

KAREN SIMPSON
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Judiciary Committee
Chair
Family Law Subcommittee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**HB768 – Department of Human Services – Benefits for Children in Custody – Alterations
Favorable Testimony**

Hearing on 4/02/2026 at 1 PM – Judicial Proceedings

Problem Addressed by HB768

HB768 – Department of Human Services – Benefits for Children in Custody – Alterations ensures that federal benefits intended for children in state custody are used to directly support their needs and future stability rather than reimbursing state expenses.

HB768 stops the Maryland Department of Human Services from holding these funds to compensate the state for caring for them.

HB 768 ensures orphaned or disabled children in foster care eligible for federal benefits receive their SSI benefits.

The delay in implementation to June 30, 2027, reduces the fiscal note to less than \$100,000.

We have worked with our sponsors, the Department of Human Services, and advocates to ensure this bill supports our youth and has clear language to support their needs.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge a favorable report on HB 768.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karen Simpson".

Delegate Karen Simpson

District 3 - Frederick