

Date: March 23, 2022

Bill number: HB0764

Committee: Judicial Proceedings

Bill title: Department of Human Services - Missing Children in Out-of-Home Placements - Reporting

DHS Position: Favorable

The Department respectfully submits this letter of support regarding House Bill 764 (HB 764).

House Bill 764 will create clear guidelines for collaboration between Maryland's 24 local departments of social services and local law enforcement regarding missing children who are in an out-of-home placement. This bill specifies what information should be provided to law enforcement when a child in an out-of-home placement with the Department runs away or is absent without leave (AWOL).

The Department appreciates the collaboration with the sponsor and the House Judiciary Committee in adopting amendments to the original bill.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on HB 764 and requests a favorable report as amended.

