
By: **Senators Roesser and Green**
Introduced and read first time: February 5, 1999
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Permanency Plan Hearing for Out-of-Home Placement -**
3 **Opportunity to Speak**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing an attorney for a certain foster parent, preadoptive
5 parent, or relative providing care for certain children the opportunity to speak
6 at the permanency plan hearing for out-of-home placement of certain children;
7 requiring the local department of social services to give certain notice of the
8 permanency plan hearing for out-of-home placement to an attorney for a
9 certain foster parent, preadoptive parent, or relative providing care for certain
10 children; making a certain stylistic change; and generally relating to the
11 opportunity to speak at the permanency plan hearing for out-of-home
12 placement of certain children.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
15 Section 3-826.1(g)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (1998 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

21 3-826.1.

22 (g) (1) In this subsection, "preadoptive parent" means an individual
23 approved as an adoptive parent by a child placement agency, as defined in § 5-301 of
24 the Family Law Article, to adopt a child who has been placed in the individual's home
25 for adoption before the granting of a final decree of adoption.

26 (2) The local department shall give at least 7 [days] DAY'S notice, if
27 practicable, before any hearing conducted under this section to the child's foster
28 parent [or], a preadoptive parent [or], relative providing care for the child, OR AN

1 ATTORNEY FOR A FOSTER PARENT, PREADOPTIVE PARENT, OR RELATIVE PROVIDING
2 CARE FOR THE CHILD.

3 (3) The foster parent [or], a preadoptive parent [or], relative providing
4 care for the child, OR AN ATTORNEY FOR A FOSTER PARENT, PREADOPTIVE PARENT,
5 OR RELATIVE PROVIDING CARE FOR THE CHILD shall be given the opportunity to be
6 heard at the hearing.

7 (4) A foster parent [or], a preadoptive parent [or], relative providing
8 care for the child, OR AN ATTORNEY FOR A FOSTER PARENT, PREADOPTIVE PARENT,
9 OR RELATIVE PROVIDING CARE FOR THE CHILD may not be considered to be a party
10 solely on the basis of the right to notice and opportunity to be heard provided under
11 this subsection.

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