
By: **Delegate Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2006

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Office of Group Home Licensing and Monitoring - Group Home Standards**
3 **Registry - Reporting Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Office of Group Home Licensing and Monitoring in
5 the Department of Human Resources to establish and maintain, by a certain
6 date, a Group Home Standards Registry; requiring a certain group home that is
7 licensed by or accepts a child from the Department of Juvenile Services to make
8 a quarterly report to the Registry and the Department of Juvenile Services;
9 specifying the information to be included in the report; requiring the Office to
10 make the Registry available to the public, including publication on the Internet;
11 requiring the Registry to provide contact information for the public; defining a
12 certain term; and generally relating to group homes and reporting
13 requirements.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article 83C - Juvenile Services
16 Section 1-101(a) and (b) and 2-120
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2003 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
20 Article - Family Law
21 Section 5-101(a) and (e)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

24 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
25 Article - Family Law
26 Section 5-526
27 Annotated Code of Maryland
28 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

3 **Article 83C - Juvenile Services**

4 1-101.

5 (a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated.

6 (b) "Department" means the Department of Juvenile Services.

7 2-120.

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

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

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

17 (c) The Department may not place a child in a group home or other residential
18 facility that is not operating in compliance with applicable State licensing laws.

19 **Article - Family Law**

20 5-101.

21 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

22 (e) "Department" means the State Department of Human Resources.

23 5-526.

24 (a) (1) The Department shall provide for the care, diagnosis, training,
25 education, and rehabilitation of children by placing them in group homes and
26 institutions that are operated by for-profit or nonprofit charitable corporations.

27 (2) Any group home utilized under the provisions of this section shall
28 comply with the provisions of §§ 5-507 through 5-509 of this subtitle and § 7-309 of
29 the Education Article.

30 (3) The department that licenses the group home shall notify any group
31 home utilized under the provisions of this section of the requirements of § 7-309 of
32 the Education Article.

1 (4) (I) IN THIS PARAGRAPH, "REGISTRY" MEANS THE GROUP HOME
2 STANDARDS REGISTRY.

3 (II) BY JANUARY 1, 2008, THE OFFICE OF GROUP HOME LICENSING
4 AND MONITORING IN THE DEPARTMENT OR ITS SUCCESSOR SHALL ESTABLISH AND
5 MAINTAIN A REGISTRY.

6 (III) A GROUP HOME UTILIZED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
7 SECTION THAT IS LICENSED BY OR ACCEPTS A CHILD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF
8 JUVENILE SERVICES SHALL MAKE A QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE REGISTRY AND
9 THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 10 1. THE DEPARTMENT THAT LICENSES THE GROUP HOME;
- 11 2. THE NAME AND BACKGROUND OF EACH MEMBER OF THE
12 STAFF OF THE GROUP HOME, INCLUDING EDUCATION LEVEL AND RELEVANT WORK
13 HISTORY;
- 14 3. THE OWNER AND OPERATOR OF THE GROUP HOME;
- 15 4. A SUMMARY OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN RESIDING IN
16 THE GROUP HOME, BROKEN DOWN BY AGE, GENDER, AND PLACING AGENCY;
- 17 5. THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GROUP HOME;
- 18 6. THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RESOURCES THAT ARE USED
19 BY THE GROUP HOME ON BEHALF OF THE CHILDREN RESIDING IN THE GROUP
20 HOME;
- 21 7. A DESCRIPTION OF SPECIALIZED SERVICES OFFERED BY
22 THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT ARE UTILIZED BY STAFF ON BEHALF OF EACH
23 CHILD RESIDING IN THE GROUP HOME;
- 24 8. AN ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE
25 SPECIALIZED SERVICES OFFERED BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT HAVE
26 BEEN UTILIZED BY STAFF ON BEHALF OF EACH CHILD RESIDING IN THE GROUP
27 HOME;
- 28 9. THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE COMMUNITY IS INVOLVED IN
29 THE GROUP HOME; AND
- 30 10. THE SECURITY MEASURES THE GROUP HOME IS
31 UTILIZING FOR THE SAFETY OF THE CHILDREN AND THE COMMUNITY.

32 (IV) THE OFFICE OF GROUP HOME LICENSING AND MONITORING SHALL
33 MAKE THE REGISTRY AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING PUBLICATION ON THE
34 INTERNET.

35 (V) THE REGISTRY SHALL PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE
36 PUBLIC.

1 (b) (1) The Department shall reimburse these corporations for the cost of
2 these services at appropriate monthly rates that the Department determines, as
3 provided in the State budget.

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

7 (c) The Department, or the Department's designee, may not place a child in a
8 residential group home or other facility that is not operating in compliance with
9 applicable State licensing laws.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 October 1, 2006.