

SENATE BILL 904

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By: **Senator Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Finance and Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Sheila E. Hixson Behavioral Health Services Matching Grant Program for**
3 **Service Members and Veterans – Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Sheila E. Hixson Behavioral Health Services Matching
5 Grant Program for Service Members and Veterans; providing for the purpose of the
6 Program; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to administer the Program;
7 requiring the Program to award certain grants to nonprofit organizations to
8 establish and expand certain community behavioral health programs; establishing a
9 certain eligibility requirement; requiring an eligible nonprofit organization to secure
10 certain contributions for the proposal at least equal in value to the amount requested
11 from the Program; requiring the Department to develop selection criteria for
12 evaluating applicant proposals; requiring that the selection criteria contain positive
13 scoring for certain proposals; requiring the Department, in awarding matching
14 grants, to give priority to proposals that best meet the selection criteria, regardless
15 of cost; requiring the Department to establish certain application procedures;
16 requiring the Department to establish a certain system of outcome measurement;
17 requiring recipients of a grant under the Program to submit certain information to
18 the Department; requiring the Department to establish certain guidelines for
19 nonprofit organizations receiving a grant under the Program to bill certain insurers;
20 requiring the Department to establish certain procedures; authorizing, beginning in
21 a certain fiscal year, the Governor to include in the annual budget bill a certain
22 appropriation for the Program; requiring, on or before a certain date each year, the
23 Department to report certain information to the Governor and the General
24 Assembly; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Sheila E. Hixson
25 Behavioral Health Services Matching Grant Program for Service Members and
26 Veterans.

27 BY adding to
28 Article – Health – General
29 Section 7.5–210
30 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2019 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – Health – General

7.5–210.

**(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
INDICATED.**

(2) “ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL” MEANS:

(I) A SERVICE MEMBER;

(II) A VETERAN;

(III) THE SPOUSE OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN;

(IV) A CHILD OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN; OR

(V) A STEPCHILD OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN.

**(3) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE SHEILA E. HIXSON BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH SERVICES MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM FOR SERVICE MEMBERS AND
VETERANS.**

**(4) “SERVICE MEMBER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ACTIVE
DUTY MEMBER OF:**

(I) THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

**(II) A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE
UNITED STATES; OR**

(III) THE NATIONAL GUARD OF ANY STATE.

**(5) “VETERAN” MEANS A FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO WAS
DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY.**

**(B) (1) THERE IS A SHEILA E. HIXSON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM FOR SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS.**

1 **(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO LOCAL**
2 **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO ESTABLISH AND EXPAND COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL**
3 **HEALTH PROGRAMS TO SERVE SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR**
4 **FAMILIES.**

5 **(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.**

6 **(D) THE PROGRAM SHALL AWARD COMPETITIVE MATCHING GRANTS TO**
7 **LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO ESTABLISH AND EXPAND COMMUNITY**
8 **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS THAT:**

9 **(1) SERVE THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF ELIGIBLE**
10 **INDIVIDUALS IN THE LOCALITY SERVED BY THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION;**

11 **(2) MEET NATIONAL STANDARDS;**

12 **(3) INTEGRATE THE DELIVERY OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE**
13 **USE TREATMENT; AND**

14 **(4) CONNECT ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO APPROPRIATE**
15 **COMMUNITY-BASED CARE IN A TIMELY MANNER ON DISCHARGE FROM THE**
16 **COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM.**

17 **(E) (1) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT FROM THE PROGRAM, A**
18 **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION MUST HAVE A MISSION TO:**

19 **(I) PROVIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES; OR**

20 **(II) PROVIDE SERVICES TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, OR**
21 **THEIR FAMILIES.**

22 **(2) AN ELIGIBLE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION SHALL SECURE**
23 **CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE PROPOSAL IN AN AMOUNT OF MONEY OR OTHER**
24 **CONSIDERATION AT LEAST EQUAL IN VALUE TO THE AMOUNT OF MONEY REQUESTED**
25 **FROM THE PROGRAM.**

26 **(3) (I) IN AWARDING MATCHING GRANTS UNDER THE PROGRAM,**
27 **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP SELECTION CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING**
28 **APPLICANT PROPOSALS.**

29 **(II) THE SELECTION CRITERIA DEVELOPED UNDER THIS**
30 **PARAGRAPH SHALL INCLUDE POSITIVE SCORING FOR PROPOSALS THAT:**

1 1. **DEMONSTRATE FISCAL CONTROLS, INCLUDING BY**
2 **MAKING USE OF MULTIPLE SOURCES OF FUNDING;**

3 2. **EVIDENCE PROJECT EFFECTIVENESS, INCLUDING BY**
4 **SHOWING HOW THE GRANT AWARDED BY THE PROGRAM WILL BE USED TO AUGMENT**
5 **EXISTING SERVICES TO CREATE SEAMLESS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT;**

6 3. **SHOW AN APPLICANT'S PREVIOUS SUCCESSFUL**
7 **EXPERIENCE ADMINISTERING GRANTS; AND**

8 4. **MEET ANY OTHER CRITERIA THE DEPARTMENT**
9 **CONSIDERS RELEVANT.**

10 (III) **IN AWARDING MATCHING GRANTS UNDER THIS SECTION,**
11 **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO PROPOSALS THAT BEST MEET THE**
12 **SELECTION CRITERIA REGARDLESS OF THE PROJECTED COST.**

13 (4) **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH APPLICATION**
14 **PROCEDURES THAT IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

15 (F) (1) **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF**
16 **OUTCOME MEASUREMENT TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS AND ADEQUACY OF**
17 **SERVICES PROVIDED BY EACH NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION RECEIVING A MATCHING**
18 **GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM.**

19 (2) **A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION RECEIVING A MATCHING GRANT**
20 **UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT ANY INFORMATION THAT THE DEPARTMENT**
21 **DETERMINES IS NECESSARY FOR THE STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF OUTCOME**
22 **MEASUREMENT.**

23 (G) **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH:**

24 (1) **GUIDELINES THAT REQUIRE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS WHO**
25 **RECEIVE A MATCHING GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM TO BILL THIRD-PARTY**
26 **INSURERS AND, WHEN APPROPRIATE, THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**
27 **PROGRAM; AND**

28 (2) **ANY OTHER PROCEDURES NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THIS**
29 **SECTION.**

30 (H) **BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2021, AND EACH FISCAL YEAR**
31 **THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN**
32 **APPROPRIATION OF \$2,500,000 FOR THE PROGRAM.**

1 **(I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, BEGINNING IN 2022, THE**
2 **DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH §**
3 **2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY A REPORT**
4 **THAT INCLUDES, FOR THE MOST RECENTLY CLOSED FISCAL YEAR:**

5 **(1) THE NUMBER OF GRANTS DISTRIBUTED;**

6 **(2) FUNDS DISTRIBUTED BY COUNTY;**

7 **(3) INFORMATION ABOUT GRANT RECIPIENTS AND THE SERVICES**
8 **PROVIDED THROUGH GRANT FUNDING; AND**

9 **(4) OUTCOME DATA REPORTED UNDER THE STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF**
10 **MEASUREMENT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION.**

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
12 1, 2020.