

SENATE BILL 790

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5lr3062
CF HB 1083

By: **Senator Augustine**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 24, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Maryland Department of Health Workgroup~~ **Behavioral Health Advisory**
3 **Council and the Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment and Access –**
4 **Plan to Implement Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment**
5 **Requirements**

6 FOR the purpose of requiring the ~~Maryland Department of Health to convene a~~ **Behavioral**
7 **Health Advisory Council and the Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment**
8 **and Access, through its workgroup on youth behavioral health, individuals with**
9 **developmental disabilities, and individuals with complex behavioral health needs, to**
10 **provide recommendations** to implement Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic,
11 and Treatment requirements; and generally relating to a ~~workgroup~~ **plan** to
12 implement Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment requirements.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That:

15 ~~(a) The Maryland Department of Health shall convene a workgroup to implement~~
16 ~~Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment requirements.~~

17 ~~(b) The workgroup shall include the following members:~~

18 ~~(1) behavioral health professionals who work with children and families;~~

19 ~~(2) childhood mental health specialists;~~

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.



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- 1 ~~(3) clinicians who work with children and families;~~
 2 ~~(4) children with behavioral health issues;~~
 3 ~~(5) behavioral health advocates;~~
 4 ~~(6) parents and caregivers with experience navigating the behavioral~~
 5 ~~health system on behalf of children; and~~
 6 ~~(7) other interested stakeholders.~~

7 ~~(e)~~ (a) The Behavioral Health Advisory Council and the Commission on Behavioral
 8 Health Care Treatment and Access, through its workgroup on youth behavioral health,
 9 individuals with developmental disabilities, and individuals with complex behavioral
 10 health needs, shall create a plan provide recommendations to implement the
 11 recommendations in Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services State Health Official
 12 letter #24-005: Best Practices for Adhering to Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic,
 13 and Treatment (EPSDT) Requirements for children, including:

- 14 (1) screening and assessment of behavioral health conditions;
- 15 (2) the feasibility of implementing the DC:0-5 Diagnostic Classification of
 16 Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood as a
 17 diagnostic tool for patients under the age of 5 years;
- 18 (3) community-based services to correct and ameliorate a wide range of
 19 behavioral health conditions; and
- 20 (4) services to:
- 21 (i) ensure children's behavioral health;
- 22 (ii) address early symptoms of concern, with or without a diagnosis;
- 23 and
- 24 (iii) address urgent and crisis needs.

25 (b) In performing the duties described in subsection (a) of this section, the Council
 26 and Commission, through its workgroup, shall consult with:

- 27 (1) behavioral health professionals who work with children and families;
 28 (2) early childhood mental health specialists;
 29 (3) clinicians who work with children and families;
 30 (4) children with behavioral health issues;

1 (5) behavioral health advocates;

2 (6) parents and caregivers with experience navigating the behavioral
3 health system on behalf of children; and

4 (7) other interested stakeholders.

5 ~~(d)~~ (c) On or before ~~December 1, 2025~~ January 1, 2026, the Maryland Department of
6 Health shall submit a report of ~~the~~ its findings and recommendations ~~of the workgroup~~
7 to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
9 1, 2025. ~~It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2026, this~~
10 ~~Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no~~
11 ~~further force and effect.~~

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.