

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1133

(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike beginning with “requiring” in line 4 down through the semicolon in line 5, inclusive; and in line 11, after the semicolon, insert “requiring the Secretary of Human Resources and the Secretary of Budget and Management to develop a plan to hire sufficient staff to meet certain standards; requiring a certain report;”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 23, strike “QUALIFIED, CULTURALLY COMPETENT”; in line 24, after “SUPERVISORS” insert “WHO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION”; and in line 35, strike “AND”.

On page 3, in line 2, after the semicolon insert “AND”; and after line 2, insert:

“(VI) HUMAN SERVICE WORKERS WHO MUST HAVE A DEGREE IN AN APPROPRIATE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE, WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE MANDATORY PRESERVICE TRAINING AND COMPETENCY TEST, AND WHO ARE SUPERVISED BY LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS; AND”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, strike in their entirety lines 3 through 8, inclusive; in line 9, strike “(3)” and substitute “(2)”; strike beginning with the semicolon in line 12 down through “BOTH” in line 20.

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 4, after line 7, insert:

“(D) (1) THE SECRETARY MAY NOT HIRE PROFESSIONAL CASEWORKERS OR CASEWORK SUPERVISORS ON A CONTRACTUAL BASIS AFTER JUNE 30, 1999, AND

(Over)

MAY NOT EMPLOY PROFESSIONAL CASEWORKERS OR CASEWORK SUPERVISORS ON A CONTRACTUAL BASIS AFTER JUNE 30, 2000, EXCEPT AS MAY BE REQUIRED TO MEET AN UNANTICIPATED NEED RESULTING FROM:

(I) A SIGNIFICANT AND UNEXPECTED INCREASE IN REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT; OR

(II). A SIGNIFICANT AND UNEXPECTED INCREASE IN THE FOSTER CARE OR KINSHIP CASELOAD, OR BOTH.

(2) NO PROFESSIONAL CASEWORKER OR CASEWORK SUPERVISOR CONTRACTUAL POSITION MAY EXIST LONGER THAN 1 YEAR.”;

in line 8, strike “(D)” and substitute “(E)”; in line 10, strike “STAFFING RATIOS,”.

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 4, after line 12, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Secretary of Human Resources employ a sufficient number of qualified caseworkers and casework supervisors to maintain caseload ratios that meet the requirements of this section. The Secretary of Human Resources and the Secretary of Budget and Management shall develop appropriate caseload ratios using the ratios recommended by the Child Welfare League of America, in its January 1997 report entitled, A Report of the Maryland Child Welfare System, as a basis for establishing relevant caseloads in the 24 jurisdictions. The Secretary of Human Resources and the Secretary of Budget and Management shall report no later than November 1, 1998, subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee, on proposed caseload ratios for Child Protective Services, Family Preservation, Foster Care, Kinship Care, and Preadoption Cases.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Human Resources and the Secretary of Budget and Management shall review the salaries of caseworkers and casework supervisors in Child Protective Services, Family Preservation, Foster Care, Kinship Care, and Preadoption Services, and shall recommend by October 1, 1998, salaries at levels that will be

adequate to recruit and retain caseworkers and casework supervisors. The plan shall include a phase-in of appropriate salary adjustments.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, through June 30, 2000, notwithstanding the provisions of § 13-302 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article, the Secretary of Human Resources may transfer a caseworker or a casework supervisor who works as a contractual employee to a budgeted position if the contractual employee meets the minimum qualifications for the budgeted position, has performed satisfactorily as a contractual employee, and the transfer is approved by the Secretary of Budget and Management. Contractual conversions shall be phased in in accordance with a plan developed by the Secretary of Human Resources and the Secretary of Budget and Management consistent with recommendations of the Department of Budget and Management's December 1997 report, entitled Long-Term Contractual Employment and Recommended Policy Options."

in line 13, strike "2." and substitute "5."; and in line 14, strike "October 1," and substitute "July 1,".