

reinstate a right to counsel for a minor when consent to guardianship or adoption is given; clarifies a specified right to counsel applies only during the minority of the prospective adoptee; and provides for additional specific instances in which a parent's consent for adoption or guardianship is not required.

House Bill 978, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 795.

Very truly yours,
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Senate Bill No. 795

AN ACT concerning

Permanency for Families and Children Act of 2005 - Revision Revisions

FOR the purpose of altering provisions of the Permanency for Families and Children Act of 2005, to reinstate a right to counsel for a minor when consent to guardianship or adoption is given, to clarify a certain right to counsel applies only during the minority of the prospective adoptee, to provide for additional specific instances in which a parent's consent for adoption or guardianship is not required, to clarify and expand certain notice requirements, to provide for separate orders in certain cases, to reinstate certain provisions concerning access to a dental or medical record, to reinstate a certain provision as to the legal effect of an adult's adoption, to specify the factors a court is required to consider in ruling on a certain adoption petition, to specify that consent of a party to a certain adoption is not valid except under certain circumstances, to require the court to advise parents of the right to have independent counsel and receive adoption counseling under certain circumstances, to require the court, before ruling a nonconsensual adoption petition, to order a certain agency to investigate and make a certain report, to delete a provision as to the effect of a timely appeal, to make certain clarifying and conforming changes, and to correct technical errors; providing for the construction of this Act; and generally relating to termination of parental rights, guardianship, and adoption and the Permanency for Families and Children Act of 2005.

BY renumbering

Article - Family Law

Section 5-352(c), 5-3A-34(a), (b), and (c), 5-3A-35(a), (b), and (c), 5-3A-36, 5-3B-15(a) through (d), 5-3B-19, 5-3B-20, 5-3B-21, 5-3B-22, 5-3B-23, 5-3B-24, and 5-3B-25, respectively,

to be Section 5-352(d), 5-3A-35(a), (b), and (d), 5-3A-36(a), (b), and (d), 5-3A-37, 5-3B-15(c) through (f), 5-3B-20, 5-3B-21, 5-3B-22, 5-3B-23, 5-3B-24, 5-3B-25, and 5-3B-26, respectively

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)