

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 4 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of three years and, at the end of May 31, 2001, with no further action required by the General Assembly, Section 4 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The Department of Human Resources shall conduct a study of finger imaging as a method of preventing fraudulent applications for and fraudulent receipt of Family Investment Program and Food Stamp Program benefits.

(b) As part of the study, the Department shall examine:

- (1) the cost effectiveness of finger imaging programs in other states;
- (2) the impact on Maryland of surrounding states' establishment of finger imaging programs;
- (3) the impact of finger imaging in comparison to other methods of preventing fraud; and
- (4) the feasibility of a procedure for resolving complaints regarding the denial of benefits that pertain to the fraudulent application for, and fraudulent receipt of, Family Investment Program assistance identified through the finger imaging; and
- (4) (5) the projected savings to Maryland through deterrence of fraudulent applications and apprehension of public assistance recipients fraudulently receiving benefits.

(c) The Department shall report the findings and recommendations of its study to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee of the General Assembly by October 1, 1998.

SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding § 7-310(f)(1) of the State Finance and Procurement Article, the unspent balance of funds appropriated to the Dedicated Purpose Account for the Family Investment Program may not revert to the Revenue Stabilization Account even if those funds are unspent 4 years after the end of the fiscal year for which the appropriation was made.

SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding § 7-310(f)(1) of the State Finance and Procurement Article, the unspent balance of funds appropriated to the Dedicated Purpose Account for the Purchase of Child Care Program may not revert to the Revenue Stabilization Account even if those funds are unspent 4 years after the end of the fiscal year for which the appropriation was made.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before September 1, 1998, the Secretary of Human Resources shall:

(1) provide to the General Assembly for its review and comment an implementation plan for the performance incentive program to be established under this Act; and

(2) include in the implementation plan: