

# SENATE BILL 187

E5

EMERGENCY BILL  
**ENROLLED BILL**

(6lr1151)

— *Judicial Proceedings and Budget and Taxation/Judiciary and Appropriations* —

Introduced by **Senator M. Washington**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Correctional Services – Comprehensive Rehabilitative ~~Prerelease~~ Reentry**  
3 **Prerelease Services – Female Incarcerated Individuals**  
4 **(Monica Cooper Prerelease Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of ~~altering certain provisions requiring a certain prerelease facility for~~  
6 ~~female incarcerated individuals to instead require a reentry facility;~~ altering the  
7 required specifications for a certain ~~prerelease reentry~~ prerelease facility for female  
8 incarcerated individuals; requiring the Department of General Services to ~~direct~~  
9 ~~certain procurement processes for the construction of a certain prerelease reentry~~  
10 ~~facility for female incarcerated individuals~~ submit a certain timeline of deliverables  
11 to certain entities; requiring the Commissioner of Correction to make certain services  
12 available to certain female incarcerated individuals; requiring the Department of  
13 Public Safety and Correctional Services to ~~implement certain comprehensive~~  
14 ~~rehabilitative prerelease reentry services by a certain date~~ meet certain requirements  
15 relating to the planning, construction, and operation of the prerelease facility;

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### 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.

*Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.*



1 ~~requiring the Maryland Department of Labor and the Department of Public Safety~~  
 2 ~~and Correctional Services to report certain information to the General Assembly;~~  
 3 requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to report  
 4 certain information to certain legislative committees; *requiring the Department of*  
 5 *General Services to provide an update on the progress of design and construction of*  
 6 *the prerelease facility to certain legislative committees;* requiring the Office of the  
 7 Correctional Ombudsman to review and verify the Department of Public Safety and  
 8 Correctional Services' compliance with this Act and report certain information to  
 9 certain legislative committees; and generally relating to comprehensive  
 10 rehabilitative ~~prerelease~~ ~~reentry~~ *prerelease* services for female incarcerated  
 11 individuals.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 13 Article – Correctional Services  
 14 Section 3–301 ~~and 3–303~~ through 3–305  
 15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 16 (2025 Replacement Volume)

17 BY adding to  
 18 Article – Correctional Services  
 19 Section 3–301 and 3–303  
 20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 21 (2025 Replacement Volume)

22 ~~BY adding to~~  
 23 ~~Article – Correctional Services~~  
 24 ~~Section 3–301.1~~  
 25 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
 26 ~~(2025 Replacement Volume)~~

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

29 **Article – Correctional Services**

30 **3–301.**

31 ~~(A) (1) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS~~  
 32 ~~INDICATED:~~

33 ~~(2) “ELIGIBLE, “ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL” MEANS AN INCARCERATED~~  
 34 ~~WOMAN WHO:~~

35 ~~(1) IS WITHIN 18 36 MONTHS OF THE WOMAN’S~~  
 36 ~~ANTICIPATED RELEASE DATE; AND~~

1                   ~~(H)~~ (2)           HAS PRERELEASE OR MINIMUM SECURITY STATUS.

2                   ~~(3)   “REENTRY FACILITY” MEANS A COMMUNITY-BASED FACILITY OR~~  
3 ~~ANY OTHER FACILITY OPERATED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR ELIGIBLE~~  
4 ~~INDIVIDUALS.~~

5 ~~§ 301. 3-302.~~

6           (a)   Subject to subsection (d) of this section, the Commissioner shall operate a  
7 comprehensive rehabilitative *prerelease* ~~prerelease unit~~ REENTRY FACILITY for ~~women~~  
8 ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS that:

9                   (1)   is a separate structure in which the services specified in § ~~3-303(b)~~  
10 ~~3-304(B)~~ 3-305 of this subtitle are provided;

11                   (2)   ~~has security features for female incarcerated individuals who:~~

12                           ~~(i)   present the least risk of violence;~~

13                           ~~(ii)   present the least risk of escape; and~~

14                           ~~(iii)   have a record of satisfactory institutional behavior; and~~

