

BY adding to

Article 88A - Social Services Administration  
Section 130  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1974 Replacement Volume and 1981 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

Article 88A - Social Services Administration

130.

(A) (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS AND DECLARES THAT AN INCREASING NUMBER OF RAPE AND SEXUAL OFFENSE VICTIMS IN MARYLAND DO NOT HAVE ~~ACCESS~~ ACCESS TO NECESSARY COUNSELING AND FOLLOW-UP SERVICES. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS THAT SEVERAL AREAS OF THE STATE HAVE EXTREMELY LIMITED SUPPORT SERVICES TO ASSIST AN ALLEGED VICTIM OF RAPE AND OTHER SEXUAL OFFENSES.

(2) THE INTENTION OF THIS SECTION IS TO PROVIDE FOR RAPE CRISIS CENTERS PROGRAMS WHICH WILL SERVE TO ADDRESS THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF A RAPE VICTIM NOT OBTAINABLE THROUGH ANY EXISTING SERVICES OR PROGRAMS IN CERTAIN AREAS OF MARYLAND.

(B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES SHALL SUPERVISE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RAPE CRISIS CENTERS ASSIST IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RAPE CRISIS PROGRAMS IN THIS STATE.

(2) THE PROGRAMS SHALL BE DEVELOPED AND LOCATED IN AREAS OF THE STATE TO FACILITATE THE USE OF THE PROGRAM BY ALLEGED VICTIMS RESIDING IN THE SURROUNDING AREA.

(3) THE PROGRAM PROGRAMS SHALL PROVIDE SPECIALIZED SUPPORT SERVICES TO THE ALLEGED VICTIMS OF RAPE AND SEXUAL OFFENSES.

(4) ~~THE PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE:~~

~~(i) -- A HOTLINE;~~

~~(ii) -- COUNSELING;~~

~~(iii) -- ESCORT SERVICES TO ASSIST IN MEDICAL AND LEGAL PROCESSES;~~

~~(iv) -- REFERRAL;~~

~~(v) -- EMERGENCY SERVICES, -- SUCH AS -- CHILD CARE, CLOTHING, AND TRANSPORTATION;~~