

(j) At a review hearing under this section, the court shall consider any written report of a local out-of-home [placement] CARE review board required under § 5-545 of the Family Law Article.

**(K) AT LEAST EVERY 12 MONTHS AT A HEARING UNDER THIS SECTION, THE COURT SHALL CONSULT ON THE RECORD WITH THE CHILD IN AN AGE APPROPRIATE MANNER.**

### Article - Family Law

5-525.

(d) (1) Unless a court orders that reasonable efforts are not required under § 3-812 of the Courts Article or § 5-323 of this title, reasonable efforts shall be made to preserve and reunify families:

(i) prior to the placement of a child in an out-of-home placement, to prevent or eliminate the need for removing the child from the child's home; and

(ii) to make it possible for a child to safely return to the child's home.

(2) In determining the reasonable efforts to be made and in making the reasonable efforts described under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the child's safety and health shall be the primary concern.

(3) Reasonable efforts to place a child for adoption or with a legal guardian may be made concurrently with the reasonable efforts described under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(4) If continuation of reasonable efforts to reunify the child with the child's parents or guardian is determined to be inconsistent with the permanency plan for the child, reasonable efforts shall be made to place the child in a timely manner in accordance with the permanency plan, **INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF BOTH IN-STATE AND OUT-OF-STATE PLACEMENTS**, and to complete the steps to finalize the permanent placement of the child.

(e) (1) In developing a permanency plan for a child in an out-of-home placement, the local department shall give primary consideration to the best interests of the child, **INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF BOTH IN-STATE AND OUT-OF-STATE PLACEMENTS**. The local department shall consider the following factors in determining the permanency plan that is in the best interests of the child: