

SENATE BILL 171

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2003 Regular Session
3lr0822

By: **Senators Jacobs, Colburn, Greenip, Hooper, Kelley, Klausmeier, and Lawlah**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2003

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Marriage Ceremonies - Solicitation**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the prohibition against erecting or maintaining an
4 information booth or advertisement that is intended to help solicit the
5 performance of a marriage ceremony; repealing the penalties for a violation of
6 the prohibition; and generally relating to marriage ceremonies.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Family Law
9 Section 2-408
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 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 2-408.

16 (a) [(1)] An authorized official may not give or offer to give any reward to any
17 person as an inducement to direct to the authorized official any individual who is
18 contemplating marriage.

19 [(2)] A person may not erect or maintain any information booth or
20 advertisement that is intended to help solicit the performance of any marriage
21 ceremony.]

22 (b) [(1)] An authorized official who violates the provisions of subsection
23 [(a)(1)] (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a
24 fine not exceeding \$50 for each offense.

25 [(2)] A person who violates the provisions of subsection (a)(2) of this
26 section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject:

1 (i) for the first offense, to a fine not exceeding \$100; and

2 (ii) for each subsequent offense, to a fine not exceeding \$500 or
3 imprisonment not exceeding 1 year or both.]

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
5 effect October 1, 2003.