CHAPTER 118

(House Bill 1445)

AN ACT concerning

Group Day Care Centers - Length of Stay

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "group day care center" to include an agency, institution, or establishment that offers or provides group day care on a 24-hour basis to certain children; providing that the term "group day care center" does not include certain facilities that provide residential placement; authorizing certain licensees to operate a group day care center on a 24-hour basis; prohibiting a child from remaining at a group day care center for more than a certain length of time; providing an exception in certain cases under certain guidelines; and generally relating to group day care centers that provide group day care on a 24-hour basis.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General Section 14-101(c), 14-104, and 14-108(a) Annotated Code of Maryland (1982 Volume and 1985 Supplement)

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

Article - Health - General

14-101.

- (c) (1) "Group day care center" means an agency, institution, or establishment that, for part or all of a day, OR ON A 24-HOUR BASIS on a regular schedule, and at least twice a week, offers or provides group day care to children who do not have the same parentage except as otherwise provided for in law or regulation.
- (2) "GROUP DAY CARE CENTER" DOES NOT INCLUDE A CHILD CARE HOME, A CHILD CARE INSTITUTION, OR OTHER CHILD CARE FACILITY THAT OFFERS OR PROVIDES A RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT FOR A CHILD AND IS ESTABLISHED, LICENSED, OR REGISTERED UNDER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 5 OF THE FAMILY LAW ARTICLE OR TITLES 6 OR 10 OF THIS ARTICLE.

14-104.

- (a) The Secretary shall adopt rules and regulations for licensing and operating group day care centers.
 - (b) These rules and regulations shall: