

BY: House Judiciary Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 817

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in its entirety line 2 and substitute “The Task Force to Study Alternative Living Arrangements for Children in Out-of-Home Placement”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 3 down through “Program” in line 15 and substitute “establishing the Task Force to Study Alternative Living Arrangements for Children in Out-of-Home Placement; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Governor to designate a chairman of the Task Force; requiring the Department of Juvenile Justice to staff the Task Force; providing that the members of the Task Force may not receive compensation but are entitled to a certain reimbursement; establishing the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to make a certain report on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Alternative Living Arrangements for Children in Out-of-Home Placement”; and strike in their entirety lines 16 through 25, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, in line 27, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

On pages 2 and 3, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 1 on page 2 through line 6 on page 3, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) There is a Task Force to Study Alternative Living Arrangements for Children in Out-of-Home Placement.

(b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

(1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(Over)

(2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(3) the Secretary of Juvenile Justice, or the Secretary's designee;

(4) the Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

(5) the Secretary of Human Resources, or the Secretary's designee;

(6) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's designee;

(7) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's designee;

(8) the Special Secretary of the Office for Children, Youth, and Families or the Special Secretary's designee; and

(9) the following members appointed by the Governor:

(i) one representative of the State Judiciary who is knowledgeable and experienced in juvenile justice issues;

(ii) one representative of the Office of the Public Defender who is knowledgeable and experienced in juvenile justice issues;

(iii) one representative of a State's Attorney's office who is knowledgeable and experienced in juvenile justice issues;

(iv) one representative of law enforcement who is knowledgeable and experienced in juvenile justice issues; and

(v) one representative of a community-based advocacy group that deals with juvenile justice issues.

(c) The Governor shall designate the chairman of the Task Force.

- (d) The Department of Juvenile Justice shall provide staff for the Task Force.
- (e) A member of the Task Force:
 - (1) may not receive compensation; but
 - (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- (f) The Task Force shall:
 - (1) study and make recommendations regarding the issue of placing children in out-of-home placement appropriately and expeditiously in alternative living arrangements;
 - (2) study and make recommendations regarding the feasibility of alternative living arrangements for children that require the cooperative efforts of the Department of Natural Resources and involve placing children in group homes and providing them with activities related to the Chesapeake Bay and other wilderness activities;
 - (3) study and make recommendations regarding the feasibility of coordinating with the State Department of Education in developing special instructional curricula geared toward the needs of children in alternative living arrangements; and
 - (4) study and make recommendations regarding children in alternative living arrangements and the need for appropriate medical and mental health services and alcohol and drug abuse services.
- (g) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on or before October 1, 2004.”.

On page 3, in line 8, strike “3 years” and substitute “1 year and 1 month”; and in line 9, strike “September 30, 2006” and substitute “October 31, 2004”.

(Over)