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By: **Delegates Zirkin and Morhaim**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2003

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Juvenile Justice - Placement of Children in Group Homes - Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the placement of children committed to the  
4 Department of Juvenile Justice to group homes or other residential facilities  
5 that also accept children committed to other units of State government; and  
6 generally relating to group homes for juveniles committed to the Department of  
7 Juvenile Justice.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article 83C - Juvenile Justice  
10 Section 2-120  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1998 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

13 BY adding to  
14 Article 83C - Juvenile Justice  
15 Section 2-120.1  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1998 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

20 **Article 83C - Juvenile Justice**

21 2-120.

22 (a) The Department shall provide for care, diagnosis, training, education, and  
23 rehabilitation of children by placing them in group homes and institutions that are  
24 operated by any nonprofit or for-profit entity.

25 (b) (1) The Department shall reimburse these entities for the cost of these  
26 services at appropriate monthly rates that the Department determines, as provided in  
27 the State budget.

1           (2)       The reimbursement rate may differ between homes and institutions  
2 that provide intermediate services, as defined by the Department, and homes and  
3 institutions that provide full services.

4       (c)       The Department may not place a child in a group home or other residential  
5 facility that:

6           (1)       [is] IS not operating in compliance with applicable State licensing  
7 laws; OR

8           (2)       DOES NOT MEET THE PROVISIONS OF § 2-120.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.  
9 2-120.1.

10       A CHILD COMMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT BE PLACED IN A GROUP  
11 HOME OR OTHER RESIDENTIAL FACILITY THAT ALSO ACCEPTS CHILDREN  
12 COMMITTED TO ANY OTHER UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT.

13       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2003.