

HOUSE BILL 548

J1, O4

1lr1815
CF SB 299

By: **Delegate R. Lewis**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2021

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Human Services – Trauma–Informed Care – Commission and Training**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on Trauma–Informed Care; providing for
4 the composition, chair, and staffing of the Commission; providing that the
5 Commission is an independent commission functioning in the Department of Human
6 Services; providing for the purpose of the Commission; requiring the Commission to
7 determine certain procedures; providing for the terms of members of the
8 Commission; requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the Commission;
9 prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving certain compensation, but
10 authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; providing that a majority of
11 members serving on the Commission is a quorum; requiring the Commission to
12 identify certain programs and services; requiring the Commission to assist in the
13 development of a certain statewide trauma–responsive strategy; requiring the
14 Commission to establish certain metrics, in collaboration with the Maryland
15 Department of Health, related to a certain initiative; requiring the Commission to
16 coordinate and develop, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health,
17 certain training on trauma–informed care; requiring the Commission to disseminate
18 certain information among agencies; requiring the Commission to advise and assist
19 the Governor for a certain purpose; requiring the Commission to report its findings
20 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a
21 certain date each year; requiring members of the Commission to participate in a
22 certain training each year; requiring certain State agencies to designate certain staff
23 members to participate in a certain training each year; requiring certain staff
24 members of certain State agencies to perform certain duties in a certain manner each
25 year; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to provide certain technical
26 support to certain staff members of certain State agencies; requiring certain
27 directors of certain State agencies to submit to the Commission a certain report each
28 year; defining certain terms; and generally relating to trauma–informed care.

29 BY adding to

30 Article – Human Services

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 8–1301 through 8–1310 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 13.
2 Trauma–Informed Care”
3 Annotated Code of Maryland
4 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

7 **Article – Human Services**

8 **SUBTITLE 13. TRAUMA–INFORMED CARE.**

9 **8–1301.**

10 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
11 INDICATED.

12 (B) “AGENCY” INCLUDES:

13 (1) THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL;

14 (2) THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT;

15 (3) THE DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES;

16 (4) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH;

17 (5) THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
18 DEVELOPMENT;

19 (6) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;

20 (7) THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES;

21 (8) THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES;

22 (9) THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING;

23 (10) THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS;

24 (11) THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE;

25 (12) THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;

26 (13) THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION;

1 (14) THE DEPARTMENT OF AGING; AND

2 (15) THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND
3 VICTIM SERVICES.

4 (C) “CHILDREN” MEANS INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE AGE OF 14 YEARS.

5 (D) “COMMISSION” MEANS THE COMMISSION ON TRAUMA–INFORMED
6 CARE.

7 (E) “OLDER ADULT” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL AT LEAST 60 YEARS OLD.

8 (F) “TRAUMA–INFORMED CARE” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 10–701 OF
9 THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.

10 (G) “YOUTH” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL AT LEAST 14 YEARS OLD AND UNDER
11 THE AGE OF 26 YEARS.

12 8–1302.

13 (A) THERE IS A COMMISSION ON TRAUMA–INFORMED CARE.

14 (B) THE COMMISSION IS AN INDEPENDENT COMMISSION THAT FUNCTIONS
15 IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

16 8–1303.

17 THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO COORDINATE A STATEWIDE
18 INITIATIVE TO PRIORITIZE THE TRAUMA–RESPONSIVE AND TRAUMA–INFORMED
19 DELIVERY OF STATE SERVICES THAT IMPACT CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILIES, AND
20 OLDER ADULTS.

21 8–1304.

22 (A) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

23 (1) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY
24 THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

25 (2) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY
26 THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

27 (3) THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, OR THE
28 SECRETARY’S DESIGNEE;

- 1 **(4) THE SECRETARY OF DISABILITIES, OR THE SECRETARY'S**
2 **DESIGNEE;**
- 3 **(5) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;**
- 4 **(6) THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN SERVICES, OR THE SECRETARY'S**
5 **DESIGNEE;**
- 6 **(7) THE SECRETARY OF JUVENILE SERVICES, OR THE SECRETARY'S**
7 **DESIGNEE;**
- 8 **(8) THE SECRETARY OF STATE POLICE, OR THE SECRETARY'S**
9 **DESIGNEE;**
- 10 **(9) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, OR THE**
11 **SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;**
- 12 **(10) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE, OR THE EXECUTIVE**
13 **DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE; AND**
- 14 **(11) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:**
- 15 **(I) TWO LICENSED CLINICIANS WITH EXPERTISE IN TRAUMA;**
- 16 **(II) ONE LICENSED GERIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIAN**
17 **WITH EXPERTISE IN TRAUMA;**
- 18 **(III) TWO MEMBERS OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY WITH**
19 **EXPERTISE IN TRAUMA;**
- 20 **(IV) SIX REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY**
21 **ORGANIZATIONS, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, OR YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS WITH AN**
22 **EXPERTISE IN TRAUMA; AND**
- 23 **(V) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE OF CHILD CARE**
24 **ADVISORY COUNCIL.**
- 25 **(B) (1) THE TERM OF AN APPOINTED MEMBER UNDER THIS SECTION IS 4**
26 **YEARS CONCURRENT WITH THE TERM OF THE GOVERNOR'S TERM OF OFFICE.**
- 27 **(2) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER THE TERM HAS BEGUN**
28 **SERVES ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED**
29 **AND QUALIFIES.**

