

CHAPTER 398**(House Bill 839)**

AN ACT concerning

Integration of Child Welfare and Substance Abuse Treatment Services

FOR the purpose of authorizing certain records and reports regarding child abuse and neglect to be disclosed to certain addiction specialists under certain circumstances; requiring certain statewide protocols for integrating child welfare and substance abuse treatment services to include placing certain addiction specialists in all child welfare offices; ensuring that certain addiction specialists in child welfare offices have certain information and evidence relating to the existence of substance abuse; extending the years in which a certain report by the Secretary of Human Resources and the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene is required; requiring the Governor to include in the State budget for a certain fiscal year a certain amount ~~for the Department of Human Resources to conduct a certain evaluation; requiring the Department of Human Resources to ensure a certain evaluation is conducted and to report to the General Assembly~~ requiring the results of a certain evaluation to be included in a certain report by a certain date; and generally relating to the integration of substance abuse treatment and child welfare services.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article 88A – Department of Human Resources
Section 6
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2003 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Family Law
Section 5–1202 and 5–1206
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2004 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 88A – Department of Human Resources

6.

(a) Except in accordance with a court order or to an authorized officer or employee of the State, another state or local government, or the United States, or a fiduciary institution having a right thereto in an official capacity, and as necessary to discharge responsibilities to administer public assistance, medical assistance, or social services programs, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to divulge or make known in any manner any information concerning any applicant for or recipient