

(2) THE CLERK SHALL ISSUE A NOTICE OF THE DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF THE HEARING AT LEAST 10 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE HEARING.

(3) (I) THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER SHALL ENTER AN APPEARANCE FOR THE CHILD.

(II) AFTER ENTRY OF ITS APPEARANCE, THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER SHALL VERIFY ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTINUED PUBLIC DEFENDER REPRESENTATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 27A, § 7 OF THE CODE AND THE MARYLAND RULES.

(4) THE CONTINUANCE OF A WAIVER OR ADJUDICATORY HEARING UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE A BASIS FOR DETAINING THE CHILD UNDER § 3-8A-15 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2004.

Approved May 26, 2004.

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**CHAPTER 443**

**(Senate Bill 177)**

AN ACT concerning

**Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to include certain recommendations in a certain plan; establishing the Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities in the Executive Department; establishing the Director of Minority Affairs as head of the Office Department; requiring the Director of the Office to report to the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene; establishing the duties and responsibilities of the Office; establishing a Minority Health Advisory Commission; providing for the membership, chairperson, expenses, and staff of the Commission; establishing the duties of the Commission; requiring the Director to promote health and prevention of disease among members of certain groups; authorizing the Director to distribute certain grants for the improvement of minority health and health disparities under certain circumstances; authorizing the Director to fund certain projects; requiring that the Office Department provide a certain report; declaring the intent of the General Assembly; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the establishment of the Maryland Office of Minority Health and the Minority Health Advisory Commission Health Disparities.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 20-904(d)