

HOUSE BILL 1166

E4, J1

0lr1569

By: **Delegates Ebersole, Bagnall, T. Branch, J. Lewis, and Lierman**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2020

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Law Enforcement Diversion Programs**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the establishment of certain law enforcement diversion
4 programs subject to certain restrictions; authorizing certain individuals to
5 participate in certain programs; authorizing certain providers to provide case
6 management including certain approaches under certain circumstances; requiring
7 certain planning for the implementation of law enforcement diversion programs;
8 requiring the establishment of a certain law enforcement diversion program plan;
9 providing for the use and release of certain information under certain circumstances;
10 requiring the ~~Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention~~ Governor's Office of
11 Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to submit a certain annual report with
12 certain information; ~~authorizing the Governor to include in the State budget certain~~
13 ~~appropriations for the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to fund~~
14 ~~certain health and social services; authorizing the Governor's Office of Crime Control~~
15 ~~and Prevention to adopt certain guidelines and requirements; requiring funding to~~
16 ~~be made available to certain law enforcement diversion programs in certain~~
17 ~~geographic regions of the State; establishing activities eligible for funding under this~~
18 ~~Act;~~ authorizing involvement by certain individuals and services in a law
19 enforcement diversion program; authorizing a law enforcement diversion program to
20 use certain measures and practices; requiring the ~~Governor's Office of Crime Control~~
21 ~~and Prevention~~ Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services,
22 in conjunction with certain other entities, to develop certain guidelines and a certain
23 performance measurement system on or before a certain date; and generally relating
24 to law enforcement diversion programs.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
2 Article – Public Safety
3 Section 4–1001
4 Annotated Code of Maryland
5 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

6 Preamble

7 WHEREAS, The General Assembly acknowledges that opioid use disorders, poverty,
8 and homelessness in Maryland are persistent and growing concerns for Maryland
9 communities, and that these concerns compound existing challenges to adequately address
10 and manage behavioral health disorders; and

11 WHEREAS, Law enforcement officers have a unique opportunity to facilitate
12 connections to community–based behavioral health interventions that provide behavioral
13 health services and can help save and restore lives, help reduce drug use, overdose
14 incidence, and criminal offending and recidivism, and help prevent arrest and conviction
15 records that destabilize health, families, and opportunities for community citizenship and
16 self–sufficiency; and

17 WHEREAS, These efforts are bolstered when pursued in partnership with
18 behavioral health services providers and community members or organizations; and

19 WHEREAS, It is the intent of the General Assembly to authorize law enforcement
20 agencies to develop and implement collaborative law enforcement diversion programs in
21 Maryland that offer immediate pathways to behavioral health services and other services
22 as an alternative to traditional case processing and involvement in the criminal justice
23 system; now, therefore,

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

26 Article – Public Safety

27 4–1001.

28 (A) (1) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, A LAW
29 ENFORCEMENT AGENCY MAY ESTABLISH A LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION
30 PROGRAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ONE OR MORE PROVIDERS OF BEHAVIORAL
31 HEALTH SERVICES OR ONE OR MORE COMMUNITY MEMBERS OR ORGANIZATIONS.

32 (2) A LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED
33 UNDER THIS SECTION MAY INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS REFERRED TO THE PROGRAM BY:

34 (I) A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

1 1. AFTER THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION TO
2 REVERSE AN OVERDOSE;

3 2. AS A RESULT OF THE PROACTIVE IDENTIFICATION OF
4 THE INDIVIDUAL AS HAVING A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER; OR

5 3. AFTER THE INDIVIDUAL IS DETAINED OR ARRESTED
6 BY THE OFFICER;

7 (II) THE INDIVIDUAL THROUGH CONTACT WITH A LAW
8 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE INDIVIDUAL'S SUBSTANCE USE
9 DISORDER; OR

10 (III) A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN LIEU OF ISSUING A
11 CITATION OR ARREST WHEN PROBABLE CAUSE FOR CHARGES FOR AN INDIVIDUAL
12 ARE PRESENT BUT HELD IN ABEYANCE.

13 (3) A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY MAY DEVELOP A LAW
14 ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM BASED ON A MODEL THAT:

15 (I) IS UNIQUE AND RESPONSIVE TO LOCAL ISSUES,
16 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE NEEDS, AND PARTNERSHIPS;

17 (II) USES EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES; AND

18 (III) DOES NOT WITHHOLD SERVICES BASED ON
19 NONCOMPLIANCE.

20 (4) WHEN APPROPRIATE AND AVAILABLE, A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
21 SERVICES PROVIDER OR OTHER APPROPRIATE PROVIDER MAY PROVIDE CASE
22 MANAGEMENT THAT INCLUDES PEER RECOVERY SUPPORT APPROACHES.

23 (5) PLANNING FOR A LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM
24 SHALL INCLUDE:

25 (I) THE INVOLVEMENT OF ONE OR MORE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
26 SERVICES PROGRAMS OR ONE OR MORE COMMUNITY MEMBERS OR ORGANIZATIONS;
27 AND

28 (II) AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ~~GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME~~
29 ~~CONTROL AND PREVENTION~~ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION,
30 YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES TO COLLECT AND EVALUATE STATISTICAL DATA FOR
31 THE PROGRAM.

