P4, D4, C3 8lr2817 CF 8lr1850

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2008

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1	AN ACT concerning
2 3	State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program - Foster Parents - Eligibility to Participate
4 5 6 7 8 9	FOR the purpose of authorizing certain foster parents to enroll and participate in the health insurance benefit options established under the State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program and receive a certain State subsidy; defining a certain term; and generally relating to eligibility for enrollment and participation in the State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program.
10 11 12 13 14	BY adding to Article – State Personnel and Pensions Section 2–515.2 Annotated Code of Maryland (2004 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)
15 16	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
17	Article - State Personnel and Pensions
18	2–515.2.
19 20	(A) IN THIS SECTION, "QUALIFYING FOSTER PARENT" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:
21 22	(1) HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES AS A FOSTER PARENT FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS; AND
23	(2) HAS AT LEAST ONE FOSTER CHILD IN THE INDIVIDUAL'S CARE.



- 1 (B) A QUALIFYING FOSTER PARENT MAY ENROLL AND PARTICIPATE IN 2 THE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT OPTIONS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE 3 PROGRAM AND RECEIVE THE SAME STATE SUBSIDY PROVIDED TO STATE 4 EMPLOYEES.
- 5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 6 July 1, 2008.