

May 26, 2006

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed Senate Bill 795 – *Permanency for Families and Children Act of 2005 – Revisions*.

This bill alters 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; 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