

HOUSE BILL 919

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HB 1259/98 - JUD

2000 Regular Session  
0lr1535

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By: **Delegate Grosfeld**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000

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"; providing for the  
5 construction of this Act; and generally relating to the validity of marriages in the  
6 State.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article - Family Law  
9 Section 2-201 and 2-502(a)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Family Law**

15 2-201.

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

18 (B) THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO INVALIDATE OTHER SECTIONS  
19 IN THIS TITLE.

20 2-502.

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

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

23 (2) BETWEEN TWO CONSENTING ADULTS; AND

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

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 October 1, 2000.