SENATE BILL 77

D2 7lr0843 (PRE–FILED)

By: Senator Simonaire

Requested: October 12, 2016

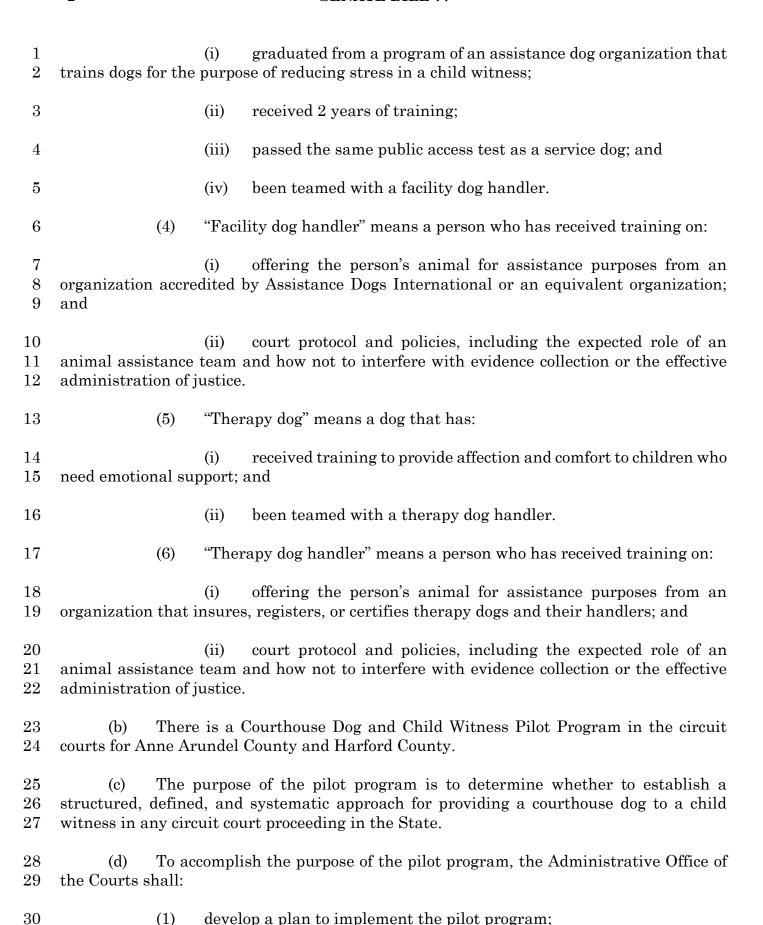
Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2017

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1	AN ACT concerning
2 3	Anne Arundel County and Harford County – Courthouse Dog and Child Witness Pilot Program
4 5 6	FOR the purpose of expanding the application of the Courthouse Dog and Child Witness Pilot Program to civil court proceedings by altering the definition of "child witness"; and generally relating to the Courthouse Dog and Child Witness Pilot Program.
7 8 9	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Chapter 467 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016 Section 1
$egin{array}{c} 10 \\ 12 \\ 2 \end{array}$	BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Chapter 467 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016 Section 2
13 14	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
5	Chapter 467 of the Acts of 2016
16 17	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:
18	(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
19 20	(2) "Child witness" means a witness who is a minor when the witness testifies in a [criminal] COURT proceeding.
21	(3) "Facility dog" means a dog that has:





- 1 (2) establish the procedures that a party in a court proceeding must follow 2 to request that a therapy dog and therapy dog handler or facility dog and facility dog 3 handler assist a child witness; and
- 4 (3) ensure that the details of the pilot program are publicly available.
- 5 (e) On or before September 30, 2019, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the operation and results of the pilot program.
- 8 (f) The Administrative Office of the Courts may adopt rules to implement this 9 section.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of September 30, 2019, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2017.