



Maryland Student Legislature

Legislative Compendium for the
2007-2008 Academic Year

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I bring you greetings from the members of the Maryland Student Legislature (MSL), the *Voice of College Students Across Maryland*. MSL is beginning its twentieth year as the forum Maryland college students use to exchange ideas and debate policy issues of local, national, and global significance.

MSL is a simulation of the Maryland State Government. Students of all political persuasions are encouraged to research and draft legislation and follow the legislative process in order to bring their ideas and solutions to fruition. MSL provides an unparalleled opportunity for students to hone their debating, oratorical, and leadership skills. The MSL experience has always had a dramatic effect on its members and will continue to improve the lives of college students in our state for many years to come.

Every year, MSL hosts four events for students to participate in: the Leadership Training Institute (LTI) and Interim Assembly, both held in the fall and the Leadership Training Institute/Interim Assembly and Annual Session, held in the spring. MSL's Annual Session is held in the Maryland State House in Annapolis where students have the privilege of using the state Senate and House of Delegates chambers and committee rooms. A legislative reception is also held annually, to which every member of the Maryland General Assembly is invited to attend.

This Compendium includes legislation passed by MSL during the 2007–2008 academic year. You may find some of the legislation topics to be familiar as they concern issues you have debated considered and debated yourselves. Some are original ideas that our participants find to be worthy of the public's attention. No matter the subject matter or political position, each piece of legislation in this compendium has something in common: the hard work of their student sponsors who took the time to write them, introduce them and gain the support of their peers for them, and the dedication of our members to question, debate and pass the legislation at one of our legislative sessions. With that in mind, I hope that you will take a few moments to read the legislation put forth by our student members and consider the issues that Maryland college students in MSL gave consideration to in the last year.

Sincerely,

Amanda Arkwright
Governor
2008–09 Academic Year



AN ACT CONCERNING

Maryland State Beer

FOR the purposes of recognizing National Bohemian brand beer as the official beer of Maryland

BY adding to
Article –State Government,
Title 13. Emblems; Commemorative Days
Annotated Code of Maryland

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE, that the laws
of Maryland read as follows:
Article – State Government

§ 13-320

National Bohemian brand beer is the State Beer.



AN ACT CONCERNING

The Allowance of Legal Adults on the Premises of Restaurants Possessing Alcohol License

FOR the purpose of reversing state law which forces businesses to prohibit legal adults, age 18 to 21, from loitering on the premises of restaurants in possession of alcohol licenses after meal hours have expired; and generally relating to the cause of expanded eligibility.

By amending
Article 2B - Alcoholic Beverages
Section 12-111(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland

Preamble

WHEREAS, the loitering on the premises of restaurants, licensed under article 2B, does not denote the consumption of alcohol in violation of the state mandated age of 21 years and that such establishments provide entertainment (*e.g.* dancing, billiards, musical performances, *etc.*) and also serve beverages not restricted under Article 2B after meal hours have expired; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE:

Article-2B

§ 12-111

(a) Loitering about a place of business. - A licensee under this article may not permit any person ~~not designated under § 1-102 (a) (6) of this article~~ **UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS OLD** to loaf or loiter about the place of business for which the license is issued.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this Act shall take effect on May 1, 2008.



AN ACT CONCERNING

Environment- Miscellaneous Provisions- Cafeterias at State Funded Institutions - Reusable/Recyclable Dishware

For the purpose of requiring reusable/recyclable dishware in all Cafeterias at State Funded Institutions as of June 1, 2008

By Creating

Article- Reusable/Recyclable Dishware in Cafeterias at State Funded Institutions

Section §17-101

Annotated Code of Maryland

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

Article-Environment- Miscellaneous Provisions- Cafeterias at State Funded Institutions- Reusable/Recyclable Dishware

§17-101

(a) *Definitions-*

(1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated

(2) “Reusable” means any dishware that:

(i) can be washed; and

(ii) will last at least 1 year

(3) “Recyclable” means any dishware that:

(i) can be processes to be used again

(4) “Cafeterias at State Funded Institutions” means any establishment that:

(i) serves food to patrons; and

(ii) receives at least 25% of its annual budget from state funds

(b) *In General-* Cafeterias at State Funded Institutions shall use reusable/recyclable dishware.

(c) *Applicability-* The provisions of this section shall apply to all current Cafeterias at State Funded Institutions as well as any cafeterias constructed after June 1, 2008.

SECTION 2: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this act will take affect June 1, 2008.



