

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 523
Judiciary

(Delegate Zirkin, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Juvenile Causes - Juvenile Counselors - Monitoring

This bill requires a juvenile counselor to visit a child committed to an individual or to a public or private agency or institution at the child's placement no less than once every month, if the placement is in the State. The court may order the juvenile counselor to visit the child more frequently if the court deems it to be in the child's best interests.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) already meets the bill's requirements.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: If a child is determined in need of assistance (CINA) by a court and is committed to a person or agency, the court may order the custodian to file periodic written progress reports with copies sent to all parties. CINA means a child who requires court intervention because: (1) the child has been abused or neglected, has a developmental disability, or has a mental disorder; and (2) the child's parents, guardian, or custodian are unable or unwilling to give proper care and attention to the child and the child's needs.

If a child is committed to an individual or to a public or private agency or institution, the court may require the custodian to file periodic written progress reports, with recommendations for further supervision, treatment, or rehabilitation.

A juvenile aftercare counselor must visit the child within 30 days of commitment to the institution and meet with the institutionalized child face-to-face at least monthly.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Human Resources, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2003
mdf/cer Revised - House Third Reader - March 26, 2003

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