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By: **Delegates W. Baker, Guns, Conway, McClenahan, Walkup, Eckardt,  
Cadden, and Hecht.**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 1999

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Day Care Homes - Inspections**

3 FOR the purpose of adding a requirement that regulations relating to family day care  
4 providers and homes provide for unannounced inspections by the Department of  
5 Human Resources; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to the  
6 inspection of family day care providers and homes.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article - Family Law  
9 Section 5-551(c)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1999 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 5-551.

16 (c) At a minimum, the rules and regulations shall provide for:

17 (1) minimum standards of environmental health and safety, including  
18 provisions for:

- 19 (i) adequate and safe physical surroundings;
- 20 (ii) the physical and mental health of day care providers; and
- 21 (iii) investigation of any criminal record of a day care provider;

22 (2) a thorough evaluation of each prospective family day care home and  
23 day care provider, to be completed before the Department accepts an initial  
24 registration;

1 (3) self-certification by each registered day care provider [once] every  
2 [2 years] YEAR that all requirements for a family day care home are being met;

3 (4) reporting of any changed circumstances that relate to the  
4 requirements, by the day care provider, at the time the change occurs;

5 (5) an orientation to be provided to prospective day care providers by the  
6 local department before initial registration;

7 (6) inspection by the Department of each registered family day care  
8 home PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF AN INITIAL REGISTRATION AND at least once every 2  
9 years THEREAFTER PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A RENEWED REGISTRATION to determine  
10 whether the requirements are being met;

11 (7) UNANNOUNCED INSPECTION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EACH  
12 REGISTERED FAMILY DAY CARE HOME IN ANY YEAR THAT AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL  
13 INSPECTION HAS NOT TAKEN PLACE;

14 (8) procedures to be followed by the Department in response to a  
15 complaint about a family day care home; and

16 [(8)] (9) a requirement that a person who advertises a family day care  
17 home or family day care service shall:

18 (i) indicate in the advertisement that the family day care home is  
19 registered; and

20 (ii) shall display in the advertisement the registration number  
21 issued to the family day care home or family day care service by the Department.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
23 October 1, 1999.