

## CHAPTER 577

(House Bill 1235)

AN ACT concerning

Hospitals and Related Institutions --- Infants<sup>1</sup> - Footprints  
Identification of Newborn Infants

FOR the purpose of requiring certain institutions to footprint certain children and fingerprint the mothers of those children under certain circumstances; requiring certain institutions to permanently maintain the footprints and fingerprints made under this Act; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to approve the method of footprinting and fingerprinting used by an institution; requiring certain institutions to inform the parent or parents of certain requirements; allowing certain requirements to be waived under certain circumstances perform at least one of the specified newborn infant identification procedures; providing certain immunity to certain institutions under certain circumstances; requiring the Secretary to adopt certain regulations; requiring certain personnel of an institution to be trained to footprint and fingerprint according to certain standards in all infant identification procedures used by the institution; defining certain terms; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the footprinting of children and fingerprinting of mothers by certain institutions identification of newborn infants.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 4-401 and 20-402 to be under the new subtitle  
 "Subtitle 4. Infants<sup>1</sup> - Footprints Identification of Newborn Infants"

Annotated Code of Maryland

{1982-Volume and 1987-Supplement} (1987 Replacement Volume)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Two newborn infants were kidnapped from Maryland hospitals during 1987; and

WHEREAS, Infants have also been kidnapped from the hospitals of other states; and

WHEREAS, The ability to positively identify kidnapped infants would serve the interests of the people of Maryland and warrants the particular attention of the medical and law enforcement communities; now, therefore,