15                   ~~(3)   matches security level on a validated gender-responsive risk measure~~  
16 IS ARCHITECTURALLY DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTED TO FACILITATE THE  
17 PROVISION OF SERVICES SPECIFIED IN § ~~3-304(B)~~ 3-305 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

18                   (3)   INCLUDES:

19                           (1)   FEATURES THAT:

20   1.   BALANCE PHYSICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY WITH  
21 VISUAL PRIVACY AND DIGNITY; AND

22   2.   ENCOURAGE REHABILITATION BY PROVIDING AS  
23 CLOSE TO A NONCARCERAL ENVIRONMENT AS PRACTICABLE;

24                           (II)   HOUSING UNITS WITH DOUBLE AND SINGLE OCCUPANCY;

25                           (III)   HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE ROOMS, WHEELCHAIR RAMPS,  
26 AND DESIGNATED HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES;

27                           (IV)   BATHROOMS THAT MAXIMIZE PRIVACY, DIGNITY, AND  
28 SECURITY OF RESIDENTS, STAFF, AND VISITORS;

- 1                    (V) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES;
- 2                    (VI) INDOOR AND OUTDOOR MEETING, LOUNGE, AND VISITING  
 3 SPACES, INCLUDING FAMILY VISITING SPACES;
- 4                    (VII) ~~A CLASSROOM~~ CLASSROOMS;
- 5                    (VIII) A CAREER CENTER;
- 6                    (IX) A NONEMERGENCY MEDICAL SUITE;
- 7                    (X) ON-SITE RECREATIONAL, CREATIVE, AND ATHLETIC  
 8 FACILITIES; AND
- 9                    (XI) ACCESS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.

10            (b) [(1) In determining where to place a prerelease unit for women, the  
 11 Commissioner shall determine into which area, defined by zip codes, the largest percentage  
 12 of incarcerated individuals will likely be released.

13            (2)] A ~~prerelease~~ ~~prerelease unit~~ REENTRY FACILITY for women shall be:

14            (1) located in [or adjacent to the zip codes identified in paragraph (1) of this  
 15 subsection] ~~BALTIMORE CITY THE LOCAL JURISDICTION WHERE THE LARGEST~~  
 16 ~~NUMBER OF FEMALE INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS WILL LIKELY BE RELEASED,~~  
 17 ~~REASONABLY CLOSE TO THE COMMUNITIES TO WHICH THOSE INDIVIDUALS WILL~~  
 18 ~~RETURN; AND BALTIMORE CITY ON A SITE THAT IS:~~

19                    (I) NOT LESS THAN 3 ACRES IN LAND AREA; AND

20                    (II) NOT LOCATED WITHIN ONE-HALF MILE OF ANY EXISTING  
 21 CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; AND ~~ON A SITE THAT IS:~~

22                    ~~(I) NOT LESS THAN 3 ACRES IN LAND AREA; AND~~

23                    ~~(II) NOT LOCATED WITHIN A 1-MILE RADIUS OF ANY EXISTING~~  
 24 ~~CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; AND~~

25            (2) ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE THE ADMINISTRATION, HOUSING,  
 26 PROGRAMMING, AND SERVICES REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR NOT FEWER  
 27 THAN 1.25 TIMES THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF WOMEN AT THE MARYLAND  
 28 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR WOMEN WHO WERE ELIGIBLE FOR PRERELEASE  
 29 STATUS IN CALENDAR YEAR ~~2024~~, 2023, AS REPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN ITS

1 **OCTOBER 2024 REPORT TO THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE AND**  
 2 **THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.**

3 (c) An incarcerated individual assigned to a *prerelease* ~~prerelease unit~~ **REENTRY**  
 4 **FACILITY** for women may have access to the community for any purpose described in §  
 5 ~~3-305(a)~~ ~~3-306(A)~~ ~~3-307(A)~~ of this subtitle.

