SENATE BILL 567

O4, O1 5lr2484 CF HB 643

By: Senator Gladden

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 21, 2015

CHAPTER

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 information in a certain manner; requiring the Department to publish certain 8 9 reports on the Department's Web site within a certain time; defining a certain term; 10 and generally relating 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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

- 1 Section 5-304(a)(4)
- 2 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 3 (2007 Volume and 2014 Supplement)
- 4 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 5 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 6 Article Family Law
- 7 5–1301.
- 8 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- 9 (d) "Child" means any individual under the age of 18 years.
- 10 (i) "Out-of-home placement" means placement of a child into foster care, kinship
- 11 care, group care, or residential treatment care.
- 12 **5–1312.**
- (a) In this section, "foster youth" has the meaning stated in § 14 5–304 of the Human Services Article.
- 15 (B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, ON OR BEFORE
- 16 DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL
- 17 ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE,
- 18 THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING CHILDREN AND FOSTER YOUTH IN THE
- 19 STATE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM:
- 20 (1) THE NUMBER OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTS,
- 21 ALTERNATIVE RESPONSES, INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSES, AND FINDINGS FOR
- 22 COMPLETED INVESTIGATIONS;
- 23 (2) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND FOSTER YOUTH RECEIVING
- 24 IN-HOME SERVICES;
- 25 (3) THE NUMBER OF NEW OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS BY
- 26 PLACEMENT TYPE;
- 27 (4) THE NUMBER OF EXITS FROM THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM BY
- 28 EXIT TYPE;
- 29 (5) THE NUMBER OF EXITS TO REUNIFICATION AND REENTRIES
- 30 WITHIN 12 MONTHS AFTER EXIT;

1	(6) THE NUMBER OF EXITS TO REUNIFICATION AND REENTRIES		
2	WITHIN 24 MONTHS AFTER EXIT;		
3 4	(6) (7) The stability of out–of–home placements, including the number of placement changes;		
5	(7) HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING THE STABILITY		
6	OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, MEDICATIONS, AND PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSES;		
7	(8) THE STABILITY OF SCHOOL PLACEMENTS;		
8	(9) THE NUMBER WHO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL;		
9 10			
11	(11) THE NUMBER WHO RECEIVE TUITION WAIVERS.		
12 13	(C) IN REPORTING THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:		
14 15	(1) MAINTAIN THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION ON CHILDREN AND FOSTER YOUTH IN THE STATE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM;		
16 17	(2) ENSURE THAT NO PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION IS DISCLOSED; AND		
18 19	(3) DISAGGREGATE THE INFORMATION BY COUNTY, AGE, GENDER, RACE, AND ETHNICITY.		
20 21 22	(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH EACH REPORT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEB SITE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.		
23	Article - Human Services		
24	5–304.		
25	(a) (4) "Foster youth" means an individual who:		
26 27	(i) is an adult in out-of-home care under the responsibility of the State; or		
28	(ii) is an adult under the age of 25 years; and		

Approved:		
	Governor.	
	President of the Senate.	
	Speaker of the House of Delegates.	