

SENATE BILL 567

O4, O1

5lr2484
CF 5lr1782

By: **Senator Gladden**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Human Resources – State Child Welfare System – Report**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Human Resources, on or before a certain
4 date each year, to report to the General Assembly certain information regarding
5 children and foster youth in the State child welfare system; requiring the
6 Department to maintain the confidentiality of certain information, ensure that no
7 personally identifiable information is disclosed, and disaggregate certain
8 information in a certain manner; requiring the Department to publish certain
9 reports on the Department’s Web site; defining a certain term; and generally relating
10 to children and foster youth in the State child welfare system.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Family Law
13 Section 5–1301(a), (d), and (i)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

16 BY adding to
17 Article – Family Law
18 Section 5–1312
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
22 Article – Human Services
23 Section 5–304(a)(4)
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2007 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – Family Law

1
2 5–1301.

3 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

4 (d) “Child” means any individual under the age of 18 years.

5 (i) “Out-of-home placement” means placement of a child into foster care, kinship
6 care, group care, or residential treatment care.

7 **5–1312.**

8 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “FOSTER YOUTH” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §
9 **5–304 OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ARTICLE.**

10 (B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, ON OR BEFORE
11 **DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL**
12 **ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE,**
13 **THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING CHILDREN AND FOSTER YOUTH IN THE**
14 **STATE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM:**

15 (1) THE NUMBER OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTS,
16 ALTERNATIVE RESPONSES, INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSES, AND FINDINGS FOR
17 COMPLETED INVESTIGATIONS;

18 (2) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND FOSTER YOUTH RECEIVING
19 IN-HOME SERVICES;

20 (3) THE NUMBER OF NEW OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS BY
21 PLACEMENT TYPE;

22 (4) THE NUMBER OF EXITS FROM THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM BY
23 EXIT TYPE;

24 (5) THE NUMBER OF EXITS TO REUNIFICATION AND REENTRIES
25 WITHIN 12 MONTHS AFTER EXIT;

26 (6) THE STABILITY OF OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS, INCLUDING THE
27 NUMBER OF PLACEMENT CHANGES;

28 (7) HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING THE STABILITY
29 OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, MEDICATIONS, AND PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSES;

