

Approved May 25, 1995.

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**CHAPTER 570**

**(House Bill 791)**

AN ACT concerning

**Child Abuse and Neglect Hearings – Appeals and Procedures**

FOR the purpose of altering the procedures applicable to child abuse and neglect hearings that involve a Child In Need of Assistance (CINA) proceeding; requiring the Office of Administrative Hearings to stay or to vacate a hearing under certain circumstances; providing for the effective date of this Act; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to child abuse and neglect hearings.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Family Law

Section 5-706.1

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**

5-706.1.

(a) Within 30 days after the completion of an investigation in which there has been a finding of indicated or unsubstantiated abuse or neglect, the local department shall notify in writing the person alleged to have abused or neglected a child:

(1) of the finding; and

(2) [except when a CINA petition has been filed involving the child alleged to be abused or neglected,] that the person may request an administrative hearing to appeal the finding.

[(b) Within 30 days of a dismissal of a CINA petition, the local department of social services shall notify in writing the person alleged to have abused or neglected a child that the person may request an administrative hearing to appeal an indicated or unsubstantiated finding.]

[(c)](B) A person may request an administrative hearing by responding to the notice of the local department of social services in writing within 60 days.

[(d)](C) The local department shall forward all requests for hearings to the Office of Administrative Hearings within 10 days of receipt.