HOUSE BILL 1403

F5 4lr2556

By: Delegate McCaskill

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

| 1 | AN ACT concerning |
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| 2 3 | Family Child Care Homes and Large Family Child Care Homes – Age of Children in Care – Alterations |
| 4 5 6 7 | FOR the purpose of altering the age of children in family child care homes and large family child care homes under which certain limitations on the number of children in care and certain adult to child ratios apply; and generally relating to the age of children in family child care homes and large family child care homes. |
| 8 9 10 11 12 | BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Education Section 9.5–305 Annotated Code of Maryland (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement) |
| 13 14 | SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND. That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: |
| 15 | Article – Education |
| 16 | 9.5–305. |
| 17 18 | (a) For purposes of this subtitle, a child care provider's own children under the age of [2 years] 15 MONTHS shall be counted as children served. |
| 19 | (b) (1) In a family child care home: |
| 20 | (i) There may not be more than: |
| 21 | 1. 8 children in care at any given time; and |



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4 children under the age of [2 years] 15 MONTHS; and

| 2 3 | (ii) There shall be an adult to child ratio of at least 1 adult to every 2 children under the age of [2 years] 15 MONTHS . |
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| 4 | (2) In a large family child care home: |
| 5 6 | (i) There may not be more than 12 children in care at any given time; and |
| 7 8 9 | (ii) There shall be a limit on the number of children under the age of [2 years] 15 MONTHS and an adult to child ratio that comply with regulations adopted by the Department under § 9.5–303 of this subtitle. |
| 10 11 12 13 | (c) If the Department determines that the group size provisions of subsection (b) of this section are unsuitable for a particular family child care home or large family child care home, the Department may decrease the number of children permitted to be in care at that family child care home or large family child care home. |
| 14 15 | SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2024. |