

## Chapter 389

**(House Bill 718)**

AN ACT concerning

**State Coordinator for Autism Strategy and Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related Needs – ~~Mandated Appropriation~~ Location and Funding**

FOR the purpose of moving the State Coordinator for Autism Strategy to the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill, for a certain fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, a certain an appropriation to fund the position of State Coordinator for Autism Strategy and the Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related Needs ~~within the Department of Disabilities~~; ~~requiring the appropriation to be increased in subsequent fiscal years to reflect annualization and ongoing costs~~; and generally relating to ~~a mandated appropriation for~~ the position of State Coordinator for Autism Strategy and the Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related Needs.

BY repealing and reenacting, ~~without~~ with amendments,  
 Article – Human Services  
 Section 7-111(a) ~~and 7-112(a)~~  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY adding to  
 Article – Human Services  
 Section 7-111(e)  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Human Services  
Section 7-112(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

**Article – Human Services**

7-111.

(a) There is a State Coordinator for Autism Strategy in the ~~Department~~  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES.

**(E) ~~(1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, FOR FOR~~ FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION ~~OF AT LEAST \$86,100 TO THE DEPARTMENT~~ TO FUND THE POSITION OF STATE COORDINATOR FOR AUTISM STRATEGY AND THE ADVISORY STAKEHOLDER GROUP ON AUTISM-RELATED NEEDS.**

**~~(2) THE APPROPRIATION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE INCREASED IN EACH SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEAR TO REFLECT ANNUALIZATION AND ONGOING COSTS.~~**

7-112.

(a) There is an Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related Needs.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

**Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 30, 2021.**