BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
      Article – Family Law
      Section 5–539
      Annotated Code of Maryland
      (1999 Replacement Volume)

BY adding to
      Article – Family Law
      Section 5–539.1 and 5–539.2; through 5–539.3; and 5–7A–01 through 5–7A–09
          to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 7A. State Council on Child Abuse
          and Neglect"
      Annotated Code of Maryland
      (1999 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
      Article – Health – General
      Section 4–306 and 5–309
      Annotated Code of Maryland
      (1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY adding to
      Article – Health – General
      Section 5–701 through 5–710 5–709, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle
          "Subtitle 7. Child Fatality Review Teams"
      Annotated Code of Maryland
      (1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

Article 88A – Department of Human Resources

6.

(a)   Except in accordance with a court order or to an authorized officer or
employee of the State, another state or local government, or the United States, or a
fiduciary institution having a right thereto in an official capacity, and as necessary to
discharge responsibilities to administer public assistance, medical assistance, or
social services programs, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to divulge or
make known in any manner any information concerning any applicant for or recipient
of social services, child welfare services, cash assistance, food stamps, or medical
assistance, directly or indirectly derived from the records, papers, files, investigations
or communications of the State, county or city, or subdivisions or agencies thereof, or
acquired in the course of the performance of official duties.

(b)   Except as otherwise provided in Title 5, Subtitle 7 of the Family Law
Article and § 6A of this subtitle, all records and reports concerning child abuse or
neglect are confidential, and their unauthorized disclosure is a criminal offense