(II)   THE OBLIGOR HAS BEEN SUPPORTING THE CHILD FOR AT LEAST THE ~~6~~ *12* MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING A REQUEST FOR SETTLEMENT UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

(III) THE GROSS INCOME OF THE OBLIGOR IS LESS THAN 225 PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL, AS DEFINED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

(2)   (I)   IF THE ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT ACCEPT IN FULL SETTLEMENT OF AN ARREARAGE IN CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS AN AMOUNT THAT IS LESS THAN THE TOTAL ARREARAGE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL NOTIFY THE OBLIGOR OF THE DECISION AND OF THE OBLIGOR'S RIGHT TO APPEAL THE DECISION TO THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS.

(II)   AN APPEAL UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

(C)   THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN RESOURCES, IN COOPERATION WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS, MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2.   AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a)   The Child Support Enforcement Administration shall conduct or commission a study on Child Support Trust Accounts that would allow welfare recipients to accumulate child support payments in trust during the period of time that the recipients are on welfare.

(b)   The Child Support Enforcement Administration shall report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before November 1, 2005, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, on the findings and recommendations of the study.

SECTION 3.   AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2005.

Approved May 26, 2005.

CHAPTER 596

(House Bill 1185)

AN ACT concerning

Courts – Trial ~~Jury Improvement Act of 2005~~ Juries – Juror Payment

FOR the purpose of ~~requiring the State Court Administrator to assess a certain surcharge on certain civil cases; authorizing the Court of Appeals to designate in the Maryland Rules certain types of civil cases, with certain exceptions, for which a certain surcharge applies;~~ prohibiting a certain employer from