

(H) WITHIN 120 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE REPORT FROM THE STATE BOARD UNDER § 5-539 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR THE REPORT UNDER SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION, THE SECRETARY SHALL SEND A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE STATE BOARD DESCRIBING THE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE BOARD.

5-539.2.

(a) (1) A local government may establish a local citizens review panel to assist and advise the State Board and the State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect.

(2) Two or more counties may establish a multicounty local citizens review panel, in accordance with a memorandum of understanding executed by the [multicounty local panel] **GOVERNING BODIES OF EACH PARTICIPATING COUNTY.**

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c)(2) of this section, the members and [chairman] **CHAIR** of a local citizens review panel shall be appointed by the local governing body.

(c) Membership on a local citizens review panel shall be representative of the local jurisdiction and include:

(1) individuals with expertise in the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect, such as child advocates, volunteers of the court-appointed special advocate program, attorneys who represent children, parent and consumer representatives, law enforcement representatives, and health, [and] human, **AND EDUCATIONAL** services professionals; and

(2) one member from the local jurisdiction, who is appointed by the State Board and one who is appointed by the State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect.

(D) (1) THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.

(2) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

[(d)] (E) A local panel shall:

(1) evaluate the extent to which State and local agencies in that jurisdiction are effectively fulfilling their responsibilities in accordance with the child protection standards and the State plan under 42 U.S.C. § 5106a(b) and any other criteria that the panel considers important for the protection of children;