

# SENATE BILL 481

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HB 1472/06 – HGO

71r0629

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By: **Senator Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2007

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## 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 2006 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 (2006 Replacement Volume)

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
2 Article – Family Law  
3 Section 5–526  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (2006 Replacement Volume)

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

8 **Article 83C – Juvenile Services**

9 1–101.

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

11 (b) “Department” means the Department of Juvenile Services.

12 2–120.

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

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

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

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

25 **Article – Family Law**

26 5–101.

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

28 (e) “Department” means the State Department of Human Resources.

1 5-526.

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

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

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

11 (4) (I) **IN THIS PARAGRAPH, "REGISTRY" MEANS THE GROUP**  
12 **HOME STANDARDS REGISTRY.**

13 (II) **BY JANUARY 1, 2009, THE OFFICE OF GROUP HOME**  
14 **LICENSING AND MONITORING IN THE DEPARTMENT OR ITS SUCCESSOR SHALL**  
15 **ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A REGISTRY.**

16 (III) **A GROUP HOME UTILIZED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF**  
17 **THIS SECTION THAT IS LICENSED BY OR ACCEPTS A CHILD FROM THE**  
18 **DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES SHALL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING**  
19 **INFORMATION IN A QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE REGISTRY AND THE**  
20 **DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES:**

21 1. **THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT THAT LICENSES**  
22 **THE GROUP HOME;**

23 2. **THE NAME AND BACKGROUND OF EACH MEMBER**  
24 **OF THE STAFF OF THE GROUP HOME, INCLUDING EDUCATION LEVEL AND**  
25 **RELEVANT WORK HISTORY;**

26 3. **THE OWNER AND OPERATOR OF THE GROUP**  
27 **HOME;**

28 4. **A SUMMARY OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN**  
29 **RESIDING IN THE GROUP HOME, CATEGORIZED BY AGE, GENDER, AND PLACING**  
30 **AGENCY;**

1                               **5.     THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GROUP HOME;**

2                               **6.     THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RESOURCES THAT ARE**  
3 **USED BY THE GROUP HOME ON BEHALF OF THE CHILDREN RESIDING IN THE**  
4 **GROUP HOME;**

5                               **7.     A DESCRIPTION OF SPECIALIZED SERVICES**  
6 **OFFERED BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT ARE UTILIZED BY STAFF ON**  
7 **BEHALF OF EACH CHILD RESIDING IN THE GROUP HOME;**

8                               **8.     AN ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE**  
9 **SPECIALIZED SERVICES OFFERED BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT HAVE**  
10 **BEEN UTILIZED BY STAFF ON BEHALF OF EACH CHILD RESIDING IN THE GROUP**  
11 **HOME;**

12                              **9.     THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE COMMUNITY IS**  
13 **INVOLVED IN THE GROUP HOME; AND**

14                              **10.    THE SECURITY MEASURES THE GROUP HOME IS**  
15 **UTILIZING FOR THE SAFETY OF THE CHILDREN AND THE COMMUNITY.**

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

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

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

25               SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 2007.