AN ACT CONCERNING

Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Repeal of Finding Requirement

FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that the Secretary of State Police find that a person has a good and substantial reason to wear, carry, or transport a handgun before issuing a certain handgun permit to the person; and generally relating to the issuing of handgun permits by the Secretary of State Police.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Public Safety
Section 5-306
Annotated Code of Maryland

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

Article – Public Safety

§ 5-306

(a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary shall issue a permit within areas on able time to a person who the Secretary finds:

(1) is an adult;

(2) (i) has not been convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor for which a sentence of imprisonment for more than 1 year has 200 been imposed; or

(ii) if convicted of a crime described in item (i) of this item, has been pardoned or has been granted relief under 18 U.S.C. 230 §925(c); 2 HOUSE BILL 2

(3) has not been convicted of a crime involving the possession, use, or distribution of a controlled dangerous substance;

(4) is not presently an alcoholic, addict, or habitual user of a controlled dangerous substance unless the habitual use of the controlled dangerous substance is under legitimate medical direction; and

(5) based on an investigation;

(6) has not exhibited a propensity for violence or instability that may reasonably render the person's possession of a

handgun a danger to the person or to another; and

~~(ii) has good and substantial reason to wear, carry, or transport a handgun, such as a finding that the permit is necessary as a reasonable precaution against apprehended danger.~~

(b) An applicant under the age of 30 years is qualified only if the Secretary finds that the applicant has not been:

(1) committed to a detention, training, or correctional institution for juveniles for longer than 1 year after an adjudication of delinquency by a juvenile court; or

(2) adjudicated delinquent by a juvenile court for:

(i) an act that would be a crime of violence if committed by an adult;

(ii) an act that would be a felony in this State if committed by an adult; or

(iii) an act that would be a misdemeanor in this State that carries a statutory penalty of more than 2 years if committed by an adult.

SECTION 2: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this act shall take effect January 1, 2009.



AN ACT CONCERNING

Family Law - Marriage

FOR the purpose of providing the intrinsic benefits of licensed marriage equally to all citizens of the state of Maryland.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments
Article – Family Law
Title 2 – Marriage
Sections 1-3
Annotated Code of Maryland

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE, That the Laws of Maryland reads as follows:

Title 2. ~~Marriage~~ CIVIL UNION

Subtitle 1. Definitions

§ 2-101. Definitions

- a) In general.- In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.
- b) Authorized official.- "Authorized official" means an individual authorized by the laws of this State to perform a CIVIL UNION ceremony
- (c) Clerk.- "Clerk" means a clerk of the circuit court for a county
- (d) License.- "License" means a license to ~~marry~~ UNIFY issued in this State

Subtitle 2. Valid ~~Marriages~~ UNIONS; Void ~~Marriages~~ UNIONS.

§ 2-201. Valid ~~Marriages~~ UNIONS Only a ~~marriage~~ UNION between ~~a man and a woman~~ TWO PEOPLE is valid in this State.

§ 2-202. ~~Marriages~~ UNIONS within certain degrees of relationship void; penalties.

- (a) In general.- Any ~~marriage~~ UNION performed in this State that is prohibited by this section is void.
- (b) ~~Marriages~~ UNIONS within 3 degrees of direct lineal consanguinity or within first degree of collateral consanguinity prohibited; penalties.

(1) A ~~man~~ PERSON may not ~~marry~~ UNIFY WITH his/HER:

- (i) ~~grandmother~~ GRANDPARENT;

- (ii) ~~mother~~ PARENT;
- (iii) ~~daughter~~ CHILD;
- (iv) ~~sister~~ SIBLING; or
- (v) ~~granddaughter~~ GRANDCHILD.

~~(2) A woman may not marry her;~~

~~(i) grandfather;~~

~~(ii) father;~~

~~(iii) son;~~

~~(iv) brother; or~~

~~(v) grandson~~

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

(c) Certain CIVIL UNIONS within other degrees of affinity or consanguinity prohibited; penalties.

(1) A ~~man~~ PERSON may not ~~marry~~ UNIFY WITH his/HER:

(i) ~~grandfather's wife~~ GRANDPARENT'S SPOUSE;

(ii) ~~wife's grandmother~~ SPOUSE'S

GRANDPARENTS;

(iii) ~~father's sister~~ PARENT'S SIBLING;

(iv) ~~mother's sister~~ SIBLING'S CHILD;

(v) ~~stepmother~~ STEPPARENT;

(vi) ~~wife's mother~~ SPOUSE'S PARENT;

(vii) ~~wife's daughter~~ SPOUSE'S CHILD;

(viii) ~~son's wife~~ CHILD'S SPOUSE;

(ix) ~~grandson's wife~~ GRANDCHILD'S SPOUSE; OR

(x) ~~wife's granddaughter~~ SPOUSE'S GRANDCHILD;

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

~~(xii) sister's daughter.~~

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

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

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

~~(iii) father's brother;~~

~~(iv) mother's brother;~~

~~(v) stepfather;~~

~~(vi) husband's father;~~

~~(vii) husband's son;~~

~~(viii) daughter's husband~~

~~(ix) husband's grandson;~~

~~(x) brother's son;~~

~~(xi) sister's son; or~~

~~(xii) granddaughters husband.~~

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

Subtitle 3.

§ 2-301 (a) An individual 16 or 17 years old may not ~~marry~~ UNIFY unless:

(1) the individual has the consent of a parent or guardian and the parent or guardian swears that the individual is at least 16 years old; or

(2) if the individual does not have the consent of a parent or guardian, either party to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED gives the clerk a certificate from a licensed physician stating that the physician has examined the woman to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED and has found that she is pregnant or has given birth to a child.