6 (d) The Department shall:

7 (1) identify a location, acquire property, and design a site plan for the  
 8 *prerelease* ~~prerelease unit~~ **REENTRY FACILITY** for women on or before ~~June 1, 2021~~  
 9 **OCTOBER 1, 2027, OR NOT LATER THAN 6 MONTHS THEREAFTER;**

10 (2) begin construction or renovation of the facility on or before ~~September~~  
 11 ~~1, 2021; and~~ **JULY 1, 2028, OR NOT LATER THAN 6 MONTHS THEREAFTER;**

12 (3) **COMPLETE THE CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION ON OR BEFORE**  
 13 **MARCH 1, 2031, OR NOT LATER THAN 6 MONTHS THEREAFTER; AND**

14 (4) begin operating and providing services in the facility on or before ~~June~~  
 15 ~~1, 2023~~ **SEPTEMBER 1, 2031, OR NOT LATER THAN 6 MONTHS THEREAFTER.**

16 ~~3-301.1, 3-303.~~

17 ~~(A) ON REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT, THE~~ **THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
 18 **GENERAL SERVICES SHALL:**

19 ~~(1) REVIEW AND EVALUATE ANY PROPOSALS CURRENTLY IN~~  
 20 ~~POSSESSION OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE FACILITY~~  
 21 ~~REQUIREMENTS IN § 3-301 OF THIS SUBTITLE BY JUNE 1, 2026;~~

22 ~~(2) IF NO CURRENT PROPOSAL EVALUATED UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS~~  
 23 ~~SUBSECTION SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER § 3-301 OF THIS SUBTITLE,~~  
 24 ~~SUBJECT TO ITEM (2) OF THIS SECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXPEDITED~~  
 25 ~~PROCUREMENT PROCESS UNDER § 13-108 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND~~  
 26 ~~PROCUREMENT ARTICLE, ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PLANNING,~~  
 27 ~~DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION OF A PRERELEASE UNIT REENTRY FACILITY FOR~~  
 28 ~~WOMEN, AS REQUIRED UNDER § 3-301 3-302 OF THIS SUBTITLE, BY AUGUST JUNE~~  
 29 ~~1, 2026; AND~~

30 ~~(2) PRIOR TO ISSUING THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS UNDER ITEM~~  
 31 ~~(1) OF THIS SECTION, SUBMIT A TIMELINE OF DELIVERABLES FOR THE PLANNING,~~  
 32 ~~DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE REENTRY PRERELEASE FACILITY FOR WOMEN~~  
 33 ~~TO THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE~~

1 APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THE OFFICE OF THE CORRECTIONAL  
2 OMBUDSMAN.

3 ~~(3) REVIEW AND EVALUATE PROPOSALS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE~~  
4 ~~DEPARTMENT; AND~~

5 ~~(4) AWARD A CONTRACT TO A PROVIDER AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.~~

6 ~~(B) A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ISSUED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS~~  
7 ~~SECTION SHALL ACCURATELY AND COMPLETELY DESCRIBE, TO THE EXTENT~~  
8 ~~PRACTICABLE, THE LOCATION, USES, AND TIMELINE FOR DELIVERABLES TOWARD~~  
9 ~~COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT.~~

10 ~~(C) THE CONTRACT AWARDED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(4) OF THIS SECTION~~  
11 ~~TO BUILD A PRERELEASE UNIT FOR FEMALE INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS SHALL:~~

12 ~~(1) COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS IN § 3-301 OF THIS SUBTITLE;~~  
13 ~~AND~~

14 ~~(2) INCLUDE:~~

15 ~~(I) HOUSING UNITS WITH DOUBLE AND SINGLE OCCUPANCY;~~

16 ~~(II) HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE ROOMS, WHEELCHAIR RAMPS,~~  
17 ~~AND DESIGNATED HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES;~~

18 ~~(III) BATHROOMS THAT MAXIMIZE PRIVACY, DIGNITY, AND~~  
19 ~~SECURITY OF RESIDENTS, STAFF, AND VISITORS;~~

20 ~~(IV) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES;~~

21 ~~(V) INDOOR AND OUTDOOR MEETING, LOUNGE, AND VISITING~~  
22 ~~SPACES;~~

23 ~~(VI) A CLASSROOM;~~

24 ~~(VII) A CAREER CENTER;~~

25 ~~(VIII) A NONEMERGENCY MEDICAL SUITE;~~

26 ~~(IX) ON SITE RECREATIONAL, CREATIVE, AND ATHLETIC~~  
27 ~~FACILITIES; AND~~

28 ~~(X) ACCESS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.~~

1 ~~[3-302.]~~ **3-304.**

2 The Commissioner has the same powers and duties relating to a *prerelease*  
 3 ~~prerelease unit~~ **REENTRY FACILITY** for women as the Commissioner has for any other  
 4 correctional facility in the Division.

