

authorized membership of the Committee is a quorum; providing staff for the Committee; requiring the Committee to hold certain meetings; authorizing the Committee to hold certain hearings and consider certain votes on certain bills or resolutions; establishing the powers and duties of the Committee; requiring the Committee to submit a certain report by a certain date each year; defining a certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth~~, Youth, and Families.

BY adding to

Article – State Government

Section 2-10A-06

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

#### Preamble

WHEREAS, The Maryland Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families has identified the following key conditions of well-being for Maryland children ~~and youth~~, youth, and families: babies born healthy, healthy children, children entering school ready to learn, children successful in school, children completing school, children safe in their families and communities, stable and economically independent families, and communities that support family life; and

WHEREAS, Maryland's overall ranking on key indicators for children ~~and youth~~, youth, and families by the Maryland Kids Count Partnership continues to be very low relative to other states; and

WHEREAS, Many factors affecting the conditions of well-being for Maryland children ~~and youth~~, youth, and families involve the work of many different existing committees of the Senate and the House; and

WHEREAS, A Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth~~, Youth, and Families will provide an integrated focus on factors affecting the health, education, safety, and economic well-being of Maryland children ~~and youth~~, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS, A Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth~~, Youth, and Families can facilitate the work of existing committees of the Senate and the House; and

WHEREAS, A Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth~~, Youth, and Families can help the General Assembly provide a result-oriented focus on the well-being of Maryland children ~~and youth~~, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS, A Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth~~, Youth, and Families can recommend changes in law and budgeting that can improve key indicators for Maryland children ~~and youth~~, youth, and families; now, therefore,

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