

HOUSE BILL 874

O1, E3

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By: **Delegates Howard, Frush, Hecht, Ivey, Kaiser, Manno, Montgomery, Proctor, Robinson, Stein, and Vaughn**
Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2010
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Oversight Committee on Monitoring and Quality of Care in Group Homes**

3 FOR the purpose of creating the Oversight Committee on Monitoring and Quality of
4 Care in Group Homes; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the
5 Oversight Committee; providing that a member of the Oversight Committee
6 may not receive compensation, but may be reimbursed for certain expenses;
7 requiring the Oversight Committee to evaluate the progress in improving the
8 monitoring and quality of care in group homes and develop certain
9 recommendations; requiring the Oversight Committee to report certain findings
10 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; providing for
11 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Oversight Committee
12 on Monitoring and Quality of Care in Group Homes.

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

15 (a) There is an Oversight Committee on Monitoring and Quality of Care in
16 Group Homes.

17 (b) The Oversight Committee consists of the following members:

18 (1) One member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
19 President of the Senate;

20 (2) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
21 of the House;

22 (3) The Secretary of Human Resources;

23 (4) The Secretary of Juvenile Services, or the Secretary's designee;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (5) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's
2 designee;
- 3 (6) The State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's
4 designee;
- 5 (7) The Executive Director of the Governor's Office for Children;
- 6 (8) Three representatives of local coordinating councils, appointed by
7 the Executive Director of the Governor's Office for Children;
- 8 (9) One representative of the Prince George's County Board of
9 Education;
- 10 (10) One representative from Advocates for Children and Youth;
- 11 (11) One representative from a local law enforcement agency, appointed
12 by the Governor;
- 13 (12) Two representatives from the group home industry, appointed by
14 the Governor; and
- 15 (13) Two public members appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall
16 live in a community where a group home is located.
- 17 (c) The Secretary of Human Resources shall chair the Oversight Committee.
- 18 (d) The Department of Human Resources shall provide staff for the
19 Oversight Committee.
- 20 (e) A member of the Oversight Committee:
- 21 (1) May not receive compensation as a member of the Oversight
22 Committee; but
- 23 (2) Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
24 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 25 (f) The Oversight Committee shall evaluate the progress in improving the
26 monitoring and quality of care in group homes in the State, including consideration of:
- 27 (1) The effectiveness of monitoring of group homes;
- 28 (2) Quality of care standards for group homes;
- 29 (3) Quality of education and educational services for group home
30 residents;

1 (4) Quality of positive social interaction for group home residents;

2 (5) Staffing patterns and staffing standards in group homes;

3 (6) Policies and procedures for group homes, including the procedure
4 for responding to complaints;

5 (7) A comparison of Maryland standards, policies, and procedures for
6 group homes to those in other states;

7 (8) The labor pool available to staff group homes; and

8 (9) The provision and quality of supervision of group home residents.

9 (g) The Oversight Committee shall develop recommendations to continue
10 improvement of monitoring and quality of care in group homes.

11 (h) On or before January 1, 2011, the Oversight Committee shall report its
12 findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of
13 the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 July 1, 2010. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30,
16 2011, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be
17 abrogated and of no further force and effect.