

HOUSE BILL 747

P1

11r0930

By: **Delegates McDonough, Dwyer, Impallaria, Kach, Kipke, Krebs, and McComas**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2011

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government – Equal Access to Public Services – Individuals with**
3 **Limited English Proficiency – Report**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each State department, agency, and program to report
5 to the Department of Human Resources on or before a certain date each year on
6 the actual costs incurred in complying with certain provisions of law that
7 require equal access to public services for individuals with limited English
8 proficiency; requiring the Department to report annually to the General
9 Assembly on or before a certain date on the actual costs incurred by each State
10 department, agency, and program in complying with certain provisions of law
11 that require equal access to public services for individuals with limited English
12 proficiency; requiring the Department to make a certain report available to the
13 public on the Department's Web site; and generally relating to reporting the
14 costs incurred in providing equal access to public services for individuals with
15 limited English proficiency.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
17 Article – State Government
18 Section 10–1101 and 10–1105
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

21 BY adding to
22 Article – State Government
23 Section 10–1106
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **Article – State Government**

2 10–1101.

3 The General Assembly finds that the inability to speak, understand, or read the
4 English language is a barrier that prevents access to public services provided by State
5 departments, agencies, and programs, and that the public services available through
6 these entities are essential to the welfare of Maryland residents. It is the policy of the
7 State that State departments, agencies, and programs shall provide equal access to
8 public services for individuals with limited English proficiency.

9 10–1105.

10 The Department of Human Resources, in consultation with the Office of the
11 Attorney General, shall provide central coordination and technical assistance to State
12 departments, agencies, and programs to aid compliance with this subtitle.

13 **10–1106.**

14 **(A) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 30 OF EACH YEAR, EACH STATE**
15 **DEPARTMENT, AGENCY, AND PROGRAM SHALL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT**
16 **OF HUMAN RESOURCES ON THE ACTUAL COSTS INCURRED IN COMPLYING WITH**
17 **THIS SUBTITLE FOR EACH FUNCTION, PROGRAM, SERVICE, OR OTHER ACTIVITY**
18 **OF THE DEPARTMENT, AGENCY, OR PROGRAM.**

19 **(B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT**
20 **OF HUMAN RESOURCES SHALL:**

21 **(1) REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
22 **§ 2–1246 OF THIS ARTICLE, ON THE ACTUAL COSTS INCURRED IN COMPLYING**
23 **WITH THIS SUBTITLE BY EACH STATE DEPARTMENT, AGENCY, AND PROGRAM,**
24 **INCLUDING SPECIFIC INFORMATION AS TO THE COSTS INCURRED FOR EACH**
25 **FUNCTION, PROGRAM, SERVICE, OR OTHER ACTIVITY OF EACH DEPARTMENT,**
26 **AGENCY, AND PROGRAM; AND**

27 **(2) MAKE THE REPORT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC ON THE**
28 **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES WEB SITE.**

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
30 October 1, 2011.