

# HOUSE BILL 771

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CF 6lr1644

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By: Delegates Miller, Alston, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, Lopez, McComas, Reilly, Rose, Turner, White Holland, ~~and Woorman~~ Woorman, Bagnall, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaufman, Kipke, Martinez, Rosenberg, Ross, and Taveras

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Health

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 1, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations – Human Trafficking Awareness Training**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring each health occupations board to allow an applicant to receive  
4 continuing education credits for completing a certain human trafficking awareness  
5 training program, adopt certain regulations, and conduct certain outreach related to  
6 continuing education credits for a certain human trafficking awareness training  
7 program; establishing requirements for the training program; and generally relating  
8 to human trafficking awareness training for health care practitioners.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Health Occupations

11 Section 1–225.1

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Health Occupations**

17 **1–225.1.**

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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.



1 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, "LOCAL UNIVERSITY" MEANS A PUBLIC OR  
2 PRIVATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE WITH A PUBLIC  
3 HEALTH, LAW, OR SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM.

4 (2) "LOCAL UNIVERSITY" INCLUDES A PROGRAM WITHIN AN  
5 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS  
6 SUBSECTION, SUCH AS THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SAFE CENTER FOR HUMAN  
7 TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS.

8 (B) EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL:

9 (1) ~~ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ALLOW~~ ALLOW AN APPLICANT  
10 SEEKING LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE RENEWAL TO RECEIVE CONTINUING EDUCATION  
11 CREDITS FOR COMPLETING A HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAINING  
12 PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION; ~~AND~~

13 (2) CONDUCT OUTREACH TO MAKE INDIVIDUALS REGULATED BY THE  
14 BOARD AWARE OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAINING OPTIONS,  
15 INCLUDING BY PROVIDING INFORMATION IN GENERAL BOARD COMMUNICATIONS  
16 AND ON THE BOARD'S WEBSITE; AND

17 (3) ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

18 (C) A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR WHICH AN APPLICANT MAY RECEIVE  
19 CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

20 (1) BE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN COLLABORATION WITH A  
21 LOCAL UNIVERSITY AND IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND HUMAN  
22 TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE DIRECT SERVICES  
23 TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS;

24 (2) BE AT LEAST 1 HOUR IN DURATION;

25 (3) BE READILY ACCESSIBLE AND PROVIDED TO AN INDIVIDUAL  
26 DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION FREE OF CHARGE; AND

27 (4) INCLUDE INSTRUCTION ON:

28 (I) THE DEFINITIONS AND FORMS OF SEX AND LABOR  
29 TRAFFICKING UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAW;

30 (II) AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE  
31 MODEL;

1 (III) THE PHYSICAL, BEHAVIORAL, AND EMOTIONAL  
2 INDICATORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING, PARTICULARLY THOSE PRESENTING IN A  
3 HEALTH CARE SETTING;

4 (IV) APPROPRIATE SCREENING PROTOCOLS AND  
5 DOCUMENTATION METHODS;

6 (V) MANDATORY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS UNDER STATE  
7 LAW AND ESTABLISHED PROTOCOLS FOR REPORTING SUSPECTED CASES OF HUMAN  
8 TRAFFICKING TO THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES, INCLUDING THE NATIONAL  
9 HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE; AND

10 (VI) AVAILABLE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL RESOURCES AND  
11 SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

13 (a) On or before July 1, 2026, the Maryland Department of Health, in  
14 collaboration and consultation with required stakeholders, shall approve the training  
15 program required under § 1-225.1 of the Health Occupations Article, as enacted under  
16 Section 1 of this Act.

17 (b) On or before ~~October~~ January 1, ~~2026~~ 2027, each health occupations board  
18 shall adopt the regulations necessary to carry out required under § 1-225.1(b)(3) of the  
19 Health Occupations Article, as enacted by this Act.

20 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
21 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.