

## **Chapter 583**

**(Senate Bill 576)**

AN ACT concerning

### **Residential Child and Youth Care Practitioners – Certification Requirement – Extension**

FOR the purpose of extending by a certain number of years the date by which an individual is required to receive a certificate by the State Board for Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals to qualify as a residential child and youth care practitioner; and generally relating to certification of residential child and youth care practitioners.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Health Occupations  
Section 20–301  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2009 Replacement Volume)

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

#### **Article – Health Occupations**

20–301.

(a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, on or after October 1, 2007, an individual shall receive a certificate from the Board before the individual may be a program administrator in this State.

(2) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, if a program administrator leaves or is removed from a position as program administrator by death or for any other unexpected cause, the owner of a residential child care program or other appropriate program authority shall immediately designate a certified program administrator to serve in that capacity.

(ii) 1. In the event a certified program administrator is not available, the owner or other appropriate program authority may appoint a noncertified person to serve in the capacity of acting program administrator for a period not to exceed 180 days.

2. The owner or other appropriate program authority shall immediately notify the Board of the appointment and forward the credentials of

the person appointed to the Board for evaluation to assure that the person appointed is experienced, trained, and competent.

3. The 180-day period begins on the date that the program administrator leaves or is removed from the position as a program administrator.

4. The Board may extend the 180-day period for a further period of not more than 30 days.

(b) On or before October 1, ~~[2013]~~ **2015**, an individual shall receive a certificate from the Board before the individual may be a residential child and youth care practitioner in this State.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2010.

**Approved by the Governor, May 20, 2010.**