

HOUSE BILL 1121

J1, J3

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By: **Delegates Pena–Melnyk, Bagnall, K. Young, Bartlett, Carey, Cullison, Fraser–Hidalgo, Howard, Kelly, Lehman, Pendergrass, Proctor, Shetty, and Valderrama**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2020

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Registry and Referral**
3 **System**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder
5 Registry and Referral System in the Maryland Department of Health; providing for
6 the purpose of the Registry and Referral System; requiring the Department to
7 develop and implement the Registry and Referral System in collaboration with a
8 certain entity; requiring the Registry and Referral System to include certain
9 elements; establishing the Maryland Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder
10 Registry and Referral System Advisory Committee; providing for the membership of
11 the Advisory Committee; requiring the Advisory Committee to report to certain
12 committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; providing
13 for the funding of the Registry and Referral System; requiring hospitals to ensure
14 the availability of staff for a certain purpose; requiring, on or before a certain date,
15 the Department, in collaboration with a certain entity, to develop and make available
16 a certain resource directory, develop a certain pilot program, and report to certain
17 committees of the General Assembly; defining certain terms; and generally relating
18 to the Maryland Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Registry and Referral
19 System.

20 BY adding to
21 Article – Health – General
22 Section 7.5–801 and 7.5–802 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 8. Maryland
23 Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Registry and Referral System”
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2019 Replacement Volume)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – Health – General

**SUBTITLE 8. MARYLAND MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER
REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM.**

7.5–801.

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

**(B) “ADVISORY COMMITTEE” MEANS THE MARYLAND MENTAL HEALTH
AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM ADVISORY
COMMITTEE.**

**(C) “REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM” MEANS THE MARYLAND MENTAL
HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM.**

7.5–802.

**(A) (1) THERE IS A MARYLAND MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE
DISORDER REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM IN THE DEPARTMENT.**

**(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM IS TO
PROVIDE A STATEWIDE SYSTEM THROUGH WHICH HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS CAN
IDENTIFY AND ACCESS AVAILABLE INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH
AND SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES FOR PATIENTS IN A SEAMLESS MANNER.**

**(3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT THE
REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
STATE-DESIGNATED HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE.**

(4) THE REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM SHALL INCLUDE:

**(I) A SEARCHABLE INVENTORY OF ANY PROVIDER OF MENTAL
HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES, INCLUDING INPATIENT, CRISIS,
AND OUTPATIENT SERVICES;**

**(II) THE CAPABILITY TO ALLOW A PROVIDER OF MENTAL
HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES TO UPDATE REGISTRY
INFORMATION INCLUDING THE REAL-TIME AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES; AND**

**(III) AN ELECTRONIC REFERRAL SYSTEM THAT IS AVAILABLE TO
ANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER IN THE STATE TO FACILITATE ELECTRONIC**

1 REFERRALS TO MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PROVIDERS.

2 (B) (1) THERE IS A MARYLAND MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE
3 DISORDER REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

4 (2) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL ADVISE THE DEPARTMENT ON
5 THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGISTRY AND REFERRAL
6 SYSTEM.

7 (3) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE:

8 (I) THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, OR
9 THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

10 (II) THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES,
11 OR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

12 (III) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HEALTH SERVICES
13 COST REVIEW COMMISSION, OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

14 (IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE-DESIGNATED
15 HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE, DESIGNATED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
16 THE MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION;

17 (V) PROVIDERS OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE
18 SERVICES; AND

19 (VI) ANY OTHER REPRESENTATIVES CONSIDERED NECESSARY
20 BY THE DEPARTMENT TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
21 THE REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM.

22 (4) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1 EACH YEAR, THE ADVISORY
23 COMMITTEE SHALL REPORT TO THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND THE
24 HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE
25 WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
26 OF THE REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM.

27 (C) THE REGISTRY AND REFERRAL SYSTEM SHALL BE FUNDED BY:

28 (1) THE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION; OR

29 (2) ANY OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDING SOURCE.

(D) EACH HOSPITAL SHALL ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF STAFF TO IDENTIFY APPROPRIATE AND AVAILABLE SERVICES FOR PATIENTS IN THE HOSPITAL WHO ARE IN NEED OF MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES AND TO ASSIST THE PATIENT IN ACCESSING THE SERVICES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December 1, 2021, the Maryland Department of Health, in collaboration with the State-designated Health Information Exchange, shall:

(1) develop and make available a resource directory of mental health and substance use disorder providers' inventory that:

(i) tracks inventory of services by type, location, and organization;
and

(ii) is available to the public;

(2) develop a registry and referral system pilot program in at least two jurisdictions in the State to assess the feasibility and necessity of mandating all inpatient and outpatient mental health and substance use disorder providers to update registry information in real time; and

(3) report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on:

(i) the development of the resource directory required under item (1) of this section; and

(ii) the development of the pilot program required under item (2) of this section.

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