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(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Anderson**Requested: November 17, 2003

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2004

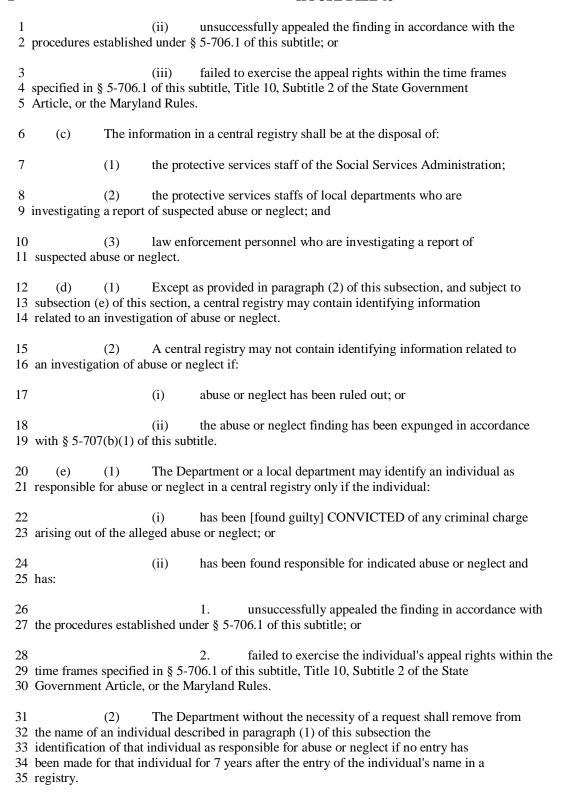
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

- 2 Family Law Central Registry Conviction for Child Abuse or Neglect
- 3 FOR the purpose of requiring that a certain individual be convicted of a certain
- 4 criminal charge before a central registry of child abuse and neglect cases may
- 5 include information from a local department case file; and generally relating to
- 6 the child abuse and neglect central registry.
- 7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 8 Article Family Law
- 9 Section 5-714
- 10 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 11 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)
- 12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 14 Article Family Law
- 15 5-714.
- 16 (a) The Social Services Administration and each local department may
- 17 maintain a central registry of cases reported under this subtitle.
- 18 (b) (1) The respective local departments throughout this State shall provide
- 19 the information for a central registry.
- 20 (2) Except for identifying information authorized under subsection (d) of
- 21 this section, a central registry may not include information from a local department
- 22 case file until any individual found responsible for indicated or unsubstantiated child
- 23 abuse or neglect has:
- 24 (i) been [found guilty] CONVICTED of any criminal charge arising
- 25 from the alleged abuse or neglect;

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2		informati	on in a central registry may not be used as a sole basis for uest for background information for employment or voluntary
			An official or employee of the Department or a local department who from a central registry in violation of paragraph (1) of this o the penalty provided in Article 88A, § 6(e) of the Code.
	(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the central registry may not include the identity of an individual related to an investigation of neglect or found responsible for neglect when:		
11		(1)	a child has been released from a hospital or other facility;
12 13	developmen	(2) tal disabi	the child has been diagnosed with a mental disorder or lity; and
14 15		(3) safety of	the individual has failed to take the child home due to a reasonable the child or child's family.
16	(h)	The Sec	retary of Human Resources:
17 18	suspected of	(1) abuse or	shall adopt regulations necessary to protect the rights of individuals neglect; and
19)	(2)	may adopt regulations to implement the provisions of this section.
20 21	SECTIO		D BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect