

(V) HAS DIED.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2006.

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 808 - *Juvenile Law - Competency - Services*.

This bill authorizes the juvenile court to order the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene or a qualified expert to conduct an evaluation of a child's competency to proceed in specified juvenile delinquency hearings; repeals provisions relating to a finding of incompetency to proceed; and specifies the procedures for a finding of incompetency to proceed.

House Bill 1257, 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 808.

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

Senate Bill No. 808

AN ACT concerning

Juvenile Law - Competency - Services

FOR the purpose of authorizing the juvenile court to order the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene or a qualified expert to conduct an evaluation of a child's competency to proceed in certain juvenile delinquency hearings; repealing certain provisions relating to a finding of incompetency to proceed; specifying the procedures for a finding of incompetency to proceed; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to file a certain report under certain circumstances; requiring the court to hold a certain competency hearing and take certain actions under certain circumstances; authorizing the court to take certain actions at a certain competency hearing; requiring the court to dismiss a delinquency petition or violation of probation petition under certain circumstances; prohibiting the admission in evidence of certain statements and information elicited while certain services are being provided; establishing a certain presumption; altering a certain provision relating to the adoption of