

~~(ii) to encourage and facilitate the return of each of these children to the child's parent or, on determining that return of a child to the child's parent is not in the best interests of the child, to encourage placement of the child with the child's relatives, provided the placement has legal status, or if neither measure is in the best interests of the child, to encourage efforts at adoption of the child;~~

~~(2) to encourage all possible efforts for permanent foster care OR PERMANENT KINSHIP CARE or guardianship for minor children for whom return to a parent or adoption is not feasible; and~~

~~(3) to report to the juvenile court on the status of efforts to secure permanent homes for minor children.~~

5-545.

~~(A) EACH LOCAL BOARD SHALL REVIEW WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF PLACEMENT, AND EVERY 6 MONTHS THEREAFTER, THE CASES OF MINOR CHILDREN WHO ARE IN THE CUSTODY OR UNDER THE GUARDIANSHIP OF THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT AND WHO HAVE BEEN PLACED IN FOSTER CARE UNDER § 5-525 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR KINSHIP CARE UNDER § 5-534 OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~{(a)} (B) (1)~~ Each local board shall report in writing to the juvenile court and the local department on each minor child whose case is reviewed by the local board.

~~{(b)} (2)~~ In the report, the local board may recommend, as being in the best interest of the minor child:

~~{(1)} (A)~~ that the child be returned to the parent or legal guardian;

~~{(2)} (B)~~ that the child continue to be placed outside the home and that the present placement plan is appropriate to the child's needs;

~~{(3)} (C)~~ that the child continue to be placed outside the home, but that the present placement plan is inappropriate to the child's needs; or

~~{(4)} (D)~~ that proceedings be initiated to terminate the rights of the parent as to the child so that the child may be eligible for adoption.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1998.

Approved May 21, 1998.

CHAPTER 622

(Senate Bill 615)

AN ACT concerning

Creation of a State Debt - Montgomery County - Center for Children and Families