

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect January 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of December 31, 2003, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

May 16, 2002

The Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.  
Speaker of the House  
State House  
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 1142 - Children in Need of Assistance - Drug-Addicted Babies - Modifications.

This bill modifies a presumption that a child is not receiving proper care and attention from the mother for purposes of determining whether the child is a "child in need of assistance." Under the bill, the presumption would apply if the child was exposed to cocaine, heroin, or their derivatives, drug treatment is made available to the mother, and the mother either refuses the recommended level of drug treatment or does not successfully complete the recommended level of drug treatment. The evidence of exposure may be derived from any appropriate tests of the mother or child.

Senate Bill 495, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 1142.

Sincerely,  
Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

**House Bill No. 1142**

AN ACT concerning

**Children in Need of Assistance - Drug-Addicted Babies - Modifications**

FOR the purpose of modifying a certain presumption that a child is not receiving ordinary and proper care and attention within the definition of "child in need of assistance" (CINA) to apply to a child that is born exposed to certain dangerous substances as evidenced by certain ~~blood or other~~ appropriate tests of the mother or the child and to include a mother that refuses the recommended level of drug treatment; altering certain conditions regarding the termination of parental rights for certain children to apply to a child that is born exposed to certain dangerous substances as evidenced by certain ~~blood or other~~ appropriate tests of the mother or the child and to apply to a natural parent that refuses the recommended level of drug treatment; expanding the conditions which require a