

SENATE BILL 964

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8lr3227
CF 8lr3486

By: **Senator Lee**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2018

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Social Services – Safe Harbor Child Trafficking Victim Service Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Safe Harbor Child Trafficking Victim Service Pilot
4 Program; providing for the purpose of the pilot program; requiring the local
5 departments of social services in Baltimore and Washington counties to implement
6 the pilot program; requiring certain local departments of social services to refer
7 certain children to the Regional Child Trafficking Advocate within a certain period
8 of time; requiring the Secretary of State, after consultation with certain entities, to
9 appoint certain Advocates; providing for the duties of an Advocate; requiring an
10 Advocate to submit a certain report to certain entities on or before a certain date and
11 at certain intervals thereafter; providing for the contents of a certain report;
12 providing that an Advocate located in a certain county has certain duties; requiring
13 the Department of Human Services to provide certain funding to carry out the pilot
14 program; requiring the local departments of social services for certain counties to
15 apply for certain grants for a certain purpose; defining a certain term; and generally
16 relating to the Safe Harbor Child Trafficking Victim Service Pilot Program.

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Human Services
19 Section 4–305
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2007 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Human Services**

25 **4–305.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, "ADVOCATE" MEANS THE COMMUNITY-BASED**
2 **AGENCY APPOINTED AS THE REGIONAL CHILD TRAFFICKING ADVOCATE IN**
3 **BALTIMORE COUNTY OR WASHINGTON COUNTY.**

4 **(B) THERE IS A SAFE HARBOR CHILD TRAFFICKING VICTIM SERVICE**
5 **PILOT PROGRAM.**

6 **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO ADDRESS THE**
7 **SPECIALIZED NEEDS OF CHILDREN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING BY**
8 **LINKING VICTIMS TO NECESSARY SUPPORT SERVICES THROUGH A**
9 **COMMUNITY-BASED AGENCY APPOINTED AS THE REGIONAL CHILD TRAFFICKING**
10 **ADVOCATE.**

11 **(D) (1) THE LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN BALTIMORE**
12 **COUNTY AND WASHINGTON COUNTY SHALL IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM.**

13 **(2) THE LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN BALTIMORE**
14 **COUNTY AND WASHINGTON COUNTY SHALL REFER A CHILD IDENTIFIED AS A**
15 **VICTIM OF SEX TRAFFICKING TO THE ADVOCATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM WITHIN 24**
16 **HOURS OF IDENTIFICATION.**

17 **(E) THE SECRETARY OF STATE, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE LOCAL**
18 **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE WORK GROUP TO STUDY SAFE**
19 **HARBOR POLICY FOR YOUTH VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING, SHALL APPOINT**
20 **THE ADVOCATE IN EACH COUNTY.**

21 **(F) THE ADVOCATE APPOINTED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION**
22 **SHALL:**

23 **(1) RECEIVE REFERRALS OF CHILDREN IDENTIFIED AS VICTIMS OF**
24 **SEX TRAFFICKING AND COMPLETE VICTIM ASSESSMENTS, SAFETY PLANNING, AND**
25 **CRISIS INTERVENTION;**

26 **(2) PROVIDE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES BY:**

27 **(I) DEVELOPING AN INITIAL COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PLAN,**
28 **INCLUDING APPROPRIATE SERVICE REFERRALS;**

29 **(II) VERIFYING A CHILD'S ELIGIBILITY FOR NECESSARY**
30 **SERVICES AND COORDINATING THE APPLICATION FOR AND PROVISION OF**
31 **SERVICES;**

32 **(III) ENSURING THE CHILD'S ONGOING SAFETY AND ABILITY TO**

1 PARTICIPATE IN SERVICES; AND

2 (IV) PROVIDING PERSONAL SUPPORT TO CHILDREN UNDER THE
3 CASE MANAGEMENT OF THE ADVOCATE;

4 (3) ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF THE CHILD IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH
5 VARIOUS SERVICE PROVIDERS OR REGULATORY AGENCIES, INCLUDING CHILD
6 WELFARE, JUDICIAL, JUVENILE JUSTICE, LEGAL, EDUCATION, OR FEDERAL
7 IMMIGRATION AGENCIES;

8 (4) WORK TO ESTABLISH OUTREACH SERVICES TO SEX-TRAFFICKED
9 CHILDREN IN THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING OUTREACH TO MARGINALIZED
10 POPULATIONS, INCLUDING MALES, TRANSGENDER CHILDREN, AND FOREIGN
11 NATIONALS;

12 (5) PROVIDE TRAINING TO REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS AND HUMAN
13 SERVICES PROFESSIONALS REGARDING EDUCATION ON SIGNS THAT A CHILD MAY BE
14 A VICTIM OF SEX TRAFFICKING AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CHILD VICTIMS; AND

15 (6) PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SEX
16 TRAFFICKING TASK FORCES, COALITIONS, OR MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS.

