

(I) THE RESPONSE OF THE STATE TO CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT; AND

(II) out-of-home ~~placement~~ CARE policies, ~~and~~ procedures, AND PRACTICES; and

(5) subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, report to the General Assembly AND THE SECRETARY on the first day of each year on the status of children in out-of-home placement in this State.

5-539.1.

(a) In addition to any duties set forth elsewhere, the State Board shall, by examining the policies [and], procedures, **AND PRACTICES** of State and local agencies and **BY REVIEWING** specific cases [that the State Board considers necessary to perform its duties under this section], evaluate the extent to which State and local agencies are effectively discharging their child protection responsibilities in accordance with:

(1) the State plan under 42 U.S.C. § 5106a(b);

(2) the child protection standards set forth in 42 U.S.C. § 5106a(b);
and

(3) any other criteria that the State Board considers important to ensure the protection of children, including:

(i) a review of the extent to which the State child protective services system is coordinated with the foster care and adoption program established under Part E of Title IV of the Social Security Act; and

(ii) a review of child fatalities and near fatalities.

(B) (1) CASE REVIEWS CONDUCTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE QUESTIONS DESIGNED TO MEET THE QUALITY ASSESSMENT GOALS FOR CASEWORK SERVICES IN § 5-1308 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE STATE BOARD SHALL TABULATE THE RESULTS OF THE CASE REVIEWS AND SUBMIT THE RESULTS FOR ~~REVIEW~~ CONSIDERATION AS PART OF THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT SELF-ASSESSMENT PROCESS IN § 5-1309 OF THIS TITLE.