

10 AN ACT concerning

20 **Family Law - Child Support - Age of Majority**

30 FOR the purpose of altering certain provisions of law defining the age of majority to provide that a person
40 who has attained the age of 18 years and who is enrolled in secondary school has the right to support and
50 maintenance until the first of certain events occur; establishing that this Act shall be considered a material
60 change in circumstances for purposes of modifying a child support order issued before the effective date of
70 this Act; and generally relating to child support.

80 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
90 Article 1 - Rules of Interpretation
100 Section 24
110 Annotated Code of Maryland
120 (2002 Replacement Volume)

130 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE, That the laws of
140 Maryland read as follows:

150 **Article 1 – Rules of Interpretation**

160 § 24.

170 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection or as otherwise specifically provided
180 by statute, a person eighteen years of age or more is an adult for all purposes whatsoever and has
190 the same legal capacity, rights, powers, privileges, duties, liabilities, and responsibilities as prior to
200 July 1, 1973, persons had at twenty-one years of age, and the "age of majority" is hereby declared
210 to be eighteen years.

220 (2) A person who has attained the age of 18 years and who is enrolled in secondary school has
230 the right to receive support and maintenance from both of the person's parents until the first to
240 occur of the following events:

250 (i) The person dies;

260 (ii) The person marries;

270 (iii) The person is emancipated;

280 (iv) The person graduates from or is no longer enrolled in secondary school; or

290 (v) The person attains the age of ~~19~~ 22 years.

300 (b) (1) The terms "adult", "of full age", or "of legal age" refer to persons who have attained the age
310 of eighteen years.

320 (2) Except as provided in subsection (a)(2) of this section, the term "minor", as it pertains to
330 legal age and capacity, refers to persons who have not attained the age of eighteen years.

340 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this act shall take effect October 1, 2003.

350 MANDATES: Governor Robert Ehrlich
360 Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr.
370 Senator Brian E. Frosh, Judicial Proceedings Committee Chair
380 Senator Ida G. Ruben
390 Senator Jennie M. Forehand
400 Speaker of the House of Delegates Michael E. Busch
410 Delegate Joseph F. Vallario, Jr., Judiciary Committee Chair

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