

CHAPTER 217
(Senate Bill 178)

AN ACT concerning

Residential Child Care Programs - State-Funded Operators - Licensing Provisions

FOR the purpose of requiring a licensed operator of a residential child care program who receives State funding to meet certain academic needs of a child in the operator's care; *exempting certain licensed operators from certain requirements*; requiring certain group homes to comply with certain provisions of law; requiring the department that licenses the group home to notify certain group homes of certain provisions of law; and generally relating to certain licensing provisions for State-funded operators of residential child care programs.

BY adding to

- Article - Education
- Section 7-309
- Annotated Code of Maryland
- (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- Article - Family Law
- Section 5-526
- Annotated Code of Maryland
- (1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

Article - Education

7-309.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, "RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE PROGRAM" MEANS A PROGRAM THAT:

(I) PROVIDES CARE FOR CHILDREN 24 HOURS A DAY WITHIN A STRUCTURED SET OF SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES RELATED TO THE NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN SERVED; AND

(II) IS LICENSED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES, OR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE.

(2) A "RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE PROGRAM" INCLUDES:

(I) GROUP HOMES;