

HOUSE BILL 643

O4, O1

5lr1782
CF SB 567

By: **Delegates Zucker, Carozza, Ghrist, Luedtke, Proctor, Sophocleus, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2015

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Human Resources – State Child Welfare System – Report**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Human Resources, on or before a certain
4 date each year, to report to the General Assembly certain information regarding
5 children and foster youth in the State child welfare system; requiring the
6 Department to maintain the confidentiality of certain information, ensure that no
7 personally identifiable information is disclosed, and disaggregate certain
8 information in a certain manner; requiring the Department to publish certain
9 reports on the Department’s Web site; defining a certain term; and generally relating
10 to children and foster youth in the State child welfare system.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Family Law
13 Section 5–1301(a), (d), and (i)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

16 BY adding to
17 Article – Family Law
18 Section 5–1312
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
22 Article – Human Services
23 Section 5–304(a)(4)
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2007 Volume and 2014 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Family Law**

4 5–1301.

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

6 (d) “Child” means any individual under the age of 18 years.

7 (i) “Out-of-home placement” means placement of a child into foster care, kinship
8 care, group care, or residential treatment care.

9 **5–1312.**

10 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “FOSTER YOUTH” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §**
11 **5–304 OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ARTICLE.**

12 **(B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, ON OR BEFORE**
13 **DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL**
14 **ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE,**
15 **THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING CHILDREN AND FOSTER YOUTH IN THE**
16 **STATE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM:**

17 **(1) THE NUMBER OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTS,**
18 **ALTERNATIVE RESPONSES, INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSES, AND FINDINGS FOR**
19 **COMPLETED INVESTIGATIONS;**

20 **(2) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND FOSTER YOUTH RECEIVING**
21 **IN-HOME SERVICES;**

22 **(3) THE NUMBER OF NEW OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS BY**
23 **PLACEMENT TYPE;**

24 **(4) THE NUMBER OF EXITS FROM THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM BY**
25 **EXIT TYPE;**

26 **(5) THE NUMBER OF EXITS TO REUNIFICATION AND REENTRIES**
27 **WITHIN 12 MONTHS AFTER EXIT;**

28 **(6) THE STABILITY OF OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS, INCLUDING THE**
29 **NUMBER OF PLACEMENT CHANGES;**

