

# HOUSE BILL 1121

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CF 11r3012

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By: **Delegate Crutchfield**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2021

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Juvenile Services – Workgroup to Develop Evidence–Based, Research–Based,**  
3 **and Culturally Competent Practices**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Juvenile Services and the Department of  
5 Human Services to convene a certain workgroup to increase accountability for  
6 certain services delivered to children by the Department of Juvenile Services  
7 through certain practices; requiring the workgroup to complete a certain assessment  
8 and prepare and publish a certain inventory; requiring the workgroup to consider  
9 and identify certain factors in assessing certain practices; requiring the Department  
10 of Juvenile Services to use certain funds and to coordinate certain training; requiring  
11 the Department of Juvenile Services to report to the General Assembly on or before  
12 a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to  
13 prevention and intervention services for children.

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

16 (a) The Department of Juvenile Services and the Department of Human Services  
17 shall convene a workgroup with the Maryland Public Policy Institute and relevant  
18 stakeholders in areas of child welfare, juvenile rehabilitation, and juvenile mental health  
19 services to increase accountability for prevention and intervention services delivered to  
20 children by the Department of Juvenile Services through evidence–based, research–based,  
21 and culturally competent practices.

22 (b) The workgroup shall:

23 (1) complete a baseline assessment of the use of evidence–based,  
24 research–based, and culturally competent practices in child welfare, juvenile  
25 rehabilitation, and children’s mental health; and

26 (2) prepare and publish an inventory of descriptive definitions for

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices in the areas of child  
2 welfare, juvenile rehabilitation, and children's mental health services.

3 (c) In identifying and assessing evidence-based, research-based, and culturally  
4 competent practices, the workgroup shall:

5 (1) consider any available systemic, evidence-based assessment of the  
6 efficacy and cost-effectiveness of a program;

7 (2) attempt to identify assessments that use valid and reliable evidence;

8 (3) specifically identify evidence-based programs effective for underserved  
9 and ethnically diverse communities; and

10 (4) identify ways to make assessments available to community-based  
11 organizations to help validate successful programming already in existence with an  
12 emphasis on programs that represent underserved and racially and ethnically diverse  
13 communities.

14 (d) With the goal of increasing the number of practices that meet the standards  
15 for evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices, the Department  
16 of Juvenile Services shall:

17 (1) use State, federal, and private funds to prioritize assessments of  
18 identified practices; and

19 (2) coordinate training across program areas for evidence-based,  
20 research-based, and culturally competent practices and use monitoring and quality control  
21 procedures to measure reliability.

22 (e) On or before September 1, 2022, the Department of Juvenile Services shall  
23 report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government  
24 Article, on recommended strategies, timelines, and budgetary needs for increasing the use  
25 of evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices in prevention and  
26 intervention services delivered to children by the Department of Juvenile Services.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
28 October 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 9 months and, at the  
29 end of June 30, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly,  
30 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.