

HOUSE BILL 592

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1999 Regular Session
9r1555

By: **Delegates Barkley, Barve, Benson, Carlson, Dembrow, Giannetti, Hecht,
Heller, Hubers, Hurson, Kach, Love, Menes, Petzold, Pitkin, Stern, and
Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 1999
Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 19, 1999

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Confinement of Unattended Children - Age of Child**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the age of a child that may not be left unattended in
4 locked or confined circumstances without certain supervision; and generally
5 relating to unattended children.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Family Law
8 Section 5-801
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1999 Replacement Volume)

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 5-801.

15 (a) A person who is charged with the care of a child under the age of [8] 10
16 years may not allow the child to be locked or confined in a dwelling, building,
17 enclosure, or motor vehicle while the person charged is absent and the dwelling,
18 building, enclosure, or motor vehicle is out of the sight of the person charged unless
19 the person charged provides a reliable person at least 13 years old to remain with the
20 child to protect the child.

1 (b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on
2 conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding 30
3 days, or both.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 1999.