CHAPTER 238

(House Bill 422)

AN ACT concerning

Alimony and Child Support - Exemption from Execution on a Judgment

FOR the purpose of exempting money paid or payable for alimony or child support obligations from execution on a judgment; exempting money paid or payable for alimony from execution on a judgment to a certain extent; and generally relating to alimony and, child support, and exemptions from execution on a judgment.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings Section 11–504(b) Annotated Code of Maryland (2006 Replacement Volume)

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

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

11-504.

- (b) The following items are exempt from execution on a judgment:
- (1) Wearing apparel, books, tools, instruments, or appliances, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 in value necessary for the practice of any trade or profession except those kept for sale, lease, or barter.
- (2) Money payable in the event of sickness, accident, injury, or death of any person, including compensation for loss of future earnings. This exemption includes but is not limited to money payable on account of judgments, arbitrations, compromises, insurance, benefits, compensation, and relief. Disability income benefits are not exempt if the judgment is for necessities contracted for after the disability is incurred.

- (3) Professionally prescribed health aids for the debtor or any dependent of the debtor.
- (4) The debtor's interest, not to exceed \$1,000 in value, in household furnishings, household goods, wearing apparel, appliances, books, animals kept as pets, and other items that are held primarily for the personal, family, or household use of the debtor or any dependent of the debtor.
- (5) Cash or property of any kind equivalent in value to \$6,000 is exempt, if within 30 days from the date of the attachment or the levy by the sheriff, the debtor elects to exempt cash or selected items of property in an amount not to exceed a cumulative value of \$6,000.
- (6) MONEY PAYABLE OR PAID FOR ALIMONY OR IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN AGREEMENT OR COURT ORDER FOR CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATIONS.
- (7) MONEY PAYABLE OR PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN AGREEMENT OR COURT ORDER FOR ALIMONY TO THE SAME EXTENT THAT WAGES ARE EXEMPT FROM ATTACHMENT UNDER § 15–601.1(B)(1)(II) OR (2)(I) OF THE COMMERCIAL LAW ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor, April 24, 2007.