

10 AN ACT CONCERNING

20 **Legal Marriage – Inclusion of Same-Sex Unions**

30 FOR the purpose of legalizing marriage between members of the same sex, thereby making
40 available to persons of any sex certain rights and responsibilities that are only manageable
50 through legal marriage.

60 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
70 Article – Family Law
80 Section 2-201 and 2-202
90 Annotated Code of Maryland
100 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

110 **Preamble**

120 WHEREAS: Marriage is a legal contract set forth by the State for the purpose of legal
130 partnership; and,

140 WHEREAS: The law provides specified couples with certain legal and personal rights that
150 are currently inaccessible to same-sex partners in similar relationships; and,

160 WHEREAS: The State of Maryland explicitly limits this business relationship to a man and a
170 woman; and,

180 WHEREAS: Marriage is the only such relationship that is not valid for same-sex couples;
190 and,

200 WHEREAS: The societal, political, economic, and personal benefits of legalizing same-sex
210 unions exceed all prejudices, precedents, and foreseeable repercussions thereof;

220 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE, that the
230 laws of Maryland read as follows:

240 **Article – Family Law**

250 § 2-201 – Valid Marriages.

260 ~~Only a marriage between a man and a woman is valid in this State.~~ A MARRIAGE BETWEEN
270 TWO PERSONS OF ANY SEX IS VALID IN THIS STATE.

280 § 2-202 – Marriages within certain degrees of relationship void; penalties

290 (a) *In general.* – Any marriage performed in this State that is prohibited by this
300 section is void.

310 (b) *Marriages within 3 degrees of direct lineal consanguinity or within the first*
320 *degree of collateral consanguinity prohibited; penalties. -*

330 (1) ~~A man~~ AN INDIVIDUAL may not marry his OR HER:

340 (i) grandmother;

350 (ii) mother;

360 (iii) daughter;

370 (iv) sister; ~~or~~

380 (v) granddaughter;

390 ~~(2) — A woman may not marry her:~~

400 ~~(i)~~ (VI) grandfather;

410 ~~(ii)~~ (VII) father;

420 ~~(iii)~~ (VIII) son;

430 ~~(iv)~~ (IX) brother; or

440 ~~(v)~~ (X) grandson.

450 ~~(3)~~ (2) An individual who violates any provision of this subsection is
460 guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine of \$1,500.

470 (c) *Certain marriages within other degrees of affinity or consanguinity prohibited;*
480 *penalties. -*

490 (1) ~~A man~~ AN INDIVIDUAL may not marry his OR HER:

500 (i) grandfather's wife;

510 (ii) wife's grandmother;

510 (iii) father's sister;

520 (iv) mother's sister;

530 (v) stepmother;

540 (vi) wife's mother;

550 (vii) wife's daughter;

560 (viii) son's wife;

570 (ix) grandson's wife;

580 (x) wife's granddaughter;

590 (xi) brother's daughter; ~~or~~

600 (xii) sister's daughter;

610 ~~(2) — A woman may not marry her:~~

620 ~~(i)~~ (XIII) grandmother's husband;

630 ~~(ii)~~ (XIV) husband's grandfather;

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