

~~requiring the Governor to include that cost in a certain budget; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to determine the cost of building a facility in certain circumstances; requiring the Governor to include that cost in a certain budget; expressing the intent of the General Assembly with regard to the cost of renovating or building the facility or facilities; leasing the facility to a nongovernmental entity contracting for the care of the children and setting the rate of reimbursement; and generally relating to the establishment of in-state facilities for children now sent out of State.~~

Study of Residential Facilities for Children

FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to direct that certain Departments undertake a study to determine the feasibility of providing certain programs within the State for children that are presently sent to out-of-State facilities; requiring that a study be made of existing residential facilities within the State to determine if they can be renovated and the cost of renovation, and also providing that the study consider the cost of acquiring land and building a new facility if necessary.

May 29, 1979

Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 665.

House Bill 665 would enact an uncodified provision requiring that the Governor direct the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, in conjunction with the Departments of Education and Human Resources, to undertake a study to determine the feasibility and cost of providing within Maryland necessary programs and facilities for the evaluation and treatment of those children who are presently sent to residential facilities located outside Maryland.

I agree that a review of the placement of Maryland children in out-of-State institutions is a worthwhile endeavor. However, I do not believe it is necessary or desirable to statutorily mandate this or any other study, unless and until the General Assembly should find the Executive not responsive to a Joint Resolution. Consequently, I intend to accomplish the purpose of House Bill 665 via an appropriate Executive Order.