

(i) For a first offense, shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than 2 months or both; and

(ii) For a second or subsequent offense, shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment of not more than 1 year or both.

(E) IF A PERSON IS CHARGED WITH A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT MAY FIND THE PERSON GUILTY OF ANY LESSER INCLUDED OFFENSE UNDER ANY SUBSECTION OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1995.

Approved May 25, 1995.

CHAPTER 546

(House Bill 308)

AN ACT concerning

Kinship Care Program

FOR the purpose of ~~establishing~~ requiring the Social Services Administration to establish a Kinship Care Program; requiring each local department of social services to make the placement of a child with ~~relatives~~ a kinship parent a priority in the out-of-home placement of that child; providing for the placement of a child if the local department is not able to locate a ~~relative~~ kinship parent; providing that a placement be in the best interests of the child; requiring that a kinship parent be of a certain age; providing a certain exception; requiring the Administration to adopt regulations consistent with this Act; defining ~~certain terms~~ a certain term; ~~making this Act an emergency measure~~; and generally relating to the establishment of a Kinship Care Program.

BY adding to

Article - Family Law

Section 5-534

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1991 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

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

Article - Family Law

5-534.

(A) ~~(1)~~ IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED: