determination at a competency hearing; requiring a certain service provider to file a certain report with the court; specifying that the court retains jurisdiction over a certain child for a certain period; requiring the court to dismiss a certain petition under certain circumstances; authorizing the court to order that certain proceedings be instituted under certain circumstances; establishing that certain hearings may be conducted without the presence of the child under certain circumstances; specifying that certain statements, information, and reports are not admissible in a proceeding except under certain circumstances; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Secretary of Juvenile Services to jointly adopt certain regulations; defining certain terms; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in coordination with other appropriate State agencies, to work with the Judiciary to develop certain training for certain individuals; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to the competency of a child to participate in certain proceedings.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 3-8A-01

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

## BY adding to

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 3-8A-17.1 through 3-8A-17.9

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

## Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

## 3-8A-01.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated, unless the context of their use indicates otherwise.
- (b) "Adjudicatory hearing" means a hearing under this subtitle to determine whether the allegations in the petition, other than allegations that the child requires treatment, guidance or rehabilitation, are true.
  - (c) "Adult" means an individual who is at least 18 years old.
  - (d) "Child" means an individual under the age of 18 years.
- (e) "Child in need of supervision" is a child who requires guidance, treatment, or rehabilitation and:
  - (1) Is required by law to attend school and is habitually truant;