

HOUSE BILL 384

D4, D1

6lr1914

By: **Delegates Taveras, Fennell, Hill, Kaiser, Kaufman, Lehman, Moreno, Odom, Ruff, Stinnett, Terrasa, and Wims**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Support – Capacity of Minors to Initiate and Defend an Action**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a minor who is the parent of a child to initiate or defend
4 an action for child support; and generally relating to child support.

5 BY adding to

6 Article – Family Law

7 Section 12–106

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
11 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article – Family Law**

13 **12–106.**

14 **NOTWITHSTANDING MARYLAND RULE 2–202, A MINOR WHO IS THE PARENT**
15 **OF A CHILD HAS THE CAPACITY AND RIGHT TO INITIATE OR DEFEND AN ACTION FOR**
16 **CHILD SUPPORT, WHETHER PENDENTE LITE OR PERMANENTLY.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2026.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

