

HOUSE BILL 1470

E4, J1

0lr3325
CF SB 454

By: **Delegates Williams, Ebersole, McComas, Pena–Melnyk, Shetty, and P. Young**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **First Responders – Mandatory Mental Health Training**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring each first responder in the State to complete certain mental
4 health awareness training approved by the Maryland Police Training and Standards
5 Commission and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems;
6 defining a certain term; and generally relating to training for first responders.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section 7–404

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 **7–404.**

16 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “FIRST RESPONDER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS**
17 **LICENSED OR CERTIFIED UNDER § 13–516 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.**

18 **(B) EACH FIRST RESPONDER IN THE STATE SHALL COMPLETE MENTAL**
19 **HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING APPROVED BY THE MARYLAND POLICE TRAINING**
20 **AND STANDARDS COMMISSION AND THE MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR EMERGENCY**
21 **MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEMS, INCLUDING TRAINING TO:**

22 **(1) COMBAT THE STIGMA OF MENTAL ILLNESS;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) CONNECT INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS TO MENTAL**
2 **HEALTH SERVICES;**

3 **(3) EMPLOY CRISIS DE-ESCALATION TECHNIQUES;**

4 **(4) ENABLE EARLY INTERVENTION THROUGH RECOGNITION OF SIGNS**
5 **AND SYMPTOMS OF MENTAL ILLNESS;**

6 **(5) IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS; AND**

7 **(6) PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH LITERACY.**

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2020.