; AND

15 (7) **\$5,000,000 FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2027 THROUGH 2029.**

16 (f) Beginning in fiscal year 2023, at least one-third of the appropriation required
17 under subsection (e) of this section shall be used to award competitive grants for mobile
18 crisis teams.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
20 1, 2025.