

HOUSE BILL 403

D4

3lr1215

By: **Delegates Ready, Krebs, and Stocksdale**
Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2013
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Child Care Homes – Adult to Child Ratio – Children Under 2 Years**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a certain adult to child ratio for children under the
4 age of 2 years in a family child care home if at least one of the children is at
5 least a certain age; and generally relating to adult to child ratios for children
6 under 2 years in family child care homes.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Family Law
9 Section 5–553(b) and (c)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2012 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article – Family Law**

15 5–553.

16 (b) (1) In a family child care home:

17 (i) there may not be more than:

18 1. 8 children in care at any given time; and

19 2. 4 children under the age of 2 years; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS**
2 **SUBSECTION**, there shall be an adult to child ratio of at least 1 adult to every 2
3 children under the age of 2 years.

4 **(2) THERE MAY BE AN ADULT TO CHILD RATIO OF 1 ADULT TO**
5 **EVERY 3 CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 2 YEARS IF AT LEAST 1 OF THE**
6 **CHILDREN IS AT LEAST 18 MONTHS OLD.**

7 **[(2)](C)** In a large family child care home:

8 **[(i)](1)** there may not be more than 12 children in care at any
9 given time; and

10 **[(ii)](2)** there shall be a limit on the number of children under
11 the age of 2 years and an adult to child ratio that comply with regulations adopted by
12 the Department under § 5–551 of this Part V of this subtitle.

13 **[(c)](D)** If the Department determines that the group size provisions of
14 subsection (b) **OR (C)** of this section are unsuitable for a particular family child care
15 home or large family child care home, the Department may decrease the number of
16 children permitted to be in care at that family child care home or large family child
17 care home.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 2013.