

# SENATE BILL 918

J1, O4

0lr2730  
CF 0lr3694

---

By: **Senator Carter**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

---

## 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.



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

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

**Article – Human Services**

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

**8–1301.**

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

(B) “AGENCY” INCLUDES:

(1) THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL;

(2) THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT;

(3) THE DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES;

(4) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH;

(5) THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT;

(6) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES;

(7) THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES;

(8) THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES;

(9) THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING;

(10) THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS;

(11) THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE;

(12) THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;

1           **(13) THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION;**

2           **(14) THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN; AND**

3           **(15) THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND**  
4 **PREVENTION.**

5           **(B) “CHILDREN” MEANS INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE AGE OF 14 YEARS.**

6           **(C) “COMMISSION” MEANS THE COMMISSION ON TRAUMA-INFORMED**  
7 **CARE.**

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

10           **(E) “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, AND FAMILIES.**

20 **8-1304.**

21           **(A) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

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

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

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

(4) THE SECRETARY OF DISABILITIES, OR THE SECRETARY'S  
DESIGNEE;

(5) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

(6) THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN SERVICES, OR THE SECRETARY'S  
DESIGNEE;

(7) THE SECRETARY OF JUVENILE SERVICES, OR THE SECRETARY'S  
DESIGNEE;

(8) THE SECRETARY OF STATE POLICE, OR THE SECRETARY'S  
DESIGNEE;

(9) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, OR THE  
SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;

(10) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE, OR THE EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;

(11) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION, OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE;  
AND

(12) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

(I) TWO LICENSED CLINICIANS WITH EXPERTISE IN TRAUMA;

(II) TWO MEMBERS OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY WITH  
EXPERTISE IN TRAUMA;

(III) SIX REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY  
ORGANIZATIONS, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, OR YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS WITH AN  
EXPERTISE IN TRAUMA; AND

(IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE OF CHILD CARE  
ADVISORY COUNCIL.

(B) (1) THE TERM OF AN APPOINTED MEMBER UNDER THIS SECTION IS 4  
YEARS CONCURRENT WITH THE TERM OF THE GOVERNOR'S TERM OF OFFICE.

(2) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER THE TERM HAS BEGUN

1 SERVES ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED  
2 AND QUALIFIES.

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

5 8-1305.

6 THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION.

7 8-1306.

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

11 8-1307.

12 THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE  
13 COMMISSION.

14 8-1308.

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

16 (B) THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE THE TIMES AND PLACES OF ITS  
17 MEETINGS.

18 (C) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

19 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE  
20 COMMISSION; BUT

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

23 8-1309.

24 (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

25 (1) ASSIST IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF ANY STATE PROGRAM OR  
26 SERVICE THAT IMPACTS CHILDREN AND YOUTH;

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

(3) ESTABLISH METRICS, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TO EVALUATE AND ASSESS THE PROGRESS OF THE STATEWIDE TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE INITIATIVE;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8-1310.

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

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

(2) PROVIDED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OR ITS

DESIGNEE IN COLLABORATION WITH THE COMMISSION.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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