
To: Members of The House Judiciary Committee

From: MARYLAND STATE BAR FAMILY AND JUVENILE LAW SECTION COUNCIL – Ilene Glickman, Legislative Committee Chair and Daniel Renart, Legislative Committee Chair

Date: March 5, 2020

Subject: **House Bill 1103** – Maryland Child Abduction Prevention Act

Position: **SUPPORT**

This testimony is submitted on behalf of the Family and Juvenile Law Section Council (“FJLSC”) of the Maryland State Bar Association (“MSBA”). The FJLSC is the formal representative of the Family and Juvenile Law Section of the MSBA, which promotes the objectives of the MSBA by improving the administration of justice in the field of family and juvenile law and, at the same time, tries to bring together the members of the MSBA who are concerned with family and juvenile laws and in reforms and improvements in such laws through legislation or otherwise. The FJLSC is charged with the general supervision and control of the affairs of the Section and authorized to act for the Section in any way in which the Section itself could act. The Section has over 1,200 attorney members. The Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) Family and Juvenile Law Section **supports House Bill 1103 – Maryland Child Abduction Prevention Act.**

This bill creates a frame work for parents traveling internationally with children and is designed to prevent the abduction of children by a parent or family member. These statutes authorize a court in a custody or visitation proceeding to require certain measures, which include requiring a party to provide a written notice of the intent to travel internationally with a child a certain period of time prior to the planned travel; authorizing a court, on its own motion, to order child abduction prevention measures in certain child custody proceedings; authorizing certain parties to petition the court for child abduction prevention measures; applying the Act retroactively, etc.

For the reasons stated above, the MSBA FJLSC **supports House Bill 1103 and urges a favorable committee report.**

Should you have any questions, please contact Daniel Renart by e-mail at drenart@rghlawyers.com or by telephone at 301-383-1525.