

## **Chapter 36**

**(Senate Bill 264)**

AN ACT concerning

### **Children in Need of Assistance – Review Hearings**

FOR the purpose of requiring the juvenile court to conduct certain hearings within certain periods of time to review the status of certain children under its jurisdiction; requiring the juvenile court to take certain actions at a review hearing under this Act; establishing that a certain hearing to review a child's permanency plan satisfies the requirements for a review hearing under this Act; and generally relating to children in need of assistance.

BY adding to

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 3–816.2

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2006 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

#### **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

#### **3–816.2.**

(A) (1) THE COURT SHALL CONDUCT A HEARING TO REVIEW THE STATUS OF EACH CHILD UNDER ITS JURISDICTION WITHIN 6 MONTHS AFTER THE FILING OF THE FIRST PETITION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE AND AT LEAST EVERY 6 MONTHS THEREAFTER.

(2) AT A REVIEW HEARING UNDER THIS SECTION, THE COURT SHALL:

(I) EVALUATE THE SAFETY OF THE CHILD;

(II) DETERMINE THE CONTINUING NECESSITY FOR AND APPROPRIATENESS OF ANY OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT;

(III) DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATENESS OF AND EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE CASE PLAN FOR THE CHILD;

**(IV) DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE TOWARD ALLEVIATING OR MITIGATING THE CAUSES NECESSITATING THE COURT’S JURISDICTION; AND**

**(V) PROJECT A REASONABLE DATE BY WHICH THE CHILD MAY BE RETURNED TO AND SAFELY MAINTAINED IN THE HOME OR PLACED FOR ADOPTION OR UNDER A LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP.**

**(B) IF A PERMANENCY PLAN FOR THE CHILD HAS BEEN DETERMINED UNDER § 3-823 OF THIS SUBTITLE, A REVIEW HEARING CONDUCTED BY THE COURT UNDER § 3-823(H) OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.**

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

**Approved by the Governor, April 9, 2013.**