5 ~~3-303.~~ **3-305.**

6 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

7 ~~(2) “ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL” MEANS AN INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL~~  
 8 ~~WITH PRERELEASE STATUS AT THE MARYLAND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR~~  
 9 ~~WOMEN.~~

10 ~~(3)~~ (2) “Evidence-based programs and practices” has the meaning  
 11 stated in § 6-119 of this article.

12 ~~(4)~~ (3) “GENDER-RESPONSIVE SERVICES” MEANS  
 13 EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES THAT RECOGNIZE ADDRESS THE  
 14 SPECIFIC NEEDS OF INCARCERATED WOMEN IN PRERELEASE STATUS ELIGIBLE  
 15 INDIVIDUALS REGARDING THEIR THERAPEUTIC, EDUCATIONAL, AND VOCATIONAL  
 16 GOALS, LIFE SKILLS, PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT, SOCIALIZATION, CULTURE,  
 17 EXPOSURE TO TRAUMA, AND LIFE EXPERIENCES, TO REDUCE CRIMINOGENIC RISKS  
 18 AND SUPPORT SUCCESSFUL REENTRY, RECOVERY, AND RECIDIVISM REDUCTION.

19 [(3)] ~~(5)~~ (4) “Innovative programs and practices” has the meaning stated in §  
 20 6-119 of this article.

21 (b) ~~(1)~~ The Commissioner shall make evidence-based, *TRAUMA-INFORMED,*  
 22 and gender-responsive services available to female incarcerated ELIGIBLE individuals ~~at~~  
 23 the prerelease ~~unit~~ FACILITY for women required under § ~~3-301~~ **3-302** of this subtitle~~;~~  
 24 ~~WITH PRERELEASE STATUS.~~

25 ~~(2) THE SERVICES REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE~~  
 26 ~~PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS BEFORE THE FINAL CONSTRUCTION AND~~  
 27 ~~OCCUPATION OF THE FACILITY REQUIRED UNDER § 3-301 3-302 OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

28 (c) The comprehensive rehabilitative *prerelease* ~~prerelease~~ **REENTRY** services  
 29 shall utilize evidence-based, *TRAUMA-INFORMED, AND GENDER-RESPONSIVE*  
 30 programs and practices and innovative programs and practices to:

31 (1) assist female incarcerated individuals in improving their education,  
 32 upgrading vocational skills, and obtaining suitable employment through classes to earn  
 33 industry certification or community college credits, workforce training, and job placement;

(2) provide female incarcerated individuals with the opportunity to strengthen family and community relationships through extended family leave, parenting workshops, and family reunification assistance;

(3) provide integrative and gender-responsive services, including medical treatment, trauma-informed counseling, mental health treatment, and substance use disorder treatment to address overall health and trauma needs and help female incarcerated individuals achieve stable and productive roles in society; ~~and~~

(4) develop individualized and comprehensive reentry plans involving community provider partnerships for female incarcerated individuals to reduce barriers to obtaining housing, jobs, education, health care, childcare and child welfare, transportation, legal advocacy, case management, and other needs; AND

(5) SCREEN FEMALE INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC BENEFITS AND PROVIDE RELEVANT APPLICATIONS AND ASSISTANCE COMPLETING EACH APPLICATION PRIOR TO RELEASE AS PART OF A REENTRY PLAN.

~~(D) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A PLAN TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE GENDER RESPONSIVE SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS ON SITE AT THE MARYLAND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR WOMEN ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2026.~~

~~(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONTRACT WITH ANOTHER ENTITY TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE GENDER RESPONSIVE SERVICES.~~

~~(E) INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS ASSIGNED TO THE FACILITY REQUIRED UNDER § 3-302 OF THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE TRANSPORTED TO ANOTHER FACILITY TO RECEIVE COMPREHENSIVE REHABILITATIVE REENTRY PRERELEASE SERVICES.~~

[3-304.] 3-306.

