

HOUSE BILL 1083

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CF SB 790

By: **Delegates Woods, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Boafo, Crutchfield, Fair, Fennell, Harrison, Kaiser, Kaufman, J. Lewis, J. Long, Martinez, Patterson, Roberson, Roberts, Simmons, Taylor, Turner, Valderrama, Wilkins, and Williams**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Department of Health – Workgroup to Implement Early and Periodic**
3 **Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health to convene a workgroup
5 to implement Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment
6 requirements; and generally relating to a workgroup to implement Early and
7 Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment requirements.

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
9 That:

10 (a) The Maryland Department of Health shall convene a workgroup to implement
11 Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment requirements.

12 (b) The workgroup shall include the following members:

13 (1) behavioral health professionals who work with children and families;

14 (2) childhood mental health specialists;

15 (3) clinicians who work with children and families;

16 (4) children with behavioral health issues;

17 (5) behavioral health advocates;

18 (6) parents and caregivers with experience navigating the behavioral
19 health system on behalf of children; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(7) other interested stakeholders.

(c) The workgroup shall create a plan to implement the recommendations in Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services State Health Official letter #24–005: Best Practices for Adhering to Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) Requirements for children, including:

(1) screening and assessment of behavioral health conditions;

(2) the feasibility of implementing the DC:0–5 Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood as a diagnostic tool for patients under the age of 5 years;

(3) community–based services to correct and ameliorate a wide range of behavioral health conditions; and

(4) services to:

(i) ensure children’s behavioral health;

(ii) address early symptoms of concern, with or without a diagnosis;

and

(iii) address urgent and crisis needs.

(d) On or before December 1, 2025, the Maryland Department of Health shall submit a report of the findings and recommendations of the workgroup to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2025. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2026, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.