

## **CHAPTER 41**

**(House Bill 88)**

AN ACT concerning

### **Maryland Uniform Interstate Depositions and Discovery Act**

FOR the purpose of enacting the Maryland Uniform Interstate Depositions and Discovery Act; establishing procedures for requesting and issuing certain subpoenas; providing for the service of certain subpoenas; establishing that certain Maryland Rules apply to certain subpoenas; requiring that an application for a protective order or to enforce, quash, or modify certain subpoenas comply with certain rules and statutes and be filed in a certain court; requiring certain consideration to be given in applying and construing this Act; defining certain terms; repealing existing provisions of law relating to foreign depositions; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to interstate depositions and discovery.

BY repealing

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 9–401 through 9–403 and the subtitle “Subtitle 4. Foreign Depositions”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 9–401 through 9–407 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 4.

Maryland Uniform Interstate Depositions and Discovery Act”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 9–401 through 9–403 and the subtitle “Subtitle 4. Foreign Depositions” of Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

### **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

#### **SUBTITLE 4. MARYLAND UNIFORM INTERSTATE DEPOSITIONS AND DISCOVERY ACT.**

**9-401.**

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "FOREIGN JURISDICTION" MEANS A STATE OTHER THAN THIS STATE.

(C) "FOREIGN SUBPOENA" MEANS A SUBPOENA ISSUED UNDER AUTHORITY OF A COURT OF RECORD OF A FOREIGN JURISDICTION.

(D) "PERSON" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL, CORPORATION, BUSINESS TRUST, ESTATE, TRUST, PARTNERSHIP, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, ASSOCIATION, JOINT VENTURE, PUBLIC CORPORATION, GOVERNMENT, GOVERNMENTAL SUBDIVISION, AGENCY, OR INSTRUMENTALITY, OR ANY OTHER LEGAL OR COMMERCIAL ENTITY.

(E) "STATE" MEANS A STATE OF THE UNITED STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, PUERTO RICO, THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS, OR ANY TERRITORY OR INSULAR POSSESSION SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

(F) "SUBPOENA" MEANS A DOCUMENT, HOWEVER DENOMINATED, ISSUED UNDER AUTHORITY OF A COURT OF RECORD REQUIRING A PERSON TO:

(1) ATTEND AND GIVE TESTIMONY AT A DEPOSITION;

(2) PRODUCE AND PERMIT INSPECTION AND COPYING OF DESIGNATED BOOKS, DOCUMENTS, RECORDS, ELECTRONICALLY STORED INFORMATION, OR TANGIBLE THINGS IN THE POSSESSION, CUSTODY, OR CONTROL OF THE PERSON; OR

(3) PERMIT INSPECTION OF PREMISES UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE PERSON.

**9-402.**

(A) (1) TO REQUEST ISSUANCE OF A SUBPOENA UNDER THIS SECTION, A PARTY SHALL SUBMIT A FOREIGN SUBPOENA TO A CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH DISCOVERY IS SOUGHT TO BE CONDUCTED IN THIS STATE.

**(2) A REQUEST FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A SUBPOENA UNDER THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN APPEARANCE IN THE COURTS OF THIS STATE.**

**(B) WHEN A PARTY SUBMITS A FOREIGN SUBPOENA TO A CLERK OF COURT IN THIS STATE, THE CLERK, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT COURT'S PROCEDURE, SHALL PROMPTLY ISSUE A SUBPOENA FOR SERVICE UPON THE PERSON TO WHICH THE FOREIGN SUBPOENA IS DIRECTED.**

**(C) A SUBPOENA UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:**

**(1) INCORPORATE THE TERMS USED IN THE FOREIGN SUBPOENA;  
AND**

**(2) CONTAIN OR BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE NAMES, ADDRESSES, AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF ALL COUNSEL OF RECORD IN THE PROCEEDING TO WHICH THE SUBPOENA RELATES AND OF ANY PARTY NOT REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL.**

**9-403.**

**A SUBPOENA ISSUED BY A CLERK OF COURT UNDER § 9-402 OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE SERVED IN COMPLIANCE WITH MARYLAND RULE 2-510.**

**9-404.**

**TITLE 2, CHAPTER 400 OF THE MARYLAND RULES AND MARYLAND RULE 2-510 APPLY TO SUBPOENAS ISSUED UNDER § 9-402 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

**9-405.**

**AN APPLICATION TO THE COURT FOR A PROTECTIVE ORDER OR TO ENFORCE, QUASH, OR MODIFY A SUBPOENA ISSUED BY A CLERK OF COURT UNDER § 9-402 OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL COMPLY WITH THE RULES AND STATUTES OF THIS STATE AND BE SUBMITTED TO THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH DISCOVERY IS TO BE CONDUCTED.**

**9-406.**

**IN APPLYING AND CONSTRUING THIS UNIFORM ACT, CONSIDERATION SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE NEED TO PROMOTE UNIFORMITY OF THE LAW WITH RESPECT TO ITS SUBJECT MATTER AMONG STATES THAT ENACT IT.**

**9-407.**

**THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE CITED AS THE MARYLAND UNIFORM INTERSTATE DEPOSITIONS AND DISCOVERY ACT.**

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act applies to requests for discovery in cases pending on the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

**Approved by the Governor, April 8, 2008.**