~~[(a)] By contract or purchase of service agreement, the Division may arrange for a person or governmental unit to provide comprehensive rehabilitative [prerelease] REENTRY services [in a prerelease unit FACILITY for women].~~

~~[(b)] With the Secretary's approval, the Commissioner may contract with a person or a municipal or county authority to provide food, housing, transportation, and programs to incarcerated individuals in a prerelease unit FACILITY for women.~~

~~[(e)] Under a contract with the federal government, the Commissioner may house federal incarcerated individuals in a prerelease unit for women.~~

1 [3-305.] 3-307.

2 (a) Subject to regulations adopted by the Commissioner, the Commissioner may  
3 delegate to the facility administrator of a prerelease ~~[prerelease unit] REENTRY FACILITY~~  
4 for women the authority to grant incarcerated individuals the privilege of leaving the  
5 confines of the [unit] FACILITY for the purpose of:

- 6 (1) engaging in or seeking employment;  
7 (2) participating in educational programs or vocational training;  
8 (3) participating in community or civic activities;  
9 (4) participating in volunteer work;  
10 (5) participating in athletic competition; or  
11 (6) making personal or family visits.

12 (b) When outside the confines of a prerelease ~~[prerelease unit] REENTRY~~  
13 FACILITY for women, an incarcerated individual shall carry, at all times, a copy of the form  
14 signed by the facility administrator containing the conditions governing the grant of leave.

15 (c) (1) An incarcerated individual who is on leave is deemed to be in the  
16 custody of the Commissioner to the same extent and subject to the same supervision and  
17 control as an incarcerated individual who is actually in confinement.

18 (2) An incarcerated individual who escapes while on leave under this  
19 section is subject to the penalties in § 9-404 of the Criminal Law Article.

20 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before May 1, 2026, the~~  
21 ~~Maryland Department of Labor and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional~~  
22 ~~Services shall jointly submit a report to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, the~~  
23 ~~Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, and the House~~  
24 ~~Appropriations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article,~~  
25 ~~on the status of reentry services in the State, including:~~

- 26 (1) ~~the Maryland Reentry Initiative;~~  
27 (2) ~~workforce development programs and adult learning programs;~~  
28 (3) ~~reentry navigators;~~  
29 (4) ~~American Job Center services and programs;~~  
30 (5) ~~reentry and social work services; and~~

1 ~~(6) reentry staffing and data collection for:~~

2 ~~(i) case management and social work;~~

3 ~~(ii) substance use peer recovery;~~

4 ~~(iii) education; and~~

5 ~~(iv) medical and mental health contractors.~~

6 SECTION ~~2. 3.~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before ~~July June~~  
7 ~~1, 2026,~~ December 15, 2026, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services  
8 shall provide a preliminary report on the progress the Department has made to comply  
9 with Section 1 of this Act, including any specific steps taken and dates on which specific  
10 steps were taken to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, the Senate Budget and  
11 Taxation Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, and the House Appropriations  
12 Committee, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

13 SECTION ~~3. 4.~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before ~~September~~  
14 ~~July 1, 2026,~~ May 1, 2027, ~~the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services and~~  
15 the Department of General Services shall provide an update on the progress of design and  
16 construction of the ~~prerelease unit reentry~~ prerelease facility for women to the Senate  
17 Judicial Proceedings Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House  
18 Judiciary Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee, in accordance with §  
19 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

20 SECTION ~~4. 5.~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

21 (a) ~~On or before December~~ Beginning June 1, 2026 ~~On or before June 1 each year~~  
22 beginning June 1, 2027, the Office of the Correctional Ombudsman established under Title  
23 9, Subtitle 40 of the State Government Article shall review and verify the Department of  
24 Public Safety and Correctional Services' progress and submit a report, including findings  
25 and recommendations, to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and the House  
26 Judiciary Committee, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

27 (b) The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services shall fully  
28 cooperate with the Office of the Correctional Ombudsman and provide all information, data,  
29 and facility access requested to complete the review required under this section.

30 SECTION ~~5. 6.~~ 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
31 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
32 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to  
33 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
34 enacted.