consent at the request of a certain State's Attorney, to aid in a certain investigation and prosecution under certain circumstances; establishing that the Attorney General has all the powers and duties of a State's Attorney in certain circumstances; authorizing certain State's Attorneys or the Attorney General to join certain causes of action in certain circumstances; authorizing a certain grand jury to conduct a certain investigation; requiring the Attorney General and the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association to provide the General Assembly with a certain report; defining a certain term certain terms; altering a certain term; and generally relating to criminal gangs.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Criminal Law Section 9–801 Annotated Code of Maryland (2002 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Criminal Law Section 9–804 Annotated Code of Maryland (2002 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

Article - Criminal Law

9-801.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) "Coerce" means to compel or attempt to compel another by threat of harm or other adverse consequences.
- (c) "Criminal gang" means a group or [any] OTHER FORMAL OR INFORMAL ONGOING association of three or more persons WHOSE MEMBERS:
- (1) [that forms to] INDIVIDUALLY OR INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY engage in A PATTERN OF criminal GANG activity;
- (2) HAVE AS ONE OF THEIR PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OR ACTIVITIES THE COMMISSION OF ONE OR MORE CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES UNDERLYING CRIMES, including acts by juveniles that would be UNDERLYING crimes if committed by adults[, for the purposes of pecuniary gain or to create an atmosphere of fear and