

HOUSE BILL 1259

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HB 609/97 - JUD

1998 Regular Session  
8r2587

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By: **Delegate Grosfeld**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998

Assigned to: Judiciary

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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  
4 in the State; altering the definition of a "foreign marriage"; and generally  
5 relating to 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 1997 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  
16 ADULTS 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  
24 this State.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 October 1, 1998.