

# HOUSE BILL 922

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By: **Delegates Hutchinson and Adams**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2026

Assigned to: Health

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Behavioral Health Administration – Behavioral Health Program Relocation –**  
3 **Regulations**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Behavioral Health Administration to adopt certain  
5 regulations authorizing an existing behavioral health program to move to relocate to  
6 a new site; and generally relating to the relocation of behavioral health programs.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Health – General

9 Section 7.5–402(a)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Health – General**

15 7.5–402.

16 (a) Regulations adopted under this subtitle shall include:

17 (1) The requirements for licensure of a behavioral health program,  
18 including a requirement that the behavioral health program:

19 (i) 1. Establish and implement a safety plan for the safety of the  
20 individuals served by the behavioral health program; or

21 2. Implement a safety or emergency plan established for the  
22 program for another purpose; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- (ii) Revise the safety plan not less than every 5 years;
- (2) The process for a behavioral health program to apply for a license;
- (3) A description of the behavioral health programs that are required to be
- (4) Any requirements for the governance of a behavioral health program,

9 (ii) A provision authorizing a behavioral health program licensed as  
10 an outpatient mental health center to satisfy any regulatory requirement that the medical  
11 director be on site through the use of telehealth by the director; and

15 (5) Provisions for inspections of a behavioral health program, including  
16 inspection and copying of the records of a behavioral health program in accordance with  
17 State and federal law; [and]

18 (6) Provisions for denials, sanctions, suspensions, and revocations of  
19 licenses, including imposition of civil monetary penalties, and notice and an opportunity to  
20 be heard; AND

1 SITE ON A DETERMINATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE NEW LOCATION  
2 MEETS LIFE SAFETY STANDARDS;

3 (IV) A PROVISION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO  
4 CONSIDER THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM'S REGULATORY RECORD AS A BASIS  
5 FOR STREAMLINING THE RELOCATION REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS; AND

6 (V) A PROVISION REQUIRING THE ADMINISTRATION TO  
7 PROVIDE CLEAR TIMELINES AND STANDARDS FOR THE RELOCATION REVIEW AND  
8 APPROVAL PROCESS.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
10 October 1, 2026.