
By: Delegates Grosfeld, Hurson, and Dembrow

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 1997

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Protection of Marriages**

3 FOR the purpose of specifying that a marriage between two consenting adults is valid in
4 the State; altering the definition of a "foreign marriage"; and generally relating to
5 the validity of marriages in the State.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Family Law
8 Section 2-201 and 2-502(a)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1991 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

13 **Article - Family Law**

14 2-201.

15 (A) Only a marriage between [a man and a woman] TWO CONSENTING ADULTS
16 is valid in this State.

17 (B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT INVALIDATE ANY OTHER SECTIONS IN THIS
18 TITLE.

19 2-502.

20 (a) In this section, "foreign marriage" means a marriage ceremony:

21 (1) performed outside this State; [and]

22 (2) BETWEEN TWO CONSENTING ADULTS; AND

23 [(2)] (3) in which [1] ONE or both of the parties were or are citizens of this
24 State.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 1997.