1 **(3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL**
2 **A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

3 **8-1305.**

4 **THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION.**

5 **8-1306.**

6 **THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE OPERATING PROCEDURES, INCLUDING**
7 **THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCOMMITTEES OR WORKGROUPS THAT USE THE**
8 **EXPERTISE OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.**

9 **8-1307.**

10 **THE OFFICE SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION.**

11 **8-1308.**

12 **(A) A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS SERVING ON THE COMMISSION IS A QUORUM.**

13 **(B) THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE THE TIMES AND PLACES OF ITS**
14 **MEETINGS.**

15 **(C) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:**

16 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**
17 **COMMISSION; BUT**

18 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
19 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

20 **8-1309.**

21 **(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

22 **(1) ASSIST IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF ANY STATE PROGRAM OR**
23 **SERVICE THAT IMPACTS CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILIES, AND OLDER ADULTS;**

24 **(2) ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STATEWIDE STRATEGY**
25 **TOWARD AN ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE SHIFT INTO A TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE STATE**
26 **GOVERNMENT;**

27 **(3) ESTABLISH METRICS, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MARYLAND**
28 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TO EVALUATE AND ASSESS THE PROGRESS OF THE**

1 STATEWIDE TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE INITIATIVE;

2 (4) COORDINATE AND DEVELOP WITH THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT
3 OF HEALTH ANY FORMAL OR INFORMAL TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE TRAINING;

4 (5) DISSEMINATE INFORMATION AMONG AGENCIES REGARDING BEST
5 PRACTICES FOR PREVENTING AND MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF TRAUMA ON
6 CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILIES, AND OLDER ADULTS;

7 (6) ADVISE AND ASSIST THE GOVERNOR IN PROVIDING OVERSIGHT
8 AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN IMPLEMENTING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE;

9 (7) SUBMIT A REPORT USING THE COMMISSION'S ESTABLISHED
10 EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT METRICS, AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM (3) OF THIS
11 SUBSECTION, THAT INCLUDES AN ASSESSMENT OF:

12 (I) THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE
13 POLICIES WITHIN EACH AGENCY; AND

14 (II) THE TRAUMA-RESPONSIVENESS OF EACH AGENCY; AND

15 (8) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS TO
16 EXISTING LAWS RELATING TO CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILIES, AND OLDER ADULTS IN
17 THE STATE.

18 (B) ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30 EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL REPORT
19 ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE
20 WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

21 8-1310.

22 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "FORMAL TRAINING" MEANS A DIDACTIC COURSE OR
23 CURRICULUM IN TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE THAT IS:

24 (1) DEVELOPED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
25 SERVICES OR THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; AND

26 (2) PROVIDED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OR ITS
27 DESIGNEE IN COLLABORATION WITH THE COMMISSION.

28 (B) EACH COMMISSION MEMBER SHALL PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST ONE
29 FORMAL TRAINING EACH YEAR.

30 (C) (1) EACH AGENCY HEAD SHALL DESIGNATE TWO STAFF MEMBERS TO:

1 **(I) PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST ONE FORMAL TRAINING EACH**
2 **YEAR;**

3 **(II) COLLABORATE WITH OTHER AGENCY DESIGNEES IN WORK**
4 **SESSIONS AND OTHER INFORMAL TRAININGS AS ORGANIZED BY THE MARYLAND**
5 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH;**

6 **(III) SERVE AS THE PRINCIPAL ADVISORS TO THE AGENCY**
7 **DIRECTOR AND AGENCY STAFF IN TRAUMA-RESPONSIVENESS AND**
8 **TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE;**

9 **(IV) ASSESS THE AGENCY FOR TRAINING AND TECHNICAL**
10 **ASSISTANCE NEEDS RELATED TO TRAUMA-RESPONSIVENESS AND**
11 **TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE; AND**

12 **(V) REVIEW AND MAKE APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATIONS TO**
13 **THE AGENCY DIRECTOR TO ALIGN AGENCY POLICIES AND PRACTICES WITH A**
14 **TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH.**

15 **(2) IN THE EVENT OF A VACANCY IN THE POSITION OF ONE OR BOTH**
16 **OF THE STAFF MEMBERS DESIGNATED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION,**
17 **THE AGENCY DIRECTOR SHALL, WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE VACANCY, DESIGNATE**
18 **ANOTHER STAFF MEMBER TO CARRY OUT THE DUTIES OF THE STAFF MEMBER**
19 **DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

20 **(D) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL PROVIDE**
21 **TECHNICAL ADVISORY SUPPORT TO DESIGNATED AGENCY STAFF TO ASSIST THE**
22 **STAFF IN PERFORMING THE DUTIES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (C)(1) OF THIS**
23 **SECTION.**

24 **(E) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31 EACH YEAR, EACH AGENCY DIRECTOR SHALL**
25 **SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION A PROGRESS REPORT DETAILING THE AGENCY'S**
26 **PROGRESS AND COMPLIANCE WITH SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.**

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
28 1, 2021.