(b) An individual 15 years old may not ~~marry~~ UNIFY unless:

(1) the individual has the consent of a parent or guardian; and

(2) either party to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED gives the clerk a certificate from a licensed physician stating that the physician has examined the woman to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED and has found that she is pregnant or has given birth to a child.

(c) An individual under the age of 15 may not ~~marry~~ UNIFY.

§ 2-302. A person who violates any provision of this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$250.

Subtitle 4

§ 2-401. (a) An individual may not ~~marry~~ UNIFY in this State without a license issued by the clerk for the county in which the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION is performed.

(b) Any individual who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine of \$100.

§ 2-402. (a) An applicant for a license may apply to the clerk only at the office of the clerk during regular office hours.

(b) Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this section, to apply for a license, 1 of the parties to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED shall:

(1) appear before the clerk and give, under oath, the following information, which shall be placed on an application form by the clerk:

- (i) the full name of each party;
- (ii) the place of residence of each party;
- (iii) the age of each party;
- (iv) whether the parties are related by blood or ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION and, if so, in which degree of relationship;
- (v) the ~~marital~~ UNIFACATION status of each party; and
- (vi) whether either party was ~~married~~ UNIFIED previously, and the date and place of each death or judicial determination 1130 that ended any former ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION;

(2) sign the application form; and

(3) provide the clerk with the Social Security number of each party who has a Social Security number.

(c) The Social Security numbers of the parties:

(1) shall be included in the electronic file for the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION license application; and

(2) except as provided in § 10-617 of the State Government Article, may not be disclosed as part of the public record of the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION license application.

(d) If the parties to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED are not residents of the county where the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony is to be performed, the clerk shall accept, instead of the application specified in subsection (b) of this section, an affidavit from 1 of the parties to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED. The affidavit shall:

(1) contain the information required by subsection (b) of this section; and

(2) be sworn to under oath before a clerk or other comparable official in the county, state, province, or country where the party resides.

(e) In Cecil County both parties to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED shall appear together before the clerk to apply for a license.

(f) Until a license becomes effective, a clerk may not disclose the fact that an application for a license has been made except to the parent or guardian of a party to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED.

§ 2-403. (a) (1) A license shall read substantially as follows:

“State of Maryland and County of To any individual authorized by the laws of this State to perform a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION

ceremony. You are hereby authorized to join together in ~~matrimony~~ CIVIL UNION according to ~~the rules and ceremonies of your church, society or religious sect and the laws of this State, or according to~~ the laws of this State, the following individuals:

(state here name of intended ~~husband~~ SPOUSE)

(state here name of intended ~~wife~~ SPOUSE)

Given under my hand and seal of the Circuit Court for, This..... Day of(state here month and

year).”

(2) A license shall contain:

(i) appropriate spaces in which the clerk shall enter:

1. the relationship of the parties to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED, if any; and

2. as to each party, the name, age, state or foreign country in which born, residence, and ~~marital~~ UNIFICATION status (single, widowed, or divorced); and

(ii) a statement that the license is valid only:

1. for 6 months from the effective date and time stated on the license; and

2. in the county in which it is issued.

(b) (1) Attached to a license shall be 2 certificate forms that:

(i) read, “I hereby certify that on this day of (state here month and year), (state here time), at

(state here location), in accordance with the license issued by the Clerk of the Circuit Court for (state here jurisdiction), I united in ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION the following individuals: (state here name of ~~husband~~ SPOUSE) (state here name of ~~wife~~ SPOUSE)

(ii) restate all information concerning the individuals ~~married~~ UNIFIED that is stated on the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION license; and

(iii) provide a space for the signature of the authorized official who performs the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony.

~~(2) Attached to a license, in the case of a Society of Friends marriage ceremony, shall be 2 certificate forms that:~~

~~(i) read, “We hereby certify that on this day of(state here month and year), (state here time), at(state here location), we, (state here name of husband) and (state here name of wife) were united in marriage in accordance with the ceremony of the Society of Friends and in accordance with the license issued by the Clerk of the Circuit Court for (state here jurisdiction)”;~~

~~(ii) restate all information concerning the individuals ~~married~~ that is stated on the marriage license; and~~

~~(iii) provide spaces for the signatures of the parties and the 2 overseers of the marriage ceremony.~~

§ 2-404. (a) (1) The fee for a license is \$10.

(2) The clerk shall:

(i) retain \$5 of the fee; and

(ii) pay \$5 of the fee into the general fund of the county.

(3) (i) A party to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED may obtain a replacement for a valid ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION license while the license is valid.

