

**HB0978/303622/1**

BY: Judiciary Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 978

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “**and Taylor**” and substitute, “**Taylor, Phillips, and Williams**”; strike beginning with “**Maryland**” in line 2 down through “**Maintaining**” in line 3 and substitute “**Maryland Judicial Public Text Messaging System – Report**”; strike beginning with “establishing” in line 4 down through “System” in line 11 and substitute “requiring the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide an annual report to the General Assembly containing certain information on the Maryland Judicial Public Text Messaging System; and generally relating to the Maryland Judicial Public Text Messaging System”; and strike in their entirety lines 12 through 17, inclusive, and substitute:

“BY adding to

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 13-103

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 21 on page 1 through line 20 on page 4, inclusive, and substitute:

“**13-103.**

**(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.**

**(2) “MARYLAND JUDICIAL PUBLIC TEXT MESSAGING SYSTEM” MEANS TEXT NOTIFICATION ABOUT COURT EVENTS AND RELATED CASE**

INFORMATION PERMANENTLY AUTHORIZED UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF MARYLAND ON APRIL 22, 2020.

(3) “SYSTEM” MEANS THE MARYLAND JUDICIAL PUBLIC TEXT MESSAGING SYSTEM.

(B) BEGINNING DECEMBER 1, 2024, AND EACH DECEMBER 1 THEREAFTER, THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE MARYLAND JUDICIAL PUBLIC TEXT MESSAGING SYSTEM.

(C) THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON THE SYSTEM FOR THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR:

(1) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO REQUESTED NOTIFICATION UNDER THE SYSTEM;

(2) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO DECLINED TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION;

(3) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS SENT REGARDING PROCEEDINGS;

(4) THE NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS SENT AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE A PROCEEDING;

**(5) THE NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS SENT 6 OR FEWER DAYS BEFORE A PROCEEDING AND THE NUMBER OF THOSE NOTIFICATIONS SENT AT LEAST 1 DAY BEFORE A PROCEEDING;**

**(6) THE NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS THAT FAILED TO DELIVER;**

**(7) THE NUMBER OF REQUESTS BY PARTICIPANTS FOR ASSISTANCE; AND**

**(8) THE RATE OF FAILURE TO APPEAR BY PARTICIPANTS IN THE SYSTEM COMPARED WITH THAT OF INDIVIDUALS DECLINING PARTICIPATION IN THE SYSTEM.**

**(D) IN ADDITION TO INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE A REVIEW OF ANY FUTURE PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT, EXPANSION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SYSTEM.”**