

the provisions of this Act, shall appoint one or more probation officers, who may be either male or female, who shall be paid a salary to be fixed by the Court in monthly installments by the County Commissioners of Harford County. It shall be the duty of such probation officer or officers to inform himself or themselves when any child is to be brought into Court, and to make investigation of all such cases, to be present in Court to represent the interest of the child when the case is heard, and to furnish the Clerk such information and assistance as the Court or Judge may require, and to take charge of such child before or after the trial as the Court may direct, and whenever such probation officer shall have knowledge of any dependent, neglected, or delinquent child, it shall be the duty of such officer to bring the same to the attention of the Court or the Judge by petition, as hereinbefore provided. In addition to the salary above provided for such probation officer, he or she shall be allowed for all actual traveling expenses when in the discharge of duties imposed by order of the Court or Judge, to be paid by the County Commissioners upon the approval and order of such Court or Judge. And the said Court or Judge shall have opportunity to retain or employ a Psychologist who holds a degree of medicine and authorized to practice in this State, for the examination, when necessary, of said delinquents, the costs of the same to be paid by the County Commissioners of said County and to be charged to the item of Court Expenses.

166. If upon a hearing and investigation, the Court or Judge shall find any male child under twenty years of age, or any female child under the age of eighteen, to be dependent, neglected or delinquent within the meaning of this Act, liberally construed, the Court or Judge may allow such child to remain at its home, subject to the supervision of the probation officer, and may require such child to report to the Court or probation officer at such times as the Court or Judge shall order. Or if the Court shall then or thereafter find the parent, parents, guardian or custodian of such child an unfit or improper person or persons, or unable or unwilling to care for, protect, train, educate and discipline such child, and shall further find it to be for the interest of such child or the people of the County that such child be taken from the custody of such parent, parents, guardian or custodian, the Court may make an order committing such child to the custody of the probation officer or other agency, or to some suitable institution,