(ii) The fee for a replacement license is \$10, payable into the General Fund of the State.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section:

- (1) any county or group of 2 or more counties may set an additional fee of up to \$25 for each license; and
 - (2) the proceeds shall be used to fund domestic violence programs.
- (c) In Anne Arundel County:
- (1) the County Council may set by ordinance an additional fee of up to \$45 for each license;
 - (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the general fund of the county each month; and
 - (3) the County Council shall distribute the proceeds to promote or fund domestic violence programs.
- (d) In Baltimore City:
- (1) the Mayor and City Council may set by ordinance an additional fee as authorized in this section for each license;
 - (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the Mayor and City Council each month; and
 - (3) the proceeds shall be used to fund domestic violence programs that have 24-hour intake ability.
- (e) In Baltimore County:
- (1) in addition to the fee authorized under subsection
 - (b) (1) of this section, the County Council may set by resolution an additional fee of up to \$15 for each license;
 - (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the Director of Finance of the county each month;
 - (3) the proceeds, in addition to designated federal, State, and county funds, shall be used to fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs established under Title 4, Subtitle 5 of this article;
 - (4) the County Executive shall prepare and make available an annual report on or before December 1 of each year on the disposition of fees collected under this subsection during the previous fiscal year.
- (f) In Calvert County:
- (1) the Board of County Commissioners may set an additional fee of up to \$55 for each license;
 - (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the County Commissioners each month; and
 - (3) the proceeds shall be used to fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs in Calvert County.
- (g) In Cecil County:
- (1) the Board of County Commissioners shall set an additional fee of \$20 for each license;
 - (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the County Treasurer each month;
 - (3) the proceeds in addition to designated federal funds and county funds shall be given to the Cecil County Department of Social Services Advisory Board to be used to fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs; and
 - (4) the Cecil County Department of Social Services Advisory Board shall prepare and make available to the Board of County

Commissioners an annual report on or before December 1 of each year of the disposition of fees collected under this subsection during the previous fiscal year.

(h) In Charles County:

- (1) the Board of County Commissioners may set an additional fee of up to \$35 for each license;
- (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the County Commissioners each month; and
- (3) the proceeds shall be used to fund domestic violence programs located in Charles County.

(i) In Frederick County:

- (1) the Board of County Commissioners may set an additional fee, in an amount not to exceed \$65, for each license;
- (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the County Commissioners each month; and
- (3) the proceeds, in addition to designated federal, State, and county funds, shall be used to fund domestic violence programs established under Title 4, Subtitle 5 of this article.

(j) In Garrett County:

- (1) the Board of County Commissioners may set an additional fee of up to \$40 for each license;
- (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the County Commissioners each month; and
- (3) the proceeds shall be used to fund domestic violence programs in Garrett County.

(k) In Harford County:

- (1) the County Council may set by resolution an additional fee of up to \$40 for each license;
- (2) the clerk shall:
 - (i) retain 3% of the proceeds from the additional fee for processing;
 - (ii) pay \$5 of the proceeds from each license to the Harford County Sexual Assault/Spousal Abuse Resource Center, Inc.;
 - (iii) pay the remaining proceeds to the Treasurer of Harford County each month;
- (3) the county:
 - (i) shall use the proceeds, in addition to designated federal, State, and county funds, to fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs; and
 - (ii) may make in-kind contributions to battered spouse and domestic violence programs; and
- (4) the County Executive shall prepare and make available an annual report on or before December 1 of each year on the disposition of fees collected under this subsection during the previous fiscal year.

(l) In Howard County:

- (1) the County Council may set by resolution an additional fee of up to \$50 for each license;
- (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the Director of Finance of the county each month;
- (3) the proceeds, in addition to designated federal, State, and county funds, shall be used to fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs established under Title 4, Subtitle 5 of this article; and
- (4) the County Executive shall prepare and make available an annual report on or before December 1 of each year

on the disposition of fees collected under this subsection during the previous fiscal year.

(m) In Montgomery County:

- (1) the County Council may set by resolution an additional fee of up to \$45 for each license;
- (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the Director of Finance of the county each month;
- (3) the proceeds, in addition to designated federal, State, and county funds, shall be used to fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs; and
- (4) the County Executive shall prepare and make available an annual report on or before December 1 of each year on the disposition of fees collected under this subsection during the previous fiscal year.

(n) In Prince George's County:

- (1) the County Council may set by resolution an additional fee of up to \$60 for each license;
- (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the Director of Finance of the county, who shall distribute the proceeds to the Family Crisis Center of Prince George's County each month;
- (3) if the Family Crisis Center of Prince George's County changes its name or objectives or ceases to exist, the proceeds, in addition to designated federal, State, and county funds, shall be used to fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs; and
- (4) the County Executive shall prepare and make available an annual report on or before December 1 of each year on the disposition of fees collected under this subsection during the previous fiscal year.

(o) In Washington County:

- (1) the Board of County Commissioners may set an additional fee of up to \$50 for each license;
- (2) the clerk shall pay the proceeds from the additional fee to the County Commissioners each month; and
- (3) the proceeds shall be used to fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs in Washington County.

§ 2-404.1 (a) (1) A county may discount a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION license fee under

§ 2-404 (a) of this subtitle if the couple to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED has completed, within 1 year before the date of the application for the license, a ~~premarital~~ preparation course that meets the requirements specified in this section.

(2) The amount of any discount shall be determined by the county governing body.

(b) A ~~premarital~~ preparation course shall:

- (1) include instruction regarding:
 - (i) conflict management;
 - (ii) communication skills;
 - (iii) financial responsibilities; and
 - (iv) children and parenting responsibilities; and
- (2) consist of at least 4 hours of instruction.

