

Article - Family Law

Section ~~5-544~~ and 5-545

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1991 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

3-826.1.

(a) No later than 10 months after disposition made in the case of a child alleged to be in need of assistance, the court shall hold a hearing to review the implementation of a permanency plan for each child committed under § 3-820(c)(1)(ii) of this subtitle.

(b) (1) Upon the written request of any party or on its own motion, the court may schedule a hearing at any earlier time to review the implementation of a permanency plan for any child committed pursuant to § 3-820 of this subtitle.

(2) The written request for review shall state the reason for the request and any issues to be raised.

(c) At the review hearing for a child in placement, the court shall:

(1) Determine the future status of the child, including whether the child should be:

(i) Returned to the parent or guardian;

(ii) Placed with relatives to whom adoption or guardianship is granted;

(iii) Placed for adoption;

(iv) Emancipated;

(v) Because of the child's special needs or circumstances, continued in placement on a permanent or long-term basis; or

(vi) Because of the child's special needs or circumstances, continued in placement for a specified period; or

(2) For a child who has attained the age of 16, determine the services needed to assist the child to make the transition from placement to independent living.

(d) For a child whom the court determines shall be continued in placement under subsection (c)(1)(vi) of this section:

(1) The court shall: