

minimum difference between their natural children, if any, and foster children in their care; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 60B be and it is hereby added to Article 88A - Social Services Administration, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume and 1973 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 88A - Social Services Administration

60B.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL ESTABLISH BY REGULATION ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR PAYMENT FOR ONE OR MORE CLASSIFICATIONS OF CHILDREN RECEIVING BOARDING CARE (FOSTER CARE) WHO ARE IN NEED OF SPECIAL CARE.

(B) BASED UPON THE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO (A) AND AFTER JULY 1, 1975, THE MONTHLY RATE FOR BOARDING CARE OF CHILDREN PAID BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN IN NEED OF THE CARE DESCRIBED IN THE CLASSIFICATION WHICH IS GIVEN THE MOST DEMANDING TYPE OF CARE PROVIDED IN SINGLE FAMILY HOMES SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN THE MONTHLY RATE FOR CARE PURCHASED IN A SINGLE FAMILY HOME BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES. THIS RATE SHALL NOT BE LOWER THAN THAT PAID IN FISCAL YEAR 1975.

(C) THE REGULAR MONTHLY RATE FOR BOARDING CARE IN SINGLE FAMILY HOMES OF CHILDREN WHO ARE NOT IN NEED OF SPECIAL CARE SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN 55% OF THE HIGHEST SPECIAL CARE RATE PAID FOR SINGLE FAMILY HOME CARE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES. THERE SHALL BE FINANCIAL INCREMENTS BASED ON THE AGE OF THE CHILDREN IN CARE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1974.

Approved May 31, 1974.

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CHAPTER 868

(House Bill 424)

AN ACT concerning