(c) A ~~premarital~~ preparation course may be conducted by:

(1) a clinical professional counselor or a clinical marriage and family therapist licensed under Title 17, Subtitle 3A of the Health Occupations Article;

(2) a psychologist licensed under Title 18 of the Health Occupations Article;

(3) a social worker licensed under Title 19 of the Health Occupations Article;

(4) an official representative of a religious institution if the representative has relevant training; or

(5) any other qualified provider approved by a county governing body.

(d) (1) A ~~premarital~~ preparation course provider shall register with the clerk by filing a written affidavit containing:

(i) the provider's name, address, and telephone number;

(ii) a summary of the provider's qualifications and training; and

(iii) a statement that the provider shall comply with the course requirements specified in this section.

(2) The clerk may establish a roster of area premarital preparation course providers, including those who offer the course on a sliding fee scale or for free.

(e) (1) A ~~premarital~~ preparation course provider shall provide to each couple who completes the course a certificate of completion that specifies:

(i) the names of the couple;

(ii) the name of the provider; and

(iii) the date of completion of the course.

(2) To receive a discounted ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION license fee under this section, an applicant for a license shall verify completion of a ~~premarital~~ preparation course by filing with the clerk a valid certificate of course completion issued in accordance with paragraph

(1) of this subsection.

(f) Any cost for a ~~premarital~~ preparation course shall be paid by the applicant for a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION license.

(g) The discount authorized by this section may not be applied to any fee used to fund domestic violence programs.

§ 2-405.

(a) The clerk for the county in which a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony is to be performed may issue and deliver a license at the time the application is made.

(b) A license may be issued only at the office of the clerk during regular office hours.

(c) (1) If either party to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED is known to be of an age where the parental or guardian's consent and oath, or the licensed physician's certificate, required by § 2-301 of this title, is required, the clerk shall obtain the consent and oath or the certificate before issuing 3950 the license.

(2) (i) The clerk's record required under this title shall include:

1. the consent and oath required by § 2-301 of this title, if written; or

2. the fact that consent was given and an oath was made, if given and made in person.
- (ii) The licensed physician's certificate required by § 2-301 of this title may not be made a part of the clerk's record.
- (3) After an individual has been issued a license in accordance with the provisions of this subtitle, the clerk who issued the license shall seal the licensed physician's certificate. Except on order of the court, the licensed physician's certificate shall remain sealed.
- (d)
 - (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a license is not effective until 6 a.m. on the second calendar day after the license is issued.
 - (2) For good cause shown, a judge of the circuit court for the county in which the application is made may sign an authorization for a license to become effective at a time before the waiting period expires, as stated in the authorization, if 1 of the parties to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED is:
 - (i) a resident of this State; or
 - (ii) a member of the United States armed forces.
 - (e) If, during the questioning of an applicant for a license, the clerk finds that there is a legal reason why the applicants should not be ~~married~~ UNIFIED, the clerk shall withhold the license unless ordered by the court to issue the license.
 - (f) A license may be delivered personally or by mail to:
 - (1) either of the parties to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED; or
 - (2) any person authorized in writing by either of the parties to accept delivery.
 - (g)
 - (1) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide to each clerk:
 - (i) birth control information; and
 - (ii) a list of the family planning clinics located in the county where the license is issued.
 - (2) When the clerk issues a license, the clerk shall make the information and list available to each applicant for a license.
 - (h)
 - (1) A clerk may not predate an application for a license.
 - (2) A clerk who violates any provision of this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject:
 - (i) for a first offense, to a fine not exceeding \$100; and
 - (ii) for each subsequent offense, to a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding 90 days or both.
- § 2-406.
- (a)
 - (1) In this subsection, "judge" means:
 - (i) a judge of the District Court, a circuit court, the Court of Special Appeals, or the Court of Appeals;
 - (ii) a judge approved under Article IV, § 3A of the Maryland Constitution and § 1-302 of the Courts Article for recall and assignment to the District Court, a circuit court, the Court of Special Appeals, or the Court of Appeals;
 - (iii) a judge of a United States District Court or a United States Court of Appeals; or
 - (iv) a judge of a state court if the judge is active or retired but eligible for recall.

(2) A ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony may be performed in this State by:

(i) any official of a religious order or body authorized by the rules and customs of that order or body to perform a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony;

(ii) any clerk;

(iii) any deputy clerk designated by the county administrative judge of the circuit court for the county; or

(iv) a judge.

(b) Within 6 months after a license becomes effective, any authorized official may perform the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony of the individuals named in the license.

(c) (1) An individual may not perform a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony unless the individual is authorized to perform a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony under subsection (a) of this section.

(2) An individual who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine of \$500.

(d) (1) An individual may not knowingly perform a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony between individuals who are prohibited from ~~marrying~~ UNIFYING under § 2-202 of this title.

(2) An individual who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine of \$500.

(e) (1) An individual may not perform a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony without a license that is effective under this subtitle.

(2) An individual who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$500.

(f) The county administrative judge of the circuit court for the county shall designate:

(1) when and where the clerk or deputy clerk may perform a ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony; and

(2) the form of the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony to be recited by the clerk or deputy clerk and the parties being ~~married~~ UNIFIED.