1 **(B) (1) THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**
2 **SERVICES PROVIDERS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS OR ORGANIZATIONS SHALL**
3 **ESTABLISH A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM PLAN THAT**
4 **INCLUDES PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES FOR:**

5 **(I) PARTICIPANT IDENTIFICATION, SCREENING OR**
6 **ASSESSMENT;**

7 **(II) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**
8 **FACILITATION;**

9 **(III) REPORTING; AND**

10 **(IV) ONGOING INVOLVEMENT OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT**
11 **AGENCY, OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY, THE DIVISION OF PAROLE AND**
12 **PROBATION, AND THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER.**

13 **(2) THE USE AND RELEASE OF ANY PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION OR**
14 **MEDICAL INFORMATION OBTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION IS**
15 **GOVERNED BY THE CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS OF STATE LAW.**

16 **(C) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 EACH YEAR, THE ~~GOVERNOR'S OFFICE~~**
17 **~~OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION~~ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME**
18 **PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT**
19 **WITH:**

20 **(1) DATA REQUIRED BY THE ~~GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME~~**
21 **~~CONTROL AND PREVENTION~~ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION,**
22 **YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MARYLAND CHIEFS OF**
23 **POLICE ASSOCIATION AND THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, INCLUDING**
24 **DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS, NUMBER OF LAW**
25 **ENFORCEMENT ENCOUNTERS THAT RESULTED IN A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES**
26 **REFERRAL, AND TIME FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT ENCOUNTER TO BEHAVIORAL**
27 **HEALTH SERVICES ENGAGEMENT; AND**

28 **(2) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS, INCLUDING KEY PERFORMANCE**
29 **INDICATORS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING RATE OF**
30 **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES ENGAGEMENT 30 DAYS AFTER THE POINT OF**
31 **INITIAL CONTACT.**

32 **(D) THE ~~GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION~~**
33 **GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES**
34 **SHALL SUBMIT THE ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS**
35 **SECTION TO THE ~~GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION~~**

1 GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT
2 ARTICLE, THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE
3 APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.

4 ~~(E) THE GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE IN THE STATE BUDGET AN ANNUAL~~
5 ~~APPROPRIATION TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND~~
6 ~~PREVENTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION~~
7 ~~PROGRAMS UNDER THIS SECTION, INCLUDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND~~
8 ~~SOCIAL SERVICES THAT MAY BE AN ALTERNATIVE TO ARREST.~~

9 ~~(F) (1) THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND~~
10 ~~PREVENTION MAY ADOPT GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION~~
11 ~~OF FUNDS FOR EXPENSES RELATED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAMS.~~

12 ~~(2) FUNDING UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO~~
13 ~~SUPPORT BOTH NEW AND EXISTING LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAMS IN A~~
14 ~~BROAD SPECTRUM OF GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS IN THE STATE, INCLUDING URBAN,~~
15 ~~SUBURBAN, AND RURAL COMMUNITIES.~~

16 ~~(G) ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING UNDER THIS SECTION INCLUDE:~~

17 ~~(1) ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION,~~
18 ~~COORDINATION, OR MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF~~
19 ~~COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH LICENSED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS~~
20 ~~AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS OR ORGANIZATIONS, COLLECTION OF PROGRAM DATA,~~
21 ~~AND MONITORING OF COMPLIANCE WITH A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION~~
22 ~~PROGRAM PLAN;~~

23 ~~(2) CASE MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING CASE MANAGEMENT PROVIDED~~
24 ~~BEFORE ASSESSMENT, DIAGNOSIS, AND ENGAGEMENT IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH~~
25 ~~SERVICES, AS WELL AS ASSISTANCE NAVIGATING AND GAINING ACCESS TO VARIOUS~~
26 ~~BEHAVIORAL HEALTH MODALITIES AND SUPPORT SERVICES, SUCH AS HOUSING AND~~
27 ~~OTHER BASIC HUMAN NEEDS.~~

28 ~~(3) PEER RECOVERY OR RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES THAT~~
29 ~~INCLUDE THE PERSPECTIVES OF PERSONS WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF RECOVERING~~
30 ~~FROM A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER, EITHER THEMSELVES OR AS FAMILY MEMBERS;~~

31 ~~(4) TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM A LICENSED BEHAVIORAL~~
32 ~~HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDER OR OTHER PROGRAM PARTNER LOCATION; AND~~

33 ~~(5) PROGRAM EVALUATION ACTIVITIES.~~

1 ~~(H)~~ **(E)** **(1)** A LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM MAY DEVELOP
2 SPECIFIC LINKAGE AGREEMENTS WITH RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES OR
3 SELF-HELP ENTITIES.

4 **(2)** A LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM MAY INVOLVE KEY
5 FAMILY MEMBERS OF INDIVIDUALS IN THE PROGRAM AS A PART OF A FAMILY-BASED
6 APPROACH TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH.

7 **(3)** A LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVERSION PROGRAM MAY USE
8 EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES AND OUTCOME MEASURES IN THE PROVISION OF
9 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT.

10 [(a)] ~~(H)~~ **(F)** For fiscal years 2020 through 2023, each year the Governor shall
11 appropriate \$425,000 in the annual State budget for Baltimore City to be used as an
12 operating grant for the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program in Baltimore City.

13 [(b)] ~~(J)~~ **(G)** The funds appropriated under subsection [(a)] ~~(H)~~ **(F)** of this section
14 shall be used solely to supplement, and not supplant, funds otherwise available for the Law
15 Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program in Baltimore City.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before April 1, 2021,
17 the ~~Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention~~ Governor's Office of Crime
18 Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, in conjunction with the Maryland Chiefs of Police
19 Association and the Maryland Department of Health, shall:

20 (1) develop guidelines for the data required to be collected by the
21 ~~Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention~~ Governor's Office of Crime Prevention,
22 Youth, and Victim Services, including demographic information on program participants,
23 number of law enforcement encounters that result in a behavioral health referral, and time
24 from law enforcement encounter to behavioral health services engagement; and

25 (2) develop a performance measurement system, including key
26 performance indicators for law enforcement diversion programs, such as rate of behavioral
27 health services engagement 30 days after the point of initial contact.

28 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 October 1, 2020.