

HOUSE BILL 896

Unofficial Copy  
D4

2001 Regular Session  
1r2769  
CF SB 529

---

By: **Delegate Howard**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Day Care - Group Size**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the age of children for which a family day care provider  
4 is required to maintain a certain adult to child ratio; and generally relating to  
5 the maximum group size of family day care homes.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article - Family Law  
8 Section 5-553  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

13 **Article - Family Law**

14 5-553.

15 (a) For purposes of this Part V of this subtitle, a day care provider's own  
16 children under the age of 2 years shall be counted as children served.

17 (b) (1) At any given time, a day care provider may not care for more than 8  
18 children, of whom no more than 4 may be under the age of 2 years.

19 (2) An adult to child ratio of at least 1 adult to every 2 children under the  
20 age of [2 years] 18 MONTHS shall be maintained at all times.

21 (c) If the Department determines that the group size provisions of subsection  
22 (b) of this section are unsuitable for a particular family day care home, the  
23 Department may decrease the number of children permitted to be in care at that  
24 family day care home.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 2001.