(g) This section does not affect the right of any religious denomination to perform a marriage ceremony in accordance with the rules and customs of the denomination.

§ 2-407.

(a) An individual may not knowingly make any material false statement to obtain or to help another individual to obtain a license ~~or marriage ceremony~~ in violation of this title or of any order of court under § 2-405 of this subtitle.

(b) An individual who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of perjury.

§ 2-408.

(a) An authorized official may not give or offer to give any reward to any person as an inducement to direct to the authorized official any individual who is contemplating ~~marriage~~ A CIVIL UNION.

(b) An authorized official who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$50 for each offense.

§ 2-409.

(a) Each ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION certificate shall contain:

(1) the name, signature, and title of the authorized official who performs the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony;
or

~~(2) if the individuals are married in a Society of Friends marriage ceremony, the signatures of the individuals and the attestation of the certificate by 2 overseers of the marriage ceremony.~~

(b) (1) The authorized official who performs the ~~marriage~~ UNIFICATION ceremony shall:

(i) hand 1 ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION certificate to the individuals; and

(ii) return, within 5 days from the date of the ~~marriage~~ ceremony, the other ~~marriage~~ certificate to the clerk who issued the license to which the certificates were attached, but if the authorized official who performs the ~~marriage~~ ceremony dies or resigns, some other individual shall return the certificate.

~~(2) If the individuals are married in a Society of Friends marriage ceremony, they:~~

~~(i) may keep 1 marriage certificate; and~~

~~(ii) within 5 days from the date of the marriage ceremony shall return the other marriage certificate to the clerk who issued the license to which the certificates were attached.~~

(c) If the ~~marriage~~ certificate is not returned within 6 months after the date on which the license becomes effective, the clerk who issued the license shall attempt to determine whether the ~~marriage~~ ceremony was performed and, if so, the name of the authorized official who performed the ~~marriage~~ ceremony.

(d) (1) An individual who performs a ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION ceremony or who is ~~married~~ UNIFIED in a Society of Friends marriage ceremony may not violate the provisions of subsection (b)(1)(ii) or (2)(ii) of this section.

(2) An individual who violates any provision of this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine in an amount that the court considers appropriate.

§ 2-410.

(a) (1) Except as provided in this subsection, a judge, clerk, or deputy clerk may not receive any fee, remuneration, or gift for performing a ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION ceremony.

(2) (i) 1. A Maryland judge's fee for performing a ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION ceremony is a nonrefundable fee, payable to the clerk before a ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION license is issued, in the amount of \$30 in Cecil County and \$25 in any other county.

2. The clerk's or deputy clerk's fee for performing a ~~marriage~~ ceremony is \$30 in Cecil County and \$25 in any other county.

(ii) Each month the clerk shall pay \$10 of each fee collected under this section into the general fund of the county.

(iii) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the clerk shall retain the remainder of each fee and deposit and disburse it in the same manner as other fees collected by the clerk.

(3) In Allegany County, from the remaining \$15, the clerk shall pay, quarterly, \$2 of each fee to the Allegany County Historical Society.

(4) (i) In Anne Arundel County, from the remaining \$15, the clerk shall pay \$4 of each fee to the Annarrundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc.

(ii) The Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc. shall report annually to the Anne Arundel County

Executive and the Maryland Historical Trust on the use of all funds received under this section, including a detailed record of the expenditures and receipts of all funds transferred from the Anne Arundel County Committee of the Historical Trust.

(iii) The Anne Arundel County Executive or the Maryland Historical Trust may request at any time an audit of the financial records of the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc.

(5) (i) In Baltimore County, the clerk shall pay the remaining \$15 to the Baltimore County Historical Trust, Inc.

(ii) The Baltimore County Historical Trust, Inc. shall report annually to the Baltimore County Executive and the Maryland Historical Trust on the use of all funds received under this section, including a detailed record of the expenditures and receipts of all funds collected before July 1, 1987.

(iii) The Baltimore County Executive or the Maryland Historical Trust may request at any time an audit of the financial records of the Baltimore County Historical Trust, Inc.

(6) In Cecil County:

(i) of the funds remaining after the payment into the general fund of the county under paragraph (2)(ii) of this subsection, the clerk shall pay:

1. \$5 of each fee to the Cecil Historical Trust, Incorporated; and

2. \$5 of each fee to the Historical Society of Cecil County;

(ii) the Historical Society of Cecil County shall report annually to the Cecil County Commissioners on the use of the funds received under this section;

(iii) the Cecil Historical Trust, Incorporated shall report annually to the Cecil County Commissioners and the Maryland Historical Trust on the use of all funds received under this section, including a detailed record of the expenditures and receipts of all funds transferred from the Cecil County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust; and

(iv) the Cecil County Commissioners or the Maryland Historical Trust may request at any time an audit of the financial records of the Cecil Historical Trust, Incorporated.

(7) In Garrett County, from the remaining \$15, the clerk shall pay \$5 of each fee to the Garrett County Historical Society.

