

~~(2) IN THE CASE OF A MEDICALLY FRAGILE CHILD, THE SUBSIDY SHALL:~~

~~(F) BE REVIEWED AND ADJUSTED ANNUALLY TO MEET THE CHILD'S NEEDS, WITH A MAXIMUM OF \$10,000 PER MONTH; AND~~

~~(H) CONTINUE AFTER THE CHILD TURNS 21 YEARS OLD, UNTIL THE INDIVIDUAL NO LONGER REQUIRES SERVICES.~~

~~[(2)] (2) A subsidy agreement shall include a notice of the annual reapplication requirement.~~

(a) The Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities, or any successor organization, with the assistance of the Department of Human Resources and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, shall study the placement of medically fragile children in Maryland.

(b) The study shall determine:

(1) the total number of medically fragile children in therapeutic foster care out-of-home care;

(2) the number of families who have given up custody of medically fragile children;

(3) the total number of medically fragile children who have been adopted and are receiving State assistance;

(4) the total number of unsubsidized medically fragile children in Maryland;

(5) the number of families willing to adopt a medically fragile child if ongoing support were available after the child turns 21 years of age;

(6) the cost of providing services and equipment to medically fragile children;

(7) alternatives to address permanency planning for medically fragile children in therapeutic foster care out-of-home care; and

(8) any other actions that the State can take to prevent the institutionalization of medically fragile children after the age of 21.

(c) The Governor's Office of Individuals with Disabilities, or any successor organization, shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Judiciary Committee on or before December 1, 2004.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~October 1, 2004~~ July 1, 2004.

Approved May 11, 2004.