SENATE BILL 507

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By: Senators McCabe, Bromwell, DeGrange, Dorman, Ferguson, Frosh, Hafer, Hollinger, Jacobs, Hooper, Lawlah, Middleton, Mooney, Munson, Sfikas, Stoltzfus, and Stone

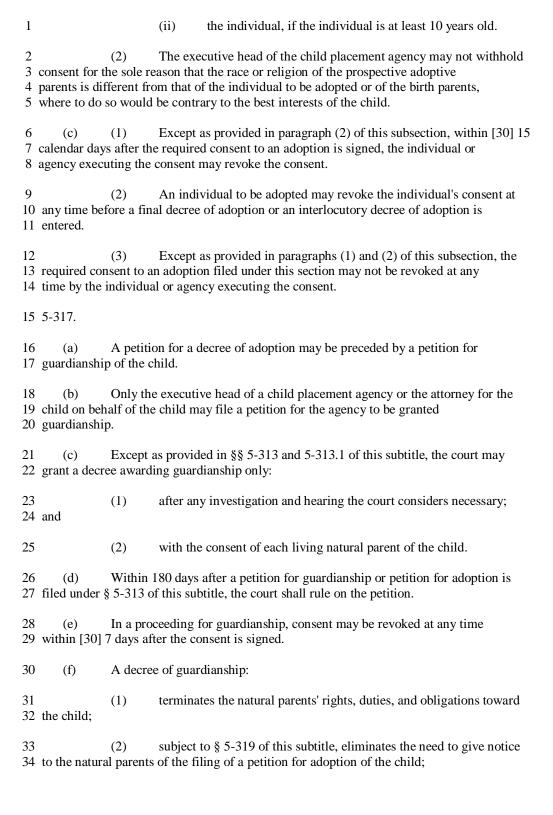
Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2001

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

	A BILL ENTITLED
1	AN ACT concerning
2	Family Law - Adoption and Guardianship - Revocation of Consent
3 4 5 6	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 within which a natural parent may revoke consent to a guardianship; and generally relating to adoption and guardianship.
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12 13	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
14	Article - Family Law
15	5-311.
16 17	(a) Unless the natural parents' rights have been terminated by a judicial proceeding, an individual may not be adopted without the consent of:
18	(1) the natural mother;

- 19 (2) the natural father; and
- the individual, if the individual is at least 10 years old. 20 (3)
- 21 If the natural parents' rights have been terminated by a judicial
- 22 proceeding, an individual may not be adopted without the consent of:
- the executive head of the child placement agency that has been
- 24 awarded guardianship of the individual; and

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- 1 (3) eliminates the need for a further consent by the natural parents to an 2 adoption of the child; and
- 3 (4) subject to § 5-319 of this subtitle, authorizes the child placement 4 agency to consent to joint guardianship, custody, or other long-term placement that
- 5 the agency determines to be in the child's best interest.
- 6 (g) (1) After any investigation and hearing the court considers necessary,
- 7 the court may grant a decree awarding joint guardianship, custody, or other
- 8 long-term placement that the court determines to be in the child's best interest.
- 9 (2) If joint guardianship is awarded to a caregiver, the child placement
- 10 agency shall retain guardianship with the right to consent to adoption or long-term
- 11 care short of adoption.
- 12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 13 October 1, 2001.