

# SENATE BILL 478

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CF HB 554

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By: **Senators Kelley, Della, King, Klausmeier, McFadden, Muse, Stone, and Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2010

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 23, 2010

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Residential Child Care Facilities – Incident Reporting – Interagency**  
3 **Workgroup**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a certain interagency workgroup to develop a certain  
5 uniform incident reporting system and to ~~adopt~~ recommend certain regulations;  
6 requiring the interagency workgroup to make a certain report on or before a  
7 certain date; and generally relating to an interagency workgroup on residential  
8 child care facilities and incident reporting.

9 Preamble

10 WHEREAS, The departments that license and monitor the State's residential  
11 child care facilities have competing, conflicting, overlapping, and redundant systems  
12 for incident reporting that generate thousands of incident reports each year; and

13 WHEREAS, It is a wasteful use of scarce resources and not in the best interest  
14 of children in out-of-home placement for departments with shared responsibility for a  
15 child to make placement or treatment decisions without knowledge of all of the  
16 relevant incident reports that are generated on a particular child; now, therefore,

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
18 MARYLAND, That:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Juvenile  
2 Services, and Department of Human Resources, in conjunction with licensed providers  
3 of residential child care services, shall establish an interagency workgroup to:

4 (1) develop a uniform reporting system to be used by any agency in the  
5 State that licenses or purchases care and services for children who are placed in  
6 residential facilities licensed by the State;

7 (2) ~~adopt~~ recommend regulations requiring interagency sharing of  
8 incident reports when more than one department has responsibility for the child who  
9 is the subject of the incident report; and

10 (3) ~~adopt~~ recommend regulations requiring any department that  
11 licenses or monitors residential child care facilities to adhere to specific incident  
12 reporting policies and practices.

13 (b) On or before September 1, 2011, the interagency workgroup established  
14 under subsection (a) of this section shall report its findings and recommendations to  
15 the Governor's Office for Children, the Governor, and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of  
16 the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2010.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.