

under certain circumstances, suspected instances of neglected children; extending immunity to those who report in good faith; requiring timely investigations of reports of neglect; requiring the local departments of social services to render certain services and perform certain duties; requiring the expungement of certain records after a certain period; defining certain terms; and generally relating to neglected children.

BY adding to

Article 72A - Parent and Child  
Section 4 through 11, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Neglected Children"  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1970 Replacement Volume and 1977 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 72A - Parent and Child

NEGLECTED CHILDREN

4.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(E) "CHILD" MEANS A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18.

(C) "COURT" MEANS THE CIRCUIT COURT OF A COUNTY OR BALTIMORE CITY SITTING AS A JUVENILE COURT. IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, IT MEANS THE DISTRICT COURT SITTING AS A JUVENILE COURT.

(D) "NEGLECTED CHILD" MEANS A CHILD WHO IS+ HAS SUFFERED OR IS SUFFERING SIGNIFICANT PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HARM OF INJURY AS A RESULT OF CONDITIONS CREATED BY THE ABSENCE OF HIS PARENTS, GUARDIAN, OR CUSTODIAN, OR BY THE FAILURE OF THAT PERSON TO GIVE PROPER CARE AND ATTENTION TO THE CHILD AND HIS PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, A CHILD MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED TO BE NEGLECTED SOLELY BECAUSE HE IS RECEIVING NONMEDICAL REMEDIAL CARE AND TREATMENT RECOGNIZED BY STATE LAW IN LIEU OF MEDICAL TREATMENT.

~~(1) HOMELESS, DESERTED OR ABANDONED;~~

~~(2) LIVING IN CONDITIONS ENDANGERING HIS PHYSICAL, MENTAL, OR EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING AS A RESULT OF THE INABILITY, INCAPACITY, UNWILLINGNESS, OR REFUSAL OF THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OR PERSON WHO HAS PHYSICAL CARE OR CONTROL OF THE CHILD TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FOOD, CLOTHING, SHELTER, MEDICAL CARE, GUIDANCE, SUPERVISION, OR GUARDIANSHIP, OR TO MEET LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, ALTHOUGH FINANCIALLY ABLE OR OFFERED THE FINANCIAL MEANS TO DO SO.~~