(8) In Montgomery County, from the remaining \$15, the clerk shall pay:

(i) \$2 of each fee to the Montgomery County Historical Society, Incorporated; and

(ii) \$3 of each fee into the fund for the enhancement and beautification of the Montgomery County Courthouse and facilities.

(9) (i) In Prince George's County, from the remaining \$15, the clerk shall pay \$3 of each fee to Prince George's Heritage, Inc.

(ii) Prince George's Heritage, Inc. shall report annually to the Prince George's County Executive and the Maryland Historical Trust on the use of all funds received under this section, including a detailed record of the expenditures and receipts of all funds collected before July 1, 1987.

(iii) The Prince George's County Executive or the Maryland Historical Trust may request at any time an audit of the financial records of Prince George's Heritage, Inc.

(10) In Harford County, from the remaining \$15, the clerk shall pay \$10 of each fee to the Historical Society of

Harford County, Inc.

(b) (1) A clerk or deputy clerk may not violate any provision of this section.

(2) A clerk or deputy clerk who violates the provisions of this section is guilty of neglect of duty and on conviction is subject to removal from office.

§ 2-501. Each clerk shall keep in the clerk's office a ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION license book, which shall contain:

- (1) a complete record of each license issued;
- (2) a complete record of all matters the clerk is required to ascertain that relate to the rights of an individual to obtain a license;
- (3) in regular order, the items testified to by the applicants for a license as required under this title;
- (4) properly indexed, the name of each individual who intends to be ~~married~~ UNIFIED; and
- (5) the date each certificate was filed and the name of the authorized official who performed the ceremony.

§ 2-502.

(a) In this section, "foreign marriage" means a marriage ceremony:

- (1) performed outside this State; and
- (2) in which 1 or both of the parties were or are citizens of this State.

(b) Each clerk shall keep a foreign marriage record book in the clerk's office. The clerk shall record a foreign marriage when presented with either:

- (1) a certificate of marriage signed by the individual who performed the marriage ceremony; or
- (2) an official certified copy of a marriage record.

(c) On request, the clerk shall provide, under the seal of the court, certification of a foreign marriage in the same manner as the clerk issues certification of a ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION performed in this State.

§ 2-503.

(a) At the intervals that the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene sets, each clerk shall send to the Secretary:

- (1) a copy of the record of each ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION that the clerk licenses and records;
- (2) a report of each divorce that the court grants;
- (3) a report of each annulment of a ~~marriage~~ UNION that the court:
 - (i) grants; or
 - (ii) effects by entering a conviction of bigamy or of ~~marrying~~ UNIFYING within any prohibited degree; and
- (4) a report of any change in a ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION divorce, or record, in which the clerk shall certify that the change is correct and conforms to the corresponding record of the clerk.

(b) The report of a divorce or annulment or of a change in a ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION, divorce, or annulment record shall be made on the form that the

Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene provides.

- (c) (1) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene may make photostatic, photographic, or microphotographic copies of the original ~~marriage~~ UNION records of a clerk.
- (2) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene may not remove any original ~~marriage~~ CIVIL UNION record from the custody of the clerk.
- (3) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene shall:
 - (i) make the copies in a manner that does not interfere with the orderly transaction of business by the clerk; and
 - (ii) bear the cost of making the copies.
- (d) The clerk may not receive any extra compensation for sending a report or record to the Secretary or for making records available to the Secretary.
- (e) A clerk who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine of \$10 for each offense.

Subtitle 3

§ 3-101. This title is remedial and shall be construed liberally to accomplish its purpose.

§ 3-102.

- (a) Unless the individual is pregnant, an individual:
 - (1) has no cause of action for breach of promise to ~~marry~~ UNIFY; and
 - (2) may not bring an action for breach of promise to ~~marry~~ UNIFY regardless of where the cause of action arose.
- (b) In an action for damages for breach of promise to marry, a judgment for the plaintiff may not be entered on the uncorroborated testimony of the plaintiff.

§ 3-103.

- (a) An individual has no cause of action for alienation of affections.
- (b) An individual may not bring an action for alienation of affections regardless of where the cause of action arose.

§ 3-104.

- (a) A contract for payment or settlement of a claim abolished or prohibited by this title is void and unenforceable.
- (b) A holder in due course may enforce a negotiable instrument for payment or settlement of a claim prohibited by this title.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE this law, as amended, take effect on January 1, 2009.



AN ACT CONCERNING

Public Safety – Fireworks And Sparklers – Prohibited Acts

FOR the purpose of legalizing the possession and use of fireworks by persons in the State of Maryland.

BY repealing, and reenacting, with amendments:

Article – Fireworks and Sparklers

Section 10-110

Annotated Code of Maryland (2007)

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

~~(a) Discharge or possession of fireworks without permit. Unless the person holds a permit issued under this subtitle, a person may not:~~

~~(1) discharge fireworks; or~~

~~(2) possess fireworks:~~

~~(i) with intent to discharge or allow the discharge of the fireworks in violation of this subtitle; or~~

~~(ii) for the purpose of disposing or selling the fireworks to a person for use or~~

~~discharge without a permit, if a permit is required by this subtitle.~~

~~(b) (a) Sale of fireworks without permit.-~~

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a person may not sell fireworks to another person without a permit issued under this subtitle.

