

(ii) If a vacancy occurs among the Delegates on the Committee, a successor promptly shall be appointed by the Speaker.

(f) (1) From among the membership of the Committee, the President shall appoint a Senator to serve as the Senate chairman of the Committee and the Speaker shall appoint a Delegate to serve as the House chairman of the Committee.

(2) The Senate chairman and the House chairman shall alternate annually as presiding chairman and cochairman of the Committee.

(g) A majority of the full authorized membership of the Committee is a quorum.

(h) The Department of Legislative Services, Office of Policy Analysis, shall provide staff assistance to the Committee.

(i) The Committee shall hold:

(1) an organizational meeting promptly after the appointment of its members; and

(2) any other meetings that the Committee considers necessary to carry out its duties efficiently.

(j) The Committee may:

(1) hold a hearing on any matter relating to the functions of the Committee; and

(2) consider a vote on a bill or resolution referred to it by the President or the Speaker.

(k) In addition to any powers and duties set forth elsewhere, in an endeavor to achieve conditions of well-being for Maryland children, youth, and families, the Committee shall:

(1) investigate the problems that jeopardize the well-being of Maryland children, youth, and families;

(2) identify State policies and actions that, in conjunction with public and private partners and in support of families and communities, can work to achieve conditions of well-being for Maryland children, youth, and families;

(3) review and make recommendations to align State statutes, regulations, programs, services, and budgetary priorities with the State policies and actions described in paragraph (2) of this subsection;

(4) search for any interdepartmental gaps, inconsistencies, and inefficiencies in the implementation or attainment of the State policies and actions described in paragraph (2) of this subsection;

(5) identify any new laws, regulations, programs, services, and budgetary priorities that are needed to ensure and promote desired conditions of well-being for Maryland children, youth, and families;