CHAPTER 401

(House Bill 537)

AN ACT concerning

Foster Care - Liability for Personal Injury and Property Damage

FOR the purpose of making discretionary the current mandatory requirement that liability insurance provided for foster parents by the Social Services Administration or the Juvenile Services Administration be subject to a deductible limit; and removing the requirement that reimbursements made directly to foster parents for losses caused by a foster child and suffered by foster parents, themselves, be subject to a $100 deduction.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 88A - Social Services Administration
Section 32B
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1979 Replacement Volume and 1979 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 52A - Juvenile Services
Section 19(b)(3)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1979 Replacement Volume and 1979 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 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: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 88A - Social Services Administration

32B.

(a) The Social Services Administration shall provide liability insurance for foster parents in boarding care for children programs. The liability insurance shall provide coverage for: (1) bodily injury and property damage caused by the foster child to persons or property other than the foster parent or his property; and (2) actions against the foster parents by the natural parents for any accident to the foster child. The Social Services Administration [shall] MAY establish a reasonable deductible limit.

(b) (1) The Secretary subject to the provisions of this subsection shall reimburse foster parents for costs of bodily injury or property damage to the foster parents caused by the foster child, not otherwise covered by insurance.