HOUSE BILL 1354

O4, D4 8lr2688

By: Delegates Branch and Conway

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2008

Assigned to: Appropriations

AN ACT concerning

A BILL ENTITLED

2 Child Welfare Accountability - Caseload Ratios - Modifications

3	FOR the purpose of repealing certain requirements that the Department of Human
4	Resources develop a certain methodology to calculate caseload ratios in child
5	welfare cases and to enter into certain contracts to annually review the
6	calculation of caseload ratios use by the Department; repealing certain obsolete
7	requirements that the Secretary of Human Resources consult with the Child
8	Welfare League of America to develop a certain methodology to calculate certain
9	ratios by a certain date; and generally relating to caseload ratios and child
10	welfare accountability.

- 11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 12 Article Family Law
- 13 Section 5–1310
- 14 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 15 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)
- 16 BY repealing

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- 17 Chapter 31 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2006
- 18 Section 7
- 19 BY repealing
- 20 Chapter 475 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2006
- Section 7
- 22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 23 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 24 Article Family Law
- 25 5–1310.



1	[(a)] The Secretary and the Secretary of Budget and Management shall ensure
2	that sufficient numbers of qualified child welfare staff, as specified in § 4-301 of the
3	Human Services Article, are hired and retained in order to achieve caseload ratios in
4	child welfare services consistent with the Child Welfare League of America caseload
5	standards.

- [(b) The Department, in consultation with an appropriate entity with expertise in child welfare services caseload ratios, shall develop a methodology to calculate caseload ratios in child welfare services for the State.
- 9 (c) The Department shall enter into a written contract with an entity that 10 has expertise in child welfare services caseload ratios to annually review the 11 calculation of caseload ratios used by the Department.]

Chapter 31 of the Acts of 2006

[SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before January 1, 2007, the Secretary of Human Resources shall consult with the Child Welfare League of America to develop a methodology to calculate caseload ratios in child welfare services for the State, and enter into a contract to have the Child Welfare League of America annually review these calculations as provided in § 5–1310 of the Family Law Article as enacted by this Act.]

Chapter 475 of the Acts of 2006

[SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before January 1, 2007, the Secretary of Human Resources shall consult with the Child Welfare League of America to develop a methodology to calculate caseload ratios in child welfare services for the State, and enter into a contract to have the Child Welfare League of America annually review these calculations as provided in § 5–1310 of the Family Law Article as enacted by this Act.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2008.