

May 15, 2014

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
H-107 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed Senate Bill 396 – *Equity Court Jurisdiction – Immigrant Children – Custody or Guardianship*.

This bill expands the jurisdiction of an equity court to include a petition to award custody or guardianship of an immigrant “child” along with a motion for Special Immigrant Juvenile factual findings. A “child” is an unmarried individual younger than age 21.

House Bill 315, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 396.

Sincerely,

Governor Martin O'Malley