

# HOUSE BILL 809

D4, O4

5lr1624  
CF SB 765

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By: Delegates Griffith, Wilson, Arentz, Buckel, Chisholm, Cullison, Fair, Fraser-Hidalgo, Guyton, Hartman, Hornberger, A. Johnson, S. Johnson, Kaufman, McComas, Moon, M. Morgan, Nawrocki, Pippy, Reilly, Schmidt, Shetty, Valentine, and Wilkins

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2025

Assigned to: Appropriations

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2025

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Out-of-Home Placement Providers – Maximum Number of Children –~~  
3 ~~Exemption~~ Individuals Enrolled in Higher Education and Vocational Training  
4 Programs

5 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring the Department of Human Services to adopt regulations~~  
6 ~~setting the maximum number of children that may be placed with an out-of-home~~  
7 ~~placement provider; establishing an exemption from the limitation on the number of~~  
8 ~~children that may be placed with an out-of-home placement provider under certain~~  
9 ~~circumstances;~~ authorizing an individual enrolled in an accredited institution of  
10 higher education or a residential vocational training program to return to an  
11 out-of-home placement provider with whom the individual was previously placed  
12 under certain circumstances; requiring an individual to make a request to a local  
13 department of social services within a certain time period to return to an  
14 out-of-home placement provider under certain circumstances; requiring a local  
15 department to make a recommendation to the Department of Human Services  
16 regarding a certain request within a certain period; requiring the Department to  
17 make a determination regarding a local department's recommendation within a  
18 certain time period; and generally relating to the ~~placement of children in~~ return of  
19 individuals enrolled in higher education and vocational training programs to  
20 out-of-home care.

21 BY adding to

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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 Article – Family Law  
 2 Section 5–525.3  
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 4 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

7 **Article – Family Law**

8 **5–525.3.**

9 ~~(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE~~  
 10 ~~DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS SETTING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF~~  
 11 ~~CHILDREN THAT MAY BE PLACED WITH AN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT PROVIDER.~~

12 ~~(B) THE LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN PLACED WITH AN~~  
 13 ~~OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT PROVIDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF~~  
 14 ~~THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A CHILD ENROLLED IN AN ACCREDITED~~  
 15 ~~INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;~~

16 (A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL  
 17 ENROLLED IN AN ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR A  
 18 RESIDENTIAL VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM MAY RETURN TO AN OUT-OF-HOME  
 19 PLACEMENT PROVIDER WITH WHOM THE INDIVIDUAL WAS PREVIOUSLY PLACED IF:

20 (1) WHO THE INDIVIDUAL IS UNABLE TO REMAIN ON THE  
 21 INSTITUTION'S OR TRAINING PROGRAM'S CAMPUS DUE TO A SCHEDULED BREAK, A  
 22 TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF THE INSTITUTION OR TRAINING PROGRAM, OR A  
 23 TEMPORARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE; AND

24 (2) WHOSE THE INDIVIDUAL'S LIVING ARRANGEMENT IN THE HOME IS  
 25 MUTUALLY AGREED TO BY THE CHILD INDIVIDUAL, THE OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT  
 26 PROVIDER, AND THE PROVIDER AGENCY; AND

27 (3) THE DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED AND APPROVED THE  
 28 INDIVIDUAL'S REQUEST TO RETURN TO THE OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT PROVIDER.

29 (B) (1) TO RETURN TO AN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT PROVIDER WITH  
 30 WHOM AN INDIVIDUAL WAS PREVIOUSLY PLACED DURING A SCHEDULED BREAK OF  
 31 AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR A RESIDENTIAL VOCATIONAL TRAINING  
 32 PROGRAM, THE INDIVIDUAL SHALL MAKE A REQUEST TO A LOCAL DEPARTMENT TO  
 33 RETURN TO THE OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT PROVIDER AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE  
 34 THE SCHEDULED BREAK.

1           **(2) A LOCAL DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE**  
2 **DEPARTMENT REGARDING A REQUEST MADE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**  
3 **SUBSECTION NOT LATER THAN 21 DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED BREAK.**

4           **(3) IF A LOCAL DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS APPROVING AN**  
5 **INDIVIDUAL'S REQUEST TO RETURN TO AN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT PROVIDER**  
6 **DURING A SCHEDULED BREAK, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE A DETERMINATION**  
7 **REGARDING THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATION NOT LATER THAN 14**  
8 **DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED BREAK.**

9           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
10 1, 2025.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.