

**Article - Family Law**

**SUBTITLE 13. CHILD WELFARE ACCOUNTABILITY.**

5-1301.

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

(B) "ABUSE" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-701 OF THIS TITLE.

(C) "ADMINISTRATION" MEANS THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

(D) "CHILD" MEANS ANY INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS.

(E) "INDICATED" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-701 OF THIS TITLE.

(F) "KINSHIP CARE" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-501 OF THIS TITLE.

(G) "LOCAL DEPARTMENT" ~~MEANS A LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR A COUNTY~~ HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1-101 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(H) "NEGLECT" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-701 OF THIS TITLE.

(I) "OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT" MEANS PLACEMENT OF A CHILD INTO FOSTER CARE, KINSHIP CARE, GROUP CARE, OR RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CARE.

(J) "RULED OUT" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-701 OF THIS TITLE.

(K) "SECRETARY" MEANS THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN RESOURCES.

(L) "UNSUBSTANTIATED" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-701 OF THIS TITLE.

5-1302.

(A) THE SECRETARY AND THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT AN OUTCOME-BASED SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTABILITY FOR MEASURING THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF CHILD WELFARE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN THE STATE.

(B) THE OUTCOME MEASUREMENT SYSTEM SHALL:

(1) ADDRESS AREAS OF SAFETY, PERMANENCE, AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL CHILDREN IN THE STATE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM;

(2) MEASURE PERFORMANCE AT THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS;

(3) EXPAND ON FEDERAL OUTCOME MEASURES; ~~AND~~

(4) USE THE INDICATORS IN §§ 5-1303 THROUGH 5-1306 OF THIS SUBTITLE TO MEASURE OUTCOMES; AND