

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 477

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in its entirety line 2 and substitute "Medically Fragile Children - Study".

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, strike beginning with "altering" in line 3 down through the semicolon in line 5 and substitute "requiring the Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities, with the assistance of the Department of Human Resources and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, to study the placement of medically fragile children in Maryland; specifying the contents of the study; requiring a certain report by a certain date;"; in line 6, strike "adoption subsidies for" and substitute "the placement of"; and strike in their entirety lines 7 through 11, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 1, in line 13, strike "the Laws of Maryland read as follows".

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 14 on page 1 through line 29 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

"(a) The Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities, or any successor organization, with the assistance of the Department of Human Resources and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, shall study the placement of medically fragile children in Maryland.

(b) The study shall determine:

(1) the total number of medically fragile children in therapeutic foster care;

(2) the number of families who have given up custody of medically fragile children;

(Over)

(3) the total number of medically fragile children who have been adopted and are receiving State assistance;

(4) the total number of unsubsidized medically fragile children in Maryland;

(5) the number of families willing to adopt a medically fragile child if ongoing support were available after the child turns 21 years of age;

(6) the cost of providing services and equipment to medically fragile children;

(7) alternatives to address permanency planning for medically fragile children in therapeutic foster care; and

(8) any other actions that the State can take to prevent the institutionalization of medically fragile children after the age of 21.

(c) The Governor's Office of Individuals with Disabilities, or any successor organization, shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Judiciary Committee on or before December 1, 2004."

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 2, in line 31, strike "October 1, 2004" and substitute "July 1, 2004".