FOR the purpose of authorizing private therapeutic group homes for emotionally disturbed children and adolescents; delineating the responsibilities of the Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration as to programs for certain children and adolescents; providing for the adoption of rules and regulations that include requirements for operating a private therapeutic group home; setting out requirements for placement in the homes; requiring a certain plan and an annual report be submitted to certain persons; providing for the preparation of individual treatment plans for certain persons; providing for action by the Director as to applications for placement of certain children and adolescents within a certain time period; providing for the funding of certain programs or services; providing for the reimbursement for services provided in certain programs; providing-for-the-reimbursement--for--services--provided--in certain--programs; --providing--for--the--receipt--of-certain federal--funds; providing for a periodic evaluation of certain homes; and generally relating to the provision of community residential mental health care for children and adolescents.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General Section 10-101(i), 10-902(a), and 16-101(e) Annotated Code of Maryland (1982 Volume and 1983 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health - General
Section 10-920 through ±0-927 10-926 to be under the new part "Part IV. Community Residential Mental Health Programs for Children and Adolescents", and 16-304 Annotated Code of Maryland (1982 Volume and 1983 Supplement)

## Preamble

It is the policy of the State:

- (1) To promote, protect, and preserve the well-being and general welfare of children and adolescents who suffer from mental disorders.
- (2) To encourage the full development of the ability and potential of each emotionally disturbed child and adolescent in the State.
- (3) To provide appropriate residential services for those emotionally disturbed children and adolescents who, because of their mental disorders require residential and therapeutic services not available in the home.