Annotated Code of Maryland (1981 Replacement Volume and 1982 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments Section 88(b) Annotated Code of Maryland (1982 Replacement Volume and 1982 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 88A - Social Services Administration Section 1A(a), 3, 5A, and 59 Annotated Code of Maryland (1979 Replacement Volume and 1982 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 89C - Support of Dependents Section 14(b), 17, 25(c), 26, and 27 Annotated Code of Maryland (1979 Replacement Volume and 1982 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, In order to provide family security and to relieve the State of the burden of providing public assistance for families where child support payments are unlawfully in arrears, the Executive Branch and the General Assembly have established a child support enforcement program for the purpose of assuring adequate and timely parental financial support for children; and

WHEREAS, Article 88A, § 1A of the Annotated Code now places the responsibility for the administration of a child support enforcement program within the Income Maintenance Administration of the Department of Human Resources; however the Income Maintenance Administration must administer as its primary responsibilities the State's income maintenance programs, including Aid to Families with Dependent Children, General Public Assistance, Food Stamps, and Medical Assistance eligibility determinations; and

WHEREAS, The magnitude and complexity of administration of income maintenance programs requires the most intensive management effort, as evidenced in recent years by the far-reaching changes in federal laws and high priority management initiatives to reduce error and fraud; and

WHEREAS, The child support enforcement program, administered through local departments of social services and "cooperative reimbursement" agencies, such as the judiciary, court