

SECTION ~~5-4-6~~ 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

Approved May 18, 2000.

CHAPTER 551

(House Bill 7)

AN ACT concerning

Child Welfare - Integration of Child Welfare and Substance Abuse Treatment Services

FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Human Resources and the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, after consultation with certain persons, to develop a statewide protocol for integrating child welfare and substance abuse treatment services; specifying the elements to be included in the protocol; requiring a court to order substance abuse assessment and testing under certain circumstances; requiring the Secretary of Human Resources and the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to issue certain reports; expressing the intent of the General Assembly about spending levels; requiring the Governor, under certain circumstances, to include certain amounts in the annual State budget in certain fiscal years for certain purposes and requiring a certain maintenance of effort; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to explore the use of excess hospital beds and to locate new substance abuse treatment programs; requiring the Secretary of Human Resources and the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to consider recommendations developed by a certain task force in developing the statewide protocol and to enter into a memorandum of understanding for a certain purpose; requiring the Department of Human Resources and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt certain regulations; defining certain terms; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of integrated child welfare and substance abuse treatment services.

BY adding to

Article - Family Law

Section 5-1201 through 5-1209, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 12. Integration of Child Welfare and Substance Abuse Treatment Services"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Substance abuse is a key factor fueling intensification of child abuse and neglect in the 1990s; and