

HOUSE BILL 1121

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1lr2589
CF SB 905

By: **Delegate Crutchfield**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2021

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: March 6, 2021

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Juvenile Services – Workgroup to Develop Evidence-Based, Research-Based,**
3 **and Culturally Competent Practices**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Juvenile Services and the Department of
5 Human Services to convene a certain workgroup to increase accountability for
6 certain services delivered to children by the Department of Juvenile Services
7 through certain practices; requiring the workgroup to complete a certain assessment
8 and prepare and publish a certain inventory; requiring the workgroup to consider
9 and identify certain factors in assessing certain practices; requiring the Department
10 of Juvenile Services to use certain funds and to coordinate certain training; requiring
11 the Department of Juvenile Services to report to the General Assembly on or before
12 a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
13 prevention and intervention services for children.

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That:

16 (a) The Department of Juvenile Services and the Department of Human Services
17 shall convene a workgroup with ~~the Maryland Public Policy Institute~~ a public policy
18 institute in the State and relevant stakeholders in areas of child welfare, juvenile
19 rehabilitation, and juvenile mental health services to increase accountability for prevention
20 and intervention services delivered to children by the Department of Juvenile Services
21 through evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices.

22 (b) The workgroup shall:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



(1) complete a baseline assessment of the use of evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices in child welfare, juvenile rehabilitation, and children's mental health; and

(2) prepare and publish an inventory of descriptive definitions for evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices in the areas of child welfare, juvenile rehabilitation, and children's mental health services.

(c) In identifying and assessing evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices, the workgroup shall:

(1) consider any available systemic, evidence-based assessment of the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of a program;

(2) attempt to identify assessments that use valid and reliable evidence;

(3) specifically identify evidence-based programs effective for underserved and ethnically diverse communities; and

(4) identify ways to make assessments available to community-based organizations to help validate successful programming already in existence with an emphasis on programs that represent underserved and racially and ethnically diverse communities.

(d) With the goal of increasing the number of practices that meet the standards for evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices, the Department of Juvenile Services shall:

(1) use State, federal, and private funds to prioritize assessments of identified practices; and

(2) coordinate training across program areas for evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices and use monitoring and quality control procedures to measure reliability.

(e) On or before September 1, 2022, the Department of Juvenile Services shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on recommended strategies, timelines, and budgetary needs for increasing the use of evidence-based, research-based, and culturally competent practices in prevention and intervention services delivered to children by the Department of Juvenile Services.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 9 months and, at the end of June 30, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.