

## CHAPTER 526

(House Bill 882)

AN ACT concerning

### **Juvenile Services – Release of Confidential Information**

FOR the purpose of authorizing a certain law enforcement agency to release to the public certain information concerning a child who has escaped from a detention center for juveniles or a secure residential facility for juveniles for certain purposes; and generally relating to juvenile services.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
Section 3–8A–27(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)  
(As enacted by Chapter 10 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2006)

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–27.

(a) (1) A police record concerning a child is confidential and shall be maintained separate from those of adults. Its contents may not be divulged, by subpoena or otherwise, except by order of the court upon good cause shown or as otherwise provided in § 7–303 of the Education Article.

(2) This subsection does not prohibit:

(i) Access to and confidential use of the record by the Department of Juvenile Services or in the investigation and prosecution of the child by any law enforcement agency; [or]

(ii) A law enforcement agency of the State or of a political subdivision of the State, the Department of Juvenile Services, or the criminal justice information system from including in the law enforcement computer information system information about an outstanding juvenile court ordered writ of attachment, for the sole purpose of apprehending a child named in the writ[.]; **OR**

**(III) A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OF THE STATE OR OF A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE FROM RELEASING TO THE PUBLIC PHOTOGRAPHS AND IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF A CHILD WHO HAS ESCAPED FROM A DETENTION CENTER FOR JUVENILES OR A SECURE RESIDENTIAL FACILITY FOR JUVENILES, FOR THE PURPOSES OF FACILITATING APPREHENSION OF THE CHILD AND ENSURING PUBLIC SAFETY.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

**Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2008.**