Unofficial Copy D4 2000 Regular Session 0lr2019

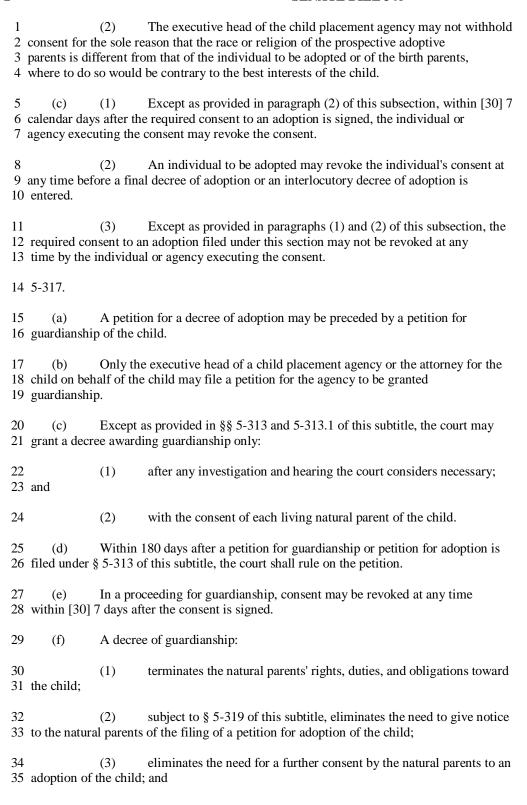
By: Senators McCabe and Haines Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2000 Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings A BILL ENTITLED 1 AN ACT concerning 2 Family Law - Adoption and Guardianship - Revocation of Consent 3 FOR the purpose of altering the time period within which an individual or child placement agency may revoke consent to an adoption; altering the time period 4 5 within which a natural parent may revoke consent to a guardianship; and 6 generally relating to adoption and guardianship. 7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article - Family Law 8 Section 5-311 and 5-317 9 10 Annotated Code of Maryland (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement) 11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 12 13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: 14 **Article - Family Law** 15 5-311. Unless the natural parents' rights have been terminated by a judicial proceeding, an individual may not be adopted without the consent of: 17 18 (1) the natural mother; 19 (2) the natural father; and the individual, if the individual is at least 10 years old. 20 (3) If the natural parents' rights have been terminated by a judicial 21 proceeding, an individual may not be adopted without the consent of: 22 23 the executive head of the child placement agency that has been (i)

the individual, if the individual is at least 10 years old.

24 awarded guardianship of the individual; and

(ii)

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- 1 (4) subject to § 5-319 of this subtitle, authorizes the child placement
 2 agency to consent to joint guardianship, custody, or other long-term placement that
 3 the agency determines to be in the child's best interest.

 4 (g) (1) After any investigation and hearing the court considers necessary,
 5 the court may grant a decree awarding joint guardianship, custody, or other
 6 long-term placement that the court determines to be in the child's best interest.

 7 (2) If joint guardianship is awarded to a caregiver, the child placement
 8 agency shall retain guardianship with the right to consent to adoption or long-term
 9 care short of adoption.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 11 October 1, 2000.