

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

Senate Bill 507

(Senator McCabe, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Judiciary

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Family Law - Adoption and Guardianship - Revocation of Consent

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This bill reduces, from 30 days to 15 days, the time period within which a natural parent, an individual, or a placement agency may revoke consent to an adoption. The bill also reduces the time period for revoking consent to a guardianship from 30 days to 15 days.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill would not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** An individual may not be adopted without the consent of the natural mother, the natural father, and the individual if at least ten years old unless a natural parent's rights have been terminated by a judicial proceeding. If the natural parents' rights have been terminated by a judicial proceeding, an individual may not be adopted without the consent of the executive head of the child placement agency that has been awarded guardianship and the individual if at least ten years old. The individual to be adopted or the agency executing the consent may revoke consent within 30 days.

In a guardianship proceeding, the consent of each living natural parent of the child is also needed unless a natural parent's rights have been terminated. The time period allowed for revocation of the required consent in a petition for guardianship is 30 days.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** A similar bill was introduced during the 2000 session as SB 346. It was not reported from the Judicial Proceedings Committee.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Human Resources (Social Services Administration), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – February 18, 2001  
cm/jr Revised – Senate Third Reader – March 19, 2001

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