

if the person in interest is not reasonably available to give written consent, certain other individuals may consent in writing to the release of information regarding a minor; exempting certain records from the information and records that may be exchanged unless the person in interest is given the opportunity to review the information and records to be exchanged and gives consent; specifying that the information and records provided to another agency shall remain confidential and may not be disclosed to any person or entity except under certain circumstances; specifying that consent of the person in interest is not required to provide certain information to the Subcabinet for Children, Youth, and Families under certain circumstances; providing that certain information be disclosed to certain public school officials under certain circumstances; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the disclosure of information and records on children, youth, and families.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 Article 49D – Office for Children, Youth, and Families  
 Section 10  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (1991 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

BY adding to  
Article 88A – Social Services Administration  
Section 6(b)(7)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1991 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

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

**Article 49D – Office for Children, Youth, and Families**

10.

(A) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT PUBLIC AGENCIES THAT SERVE CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES WITHIN MARYLAND EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON A CONSENT BASIS FOR THE PURPOSE OF:

(1) EFFECTUATING THE POLICY SET FORTH IN § 2 OF THIS ARTICLE FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY SERVICES;

(2) FACILITATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SEAMLESS SYSTEM OF FAMILY FOCUSED SERVICES; AND

(3) ACHIEVING A COMPREHENSIVE AND COORDINATED INTERAGENCY APPROACH TO PROVIDING A CONTINUUM OF CARE THAT IS FAMILY AND CHILD ORIENTED.

(B) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "ADULT" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL 18 YEARS OLD OR OLDER.