

# SENATE BILL 794

01, 04

4lr3002  
CF HB 794

---

By: **Senator Reilly**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

---

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 8, 2014

---

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Department of Planning~~ **Maryland Unaccompanied Homeless Youth and**  
3 **Young Adult Count Demonstration Project**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Unaccompanied Homeless Youth and  
5 Young Adult Count Demonstration Project; requiring the Department of  
6 Planning Housing and Community Development to select and monitor a  
7 coordinating entity to oversee the ~~Maryland Unaccompanied Homeless Youth~~  
8 ~~and Young Adult Count Demonstration~~ Project; establishing the purpose of the  
9 Project; requiring the coordinating entity to be selected through a competitive  
10 request for proposal or by sole source contract; requiring the coordinating entity  
11 to determine the number and characteristics of unaccompanied homeless youth  
12 and young adults in certain ~~jurisdictions~~ Continuums of Care using certain  
13 methods; requiring the coordinating entity to assign each youth participant a  
14 unique identifier; requiring the Department of Planning to provide certain  
15 technical assistance; requiring the ~~Department~~ Departments to make every  
16 effort to identify non-State sources of funding to fund the cost of the Project;  
17 ~~providing for the termination of this Act~~; requiring the coordinating entity to  
18 submit a certain report on or before a certain date; making this Act subject to a  
19 certain contingency; and generally relating to the Maryland Unaccompanied  
20 Homeless Youth and Young Adult Count Demonstration Project.

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
22 MARYLAND, That:

---

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           (a) ~~The Department of Planning shall select a coordinating entity to oversee~~  
 2 ~~the~~ There is a Maryland Unaccompanied Homeless Youth and Young Adult Count  
 3 Demonstration Project.

4           (b) The purpose of the Project is to:

5           ~~(1)~~ conduct data collection and analysis to determine the number and  
 6 characteristics of unaccompanied homeless youth and young adults in each  
 7 jurisdiction; ~~and,~~

8           (c) (1) The Department of Housing and Community Development shall  
 9 select and monitor a coordinating entity to oversee the Project.

10           (2) The coordinating entity shall be selected through a competitive  
 11 request for proposal or by sole source contract.

12           ~~(2) on or before September 30, 2016, submit a report to the General~~  
 13 ~~Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the results~~  
 14 ~~of the Project.~~

15           ~~(e) The coordinating entity shall be selected through a competitive request~~  
 16 ~~for proposal or by sole source contract.~~

17           (d) The Project shall require the coordinating entity to determine the number  
 18 and characteristics of unaccompanied homeless youth and young adults in ~~the~~  
 19 ~~following jurisdictions:~~

20           ~~(1) Anne Arundel County;~~

21           ~~(2) Baltimore City; and~~

22           ~~(3) Wicomico County~~ at least the following Continuums of Care  
 23 established under Subtitle C of Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance  
 24 Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11381 through 11389:

25           (1) MD 501 – Baltimore City Continuum of Care;

26           (2) MD 503 – Annapolis/Anne Arundel County Continuum of Care;

27           (3) MD 505 – Baltimore County Continuum of Care;

28           (4) MD 512 – Hagerstown/Washington County Continuum of Care;

29           (5) MD 513 – Wicomico/Somerset/Worcester County Continuum of  
 30 Care; and

31           (6) MD 600 – Prince George’s County Continuum of Care.

1 (e) (1) To determine the number of unaccompanied homeless youth and  
2 young adults in each jurisdiction, the coordinating entity, in partnership with  
3 Continuums of Care and local communities, shall:

4 (i) utilize data on the number of homeless students in public  
5 schools reported under the federal McKinney–Vento Homeless Assistance Act;

6 (ii) conduct a street count of unaccompanied homeless youth  
7 and young adults;

8 ~~(iii) survey service providers; and~~

9 (iii) conduct a service provider count of unaccompanied homeless  
10 youth; and

11 (iv) conduct qualitative data collection, including conducting:

12 1. surveys;

13 2. focus groups; and

14 3. in–depth interviews.

15 (2) The coordinating entity shall work with local ~~jurisdictions~~  
16 communities to tailor data collection methodology used under paragraph (1) of this  
17 subsection, as appropriate.

18 (3) Any survey conducted under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall  
19 include a uniform set of questions but may include additional questions if the  
20 additional questions are agreed on by the local ~~jurisdictions~~ communities and the  
21 coordinating entity.

22 (4) The methods of data collection described under paragraph (1) of  
23 this subsection shall employ promising practices, including those identified through  
24 the federal Youth Count! Pilot Project, including:

25 (i) employing youth outreach workers;

26 (ii) using magnet events; and

27 (iii) providing stipends to encourage participation.

28 (5) Data collection conducted under this subsection shall be conducted  
29 to coincide with the end of the K–12 school year and the reporting of data under the  
30 federal McKinney–Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

1 (6) To protect the anonymity of youth participants and avoid  
 2 duplication, the coordinating entity shall assign each youth participant a unique  
 3 identifier that does not reveal the participant's identity.

4 (f) The Department of Planning shall:

5 (1) assist with presurvey data collection consultation and mapping  
 6 support;

7 (2) analyze and compile data after the survey is completed; and

8 (3) provide a technical review of draft reports.

9 ~~(g)~~ (g) ~~The Department~~ Departments shall make every effort to identify  
 10 non-State sources of funding to fund the cost of the Project, including:

11 (1) applying for federal or university grants; and

12 (2) partnering with private entities to share the cost.

13 (h) On or before September 30, 2017, the coordinating entity shall submit a  
 14 report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government  
 15 Article, on the results of the Project.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is contingent on  
 17 the receipt of funding through an appropriation in the State budget or through  
 18 non-State sources of funding to select a coordinating entity to oversee the Maryland  
 19 Unaccompanied Homeless Youth and Young Adult Count Demonstration Project. The  
 20 Department of Housing and Community Development shall notify the Department of  
 21 Legislative Services within 5 days after funding is received. If notice of the receipt of  
 22 funding is not received by the Department of Legislative Services on or before June 30,  
 23 2018, this Act shall be null and void without the necessity of further action by the  
 24 General Assembly.

25 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions  
 26 of Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall take effect ~~October~~ July 1, 2014. ~~It shall remain~~  
 27 ~~effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of September 30, 2017, with no further~~  
 28 ~~action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further~~  
 29 ~~force and effect.~~