

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 416

(Delegate Vaughn, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Finance

**Children's Group Homes - Use of Subcabinet Resources Directory for Notification
and Identification**

This bill requires the Office for Children, Youth, and Families (OCYF), in coordination with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), the Department of Human Resources (DHR), and the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS), to analyze and recommend how the Subcabinet Resources Directory may be used: (1) to notify State and local elected officials about newly licensed children's group homes in their jurisdictions; and (2) by State and local elected officials, law enforcement agents, and other appropriate individuals to quickly identify the owner and agency that licenses a particular group home. By October 1, 2004, OCYF must report its results and recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee, the House Health and Government Operations Committee, and the Joint Committee on Children, Youth, and Families.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: With certain exceptions, a person must be licensed by DJS as a child care home before he or she may exercise care, custody, or control over a child who is alleged

or adjudicated as delinquent or in need of supervision. With certain exceptions, a person must be licensed by SSA as a child care home before he or she may exercise care, custody, or control of a minor child. Before a person can establish a private group home, he or she must hold a certificate of approval issued by DHMH.

Background: The Subcabinet Resources Directory is intended to provide a one-stop web site for finding any kind of service or resource for children, youth, and families statewide. Listings for each service will be maintained as well as links to other resource directories containing more detailed information. Both residential and nonresidential services will be listed in the directory. OCYF expects the directory to be accessible in fiscal 2005.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Human Resources, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 16, 2004
lc/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - April 2, 2004

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