

BY: Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 281

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “and Teitelbaum” and substitute “Teitelbaum, Blount, Conway, Dyson, Frosh, Harris, Jacobs, McCabe, Pinsky, and Stone”; in line 14, after the second “the” insert “annual”; in the same line, after “budget” insert “bill”; in line 15, after the first semicolon insert “requiring the State Superintendent to submit a certain annual report to the Governor and General Assembly;”; in the same line, after the second semicolon insert “providing for the termination of this Act;”; and in line 19, strike “8-507” and substitute “8-508”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 13, strike the second “4” and substitute “3”; and in line 22, strike “4” and substitute “3”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, in line 16, strike “UPON RECEIPT OF A PRESCRIPTION FROM A LICENSED AUDIOLOGIST,”; and in line 18, after “CHILD” insert “UPON RECEIPT OF:”

(1) A PRESCRIPTION FROM A LICENSED AUDIOLOGIST; AND

(2) ANY DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY THE DIRECTOR TO PROVE THAT THE CHILD IS AN ELIGIBLE CHILD”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 3, in line 19, after “(B)” insert “(1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,”; strike beginning with “BUT” in line 19 through “PERIODS” in line 21; after line 21, insert:

“(2) THE DIRECTOR MAY EXTEND THE ORIGINAL LOAN PERIOD FOR

(Over)

ADDITIONAL 3-MONTH PERIODS IF, PRIOR TO EACH EXTENSION, THE DIRECTOR DETERMINES THAT:

(I) THE CHILD DOES NOT HAVE IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO ANOTHER HEARING AID UNDER MEDICAID, THE MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM, OR PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE;

(II) THE CHILD'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN CURRENTLY DOES NOT HAVE THE FINANCIAL MEANS TO OBTAIN IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO ANOTHER HEARING AID; AND

(III) THE CHILD'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN IS MAKING REASONABLE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO ANOTHER HEARING AID."

strike in their entirety lines 24 and 25; and in lines 26, 27, 30, and 32, strike "(2)", "(3)", "(4)", and "(5)", respectively, and substitute "(1)", "(2)", "(3)", and "(4)", respectively.

On page 4, in line 1, strike "(6)" and substitute "(5)".

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 4, strike beginning with the first "THE" in line 7 down through "DEPARTMENT" in line 8; in the same line, strike "IN AN AMOUNT" and substitute ", THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION THAT IS".

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 4, in line 12, after "SUBTITLE" insert ", INCLUDING REGULATIONS THAT:

(1) FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING § 8-505(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE, IDENTIFY THE TYPES OF DOCUMENTS THAT THE DIRECTOR MAY REQUIRE A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO SUBMIT TO PROVE THAT A CHILD IS AN ELIGIBLE CHILD; AND

(2) FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING § 8-505(B)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE, ESTABLISH FACTORS THAT THE DIRECTOR SHALL CONSIDER WHEN

EVALUATING WHETHER A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN:

(I) HAS THE FINANCIAL MEANS TO OBTAIN IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO ANOTHER HEARING AID; OR

(II) IS MAKING REASONABLE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO ANOTHER HEARING AID”.

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 4, after line 12, insert:

“8-508.

(A) BEGINNING IN 2002, NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(1) THE NUMBER AND AGES OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED HEARING AIDS THROUGH THE LOAN PROGRAM THAT YEAR;

(2) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED HEARING AIDS THROUGH THE LOAN PROGRAM THAT YEAR AND SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED HEARING AIDS THROUGH MEDICAID, THE MARYLAND CHILDREN’S HEALTH PROGRAM, OR PRIVATE INSURANCE;

(3) THE LENGTH OF EACH ORIGINAL LOAN;

(4) THE NUMBER OF TIMES THAT EACH ORIGINAL LOAN WAS EXTENDED AND THE LENGTH OF EACH EXTENSION;

(Over)

(5) THE NUMBER OF TIMES THAT HEARING AIDS WERE NOT PROPERLY RETURNED TO THE LOAN BANK; AND

(6) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT BELIEVES IS RELEVANT TO EVALUATING THE COSTS AND BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 4, in line 14, after the period insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 9 months and, at the end of June 30, 2004, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.