

# HOUSE BILL 937

D4

7lr2867  
CF 7lr3268

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By: **Delegates Valentino-Smith and Sanchez**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Abuse and Neglect – Memorandum of Understanding With Military**  
3 **Family Advocacy Program**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain local departments of social services to enter into a  
5 memorandum of understanding with a certain military family advocacy program;  
6 establishing certain requirements for a memorandum of understanding under this  
7 Act; and generally relating to child abuse and neglect.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Family Law

10 Section 5–705.5

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Family Law**

16 **5–705.5.**

17 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “MILITARY FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM” MEANS  
18 THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
19 TO ADDRESS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT AND DOMESTIC ABUSE IN MILITARY  
20 FAMILIES.

21 (B) A LOCAL DEPARTMENT THAT HAS A UNITED STATES MILITARY  
22 INSTALLATION LOCATED WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION SHALL ENTER INTO A  
23 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE MILITARY FAMILY ADVOCACY  
24 PROGRAM AT THE LOCAL MILITARY INSTALLATION.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(C) A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL**  
2 **ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS FOR:**

3                   **(1) IDENTIFYING AN INDIVIDUAL ALLEGED TO HAVE COMMITTED**  
4 **ABUSE OR NEGLECT AS MILITARY PERSONNEL;**

5                   **(2) REPORTING BY A LOCAL DEPARTMENT TO A MILITARY FAMILY**  
6 **ADVOCACY PROGRAM WHEN AN INVESTIGATION IMPLICATING MILITARY**  
7 **PERSONNEL HAS BEEN INITIATED; AND**

8                   **(3) MAINTAINING CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS UNDER STATE**  
9 **AND FEDERAL LAW.**

10           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
11 October 1, 2017.