

program which, is providing treatment or care to a child who is the subject of a report of child abuse or neglect for a purpose relevant to the provision of the treatment or care;

(vi) To a parent or other person who has permanent or temporary care and custody of a child, if provisions are made for the protection of the identity of the reporter or any other person whose life or safety is likely to be endangered by disclosing the information;

(vii) To the appropriate public school superintendent for the purpose of carrying out appropriate personnel or administrative actions following a report of suspected child abuse involving a student committed by:

1. A public school employee in that school system;
2. An independent contractor who supervises or works directly with students in that school system; or
3. An employee of an independent contractor, including a bus driver or bus assistant, who supervises or works directly with students in that school system;

(viii) To the director of a licensed child care facility or licensed child placement agency for the purpose of carrying out appropriate personnel actions following a report of suspected child neglect or abuse alleged to have been committed by an employee of the facility or agency and involving a child who is currently or who was previously under that facility's or agency's care; or

(ix) To the Office of the Independent Juvenile Justice Monitor established under Article 49D of the Code.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit:

(1) The publication, for administrative or research purposes, of statistics or other data so classified as to prevent the identification of particular persons or cases;

(2) The Department of Human Resources from obtaining an individual's financial records from a fiduciary institution in the course of verifying the individual's eligibility for public assistance; or

(3) Disclosures as permitted by § 1-303 of the Financial Institutions Article.

(d) The Department of Human Resources shall issue regulations governing access to and use of confidential information which is in the possession of the Department or local departments of social services.

(e) Any offense against the provisions of this section shall be a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment for not exceeding 90 days, or both, in the discretion of the court.