

HOUSE BILL 662

03, P1

EMERGENCY BILL

2lr0928

By: **Delegate Guyton**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2022

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism–Related Needs, Interagency Disabilities**
3 **Board, and the State Coordinator for Autism Strategy – Membership, Staffing,**
4 **and Appointment**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to appoint the State Coordinator for Autism
6 Strategy; altering the membership and staffing of the Advisory Stakeholder Group
7 on Autism–Related Needs; adding the State Coordinator for Autism Strategy to the
8 Interagency Disabilities Board; and generally relating to the Advisory Stakeholder
9 Group on Autism–Related Needs, the Interagency Disabilities Board, and the State
10 Coordinator for Autism Strategy.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Human Services
13 Section 7–111(a), 7–112(b) and (d), and 7–128
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
17 Article – Human Services
18 Section 7–112(a) and 7–127
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Human Services

24 7–111.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) (1) There is a State Coordinator for Autism Strategy in the Governor's
2 Office of Community Initiatives.

3 (2) WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE, THE
4 GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT THE STATE COORDINATOR FOR AUTISM STRATEGY.

5 7-112.

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

7 (b) The Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related Needs consists of the
8 following members:

9 (1) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY THE
10 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

11 (2) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY
12 THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

13 [(1)] (3) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State
14 Superintendent's designee;

15 [(2)] (4) the Secretary of Disabilities, or the Secretary's designee;

16 [(3)] (5) the Secretary of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee;

17 [(4)] (6) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

18 [(5)] (7) the State Coordinator for Autism Strategy;

19 [(6)] (8) one representative of the Maryland Speech-Language-Hearing
20 Association;

21 [(7)] (9) one representative of the Maryland Developmental Disabilities
22 Council;

23 [(8)] (10) one representative of the Maryland Occupational Therapy
24 Association;

25 [(9)] (11) one representative of The ARC Maryland;

26 [(10)] (12) one representative of Pathfinders for Autism;

27 [(11)] (13) one representative of Itineris; and

1 [(12)] (14) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

2 (i) a school psychologist;

3 (ii) a physical therapist;

4 (iii) a pediatrician;

5 (iv) two parents of children with autism;

6 (v) two self-advocates with autism;

7 (vi) one representative of public universities in the State;

8 (vii) one representative of local public school systems in the State;

9 (viii) one representative from the business community; and

10 (ix) any additional members with expertise or experience in
11 autism-related needs as considered necessary.

12 (d) The [Department of Disabilities] **GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY**
13 **INITIATIVES** shall provide staff for the Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related
14 Needs.

15 7-127.

16 (a) There is an Interagency Disabilities Board convened by the Governor.

17 (b) The purpose of the Board is to develop the State Disabilities Plan.

18 7-128.

19 The Board consists of the following members:

20 (1) the Secretary of Disabilities;

21 (2) the Secretary of Aging, or the Secretary's designee;

22 (3) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;

23 (4) the Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee;

24 (5) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

25 (6) the Secretary of Housing and Community Development, or the
26 Secretary's designee;

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1 (7) the Secretary of Human Services, or the Secretary's designee;

2 (8) the Secretary of Labor, or the Secretary's designee;

3 (9) the Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;

4 (10) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's designee;

5 (11) the Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;

6 (12) the Deputy Director of the Division of Children and Youth of the
7 Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, or the Deputy Director's
8 designee;

9 (13) the Director of the Governor's Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing,
10 or the Director's designee;

11 (14) the Secretary of Juvenile Services, or the Secretary's designee;

12 (15) the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, or the
13 Secretary's designee;

14 (16) the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention,
15 Youth, and Victim Services, or the Executive Director's designee; [and]

16 **(17) THE STATE COORDINATOR FOR AUTISM STRATEGY OF THE**
17 **GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES, OR THE COORDINATOR'S**
18 **DESIGNEE; AND**

19 **[(17)] (18)** representatives from any other unit of State government that the
20 Governor designates.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
22 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
23 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to
24 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
25 enacted.