17 (G) (1) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2018, AND EVERY 90 DAYS
18 THEREAFTER, AN ADVOCATE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE WORK GROUP TO
19 STUDY SAFE HARBOR POLICY FOR YOUTH VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND
20 THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK CHILD SEX
21 TRAFFICKING INITIATIVE.

22 (2) THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
23 SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

24 (I) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CASE
25 MANAGEMENT OF THE ADVOCATE AND THE GENDER, AGE, RACE, AND ETHNICITY OF
26 EACH CHILD;

27 (II) THE TYPES OF AND NUMBER OF CONTACTS FOR SERVICES
28 PROVIDED TO EACH CHILD UNDER CASE MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING CONTACTS IN
29 THE AREAS OF:

30 1. MENTAL HEALTH;

31 2. MEDICAL CARE;

1 **3. COUNSELING SERVICES; AND**

2 **4. LEGAL SERVICES, INCLUDING VICTIM RIGHTS,**
3 **FAMILY LAW, AND IMMIGRATION;**

4 **(III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE ONGOING NEEDS OF EACH CHILD**
5 **THAT ARE NOT BEING MET BY A SERVICE PROVIDER OR SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY,**
6 **INCLUDING SPECIALIZED CARE BEDS, HOUSING, OR TRANSPORTATION, AND THE**
7 **REASON, IF AVAILABLE, THE NEEDS REMAIN UNMET;**

8 **(IV) INFORMATION ON HOUSING SERVICES PROVIDED,**
9 **INCLUDING THE LENGTH OF TIME FROM EMERGENCY PLACEMENT TO LONG-TERM**
10 **PLACEMENT;**

11 **(V) INFORMATION ON CASE OUTCOMES, INCLUDING OUTCOMES**
12 **FOR CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES CASES, CRIMINAL CASES AGAINST ALLEGED**
13 **TRAFFICKERS, OR LEGAL CASES WITH A CHILD AS A PARTY; AND**

14 **(VI) THE SOURCE OF EACH CHILD'S REFERRAL TO THE**
15 **ADVOCATE AND WHETHER THE CHILD WAS IDENTIFIED BEFORE THE REFERRAL AS**
16 **BEING SEXUALLY EXPLOITED.**

17 **(3) THE INFORMATION IN THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER**
18 **PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT INCLUDE ANY PERSONALLY**
19 **IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ABOUT A CHILD RECEIVING SERVICES FROM THE**
20 **ADVOCATE.**

21 **(H) (1) IN BALTIMORE COUNTY, THE ADVOCATE SHALL PROVIDE**
22 **SERVICES DIRECTLY TO THE CHILD REFERRED FOR THE ADVOCATE'S SERVICES.**

23 **(2) (I) IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, THE ADVOCATE SHALL:**

24 **1. PROVIDE SERVICES DIRECTLY TO THE CHILD**
25 **REFERRED FOR THE ADVOCATE'S SERVICES; AND**

26 **2. COORDINATE WITH LOCAL AGENCIES TO ENSURE**
27 **CHILDREN IDENTIFIED AS VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING HAVE ACCESS TO**
28 **NECESSARY SERVICES.**

29 **(II) LOCAL AGENCIES MAY INCLUDE:**

30 **1. THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES;**

- 1 **2. THE LOCAL CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER;**
- 2 **3. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES;**
- 3 **4. THE STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE; AND**
- 4 **5. THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES.**

5 **(1) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE FUNDING OF \$200,000 EACH**
6 **FISCAL YEAR TO CARRY OUT THE PILOT PROGRAM.**

7 **(2) THE LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN BALTIMORE**
8 **COUNTY AND WASHINGTON COUNTY SHALL APPLY FOR GRANTS TO SUPPLEMENT**
9 **DEPARTMENT FUNDING FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
11 1, 2018.