
By: **Delegate Boschert**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 1999

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Marriage of Individual Under the Age of 16 or 17 Years**

3 FOR the purpose of amending the requirements for marriage of an individual of a
4 certain age; repealing provisions of law permitting an individual of a certain age
5 to marry upon presentation of a certain physician's certificate; repealing
6 provisions of law allowing an individual under a certain age to marry under
7 certain circumstances; prohibiting an individual under a certain age from
8 marrying; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the
9 marriage of an individual of a certain age.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

11 Article - Family Law

12 Section 2-301

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (1999 Replacement Volume)

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

17 **Article - Family Law**

18 2-301.

19 (a) An individual 16 or 17 years old may not marry unless:

20 (1) AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION FOR A MARRIAGE LICENSE, the
21 individual has the NOTARIZED WRITTEN consent of a parent or guardian [and] IN
22 WHICH the parent or guardian swears that the individual is at least 16 years old; [or]
23 AND

24 (2) [if the individual does not have the consent of a parent or guardian,
25 either party to be married gives the clerk a certificate from a licensed physician
26 stating that the physician has examined the woman to be married and has found that
27 she is pregnant or has given birth to a child] IN A CIVIL MARRIAGE CEREMONY, A
28 PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF THE MINOR IS PRESENT AS A WITNESS.

- 1 (b) An individual under the age of 16 years may not marry [unless:
- 2 (1) the individual has the consent of a parent or guardian; and
- 3 (2) either party to be married gives the clerk a certificate from a licensed
- 4 physician stating that the physician has examined the woman to be married and has
- 5 found that she is pregnant or has given birth to a child].

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply only

7 to marriage applications filed on or after the effective date of this Act.

8 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

9 October 1, 1999.