

4-403.

(a) The Department of Human Resources shall continue to develop and maintain a program to carry out the purposes of this subtitle in each local department [of social services].

(b) In implementing the program, the Department of Human Resources shall:

(1) adopt [rules, regulations, and], BY REGULATION, guidelines for implementing the program in each local department [of social services];

4-501.

(k) "Local department" means the local department [of social services] that has jurisdiction in the county:

(1) where the home is located; or

(2) if different, where the abuse is alleged to have taken place.

5-101. DEFINITIONS.

(A) IN GENERAL.

In this title[, ] THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

COMMITTEE NOTE: This subsection is derived from the introductory phrase of former FL § 5-101.

(B) ADOPTIVE PARENT.

"ADOPTIVE PARENT" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO COMPLETES ADOPTION OF ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL.

COMMITTEE NOTE: This subsection is new and added to allow concise reference to individuals who have adopted another individual, whether under this title or other law. Although Maryland law allows adoption in this State only by adults, other jurisdictions may not. Accordingly, "adult" is not used.

This definition also will apply to current FL §§ 5-408 and 5-410.1, in which the term "adoptive parent" is used without definition.

(C) CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY.

"CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY" MEANS:

(1) A LOCAL DEPARTMENT; OR

(2) A PRIVATE AGENCY THAT IS LICENSED BY THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT UNDER § 5-507 OF THIS TITLE, OR BY A COMPARABLE GOVERNMENTAL UNIT OF ANOTHER STATE, TO PLACE CHILDREN.