(2) (i) A person licensed by the State Fire Marshal under Subtitle 2 of this title may sell or deliver fireworks to a bona fide distributor, jobber, or wholesaler with a principal place of business in a state where the sale or possession of fireworks is allowed.

(ii) The State Fire Marshal may require a person who is an out-of-state distributor, jobber, or wholesaler to submit a certificate issued by the person's state of operation that demonstrates authority to buy and receive fireworks.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this act take effect October 1, 2008.



AN ACT CONCERNING

Election Law – Voting – Ballots - Content

FOR the purpose of allowing the option to vote for “None of the Above” in elections in the State of Maryland.

BY repealing, and reenacting, with amendments:

Article – Election Law

Section 9-205

Annotated Code of Maryland (2007)

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

Each ballot shall contain:

- (1) a heading as provided in § 9-206(a) of this subtitle;
- (2) a statement of each question that has met all of the qualifications to appear on the ballot;
- (3) the title of each office to be voted on;
- (4) the name, as specified in the certificate of candidacy, or as otherwise provided in Title 5 of this article, of each candidate who has been certified by the State Board;
- (5) a party designation for certain candidates as provided in this subtitle;
- (6) a means by which a voter may cast write-in votes, as provided in this subtitle; ~~and~~
- (7) A MEANS BY WHICH A VOTER SHALL BE AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO CAST A VOTE FOR NONE OF THE ABOVE CANDIDATES FOR AS MANY POSITIONS AS ARE TO BE FILLED IN A CONTEST; AND
- ~~(7)~~ (8) instructions to voters as provided in this subtitle.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this act take effect January 1, 2009.



AN ACT CONCERNING

Minor Access to Voting Room

For the purposes of allowing children aged 17 and younger access to voting rooms

BY repealing, and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Election Law
§ 10-308, § 10-310

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE,
That the Laws of Maryland reads as follows:

§ 10-308. Access to voting room.

(a) Individuals allowed to have access to voting room.- An election judge shall allow the following individuals to have access to the voting room at a polling place:

- (1) a voter;
- (2) an individual who accompanies a voter in need of assistance in accordance with § 10-310(c) of this subtitle;
- (3) polling place staff;
- (4) a member or other representative of the State Board or local board;
- (5) an accredited watcher or challenger under § 10-311 of this subtitle;
- (6) an individual under the age of ~~13~~ 18 who accompanies a voter in accordance with § 10-310(c) of this subtitle, provided that the individual is in the care of the voter and does not disrupt or interfere with normal voting procedures; and
- (7) any other individual authorized by the State Board or local board.

(b) Limitation.- Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a)(6) of this section, not more than two individuals under the age of ~~13~~ 18 may accompany a voter in accordance with § 10-310(c) of this subtitle.

§ 10-310. Same - Voting hours.

(a) Qualification of voters.- For each individual who seeks to vote, an election judge, in accordance with instructions provided by the local board, shall:

- (1) locate the individual's name in the precinct register and locate the preprinted voting authority card and then authorize the individual to vote a regular ballot;

(2)

(i) if the individual's name is not found on the precinct register, search the inactive list and if the name is found, authorize the individual to vote a regular ballot; or

(ii) if the individual's name is not on the inactive list, refer the individual for provisional ballot voting under § 9-404 of this article;

(3) establish the identity of the voter by requesting the voter to state the month and day of the voter's birth and comparing the response to the information listed in the precinct register;

(i) except if a voter's personal information has been deemed confidential by the local board, verify the address of the voter's residence; or

(ii) conduct an alternative verification as established by the State Board, if the voter's personal information has been deemed confidential by the local board;

(5) if any changes to the voting authority card are indicated by a voter, make the appropriate changes in information on the card or other appropriate form; and

(6) have the voter sign the voting authority card and either issue the voter a ballot or send the voter to a machine to vote.

(b) Right to vote.- On the completion of the procedures set forth in subsection (a) of this section, a voter may vote in accordance with the procedures appropriate to the voting system used in the polling place.

(c) Instruction of and assistance to voters.-

(1) Before a voter enters a voting booth, at the request of the voter, an election judge shall:

(i) instruct the voter about the operation of the voting system; and

(ii) allow the voter an opportunity to operate a model voting device, if appropriate to the voting system in use.

(2)

(i)

1. After a voter enters the voting booth, at the request of the voter, two election judges representing different political parties shall instruct the voter on the operation of the voting device.

2. An election judge may not suggest in any way how the voter should vote for a particular ticket, candidate, or position on a question.

3. After instructing the voter, the election judges shall exit the voting booth and allow the voter to vote privately.

(ii) A voter may take into the polling place any written or printed material to assist the voter in marking or preparing the ballot.

(3)

(i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, a voter who requires assistance in marking or preparing the ballot because of a physical

disability or an inability to read the English language may choose any individual to assist the voter.

(ii) A voter may not choose the voter's employer or agent of that employer or an officer or agent of the voter's union to assist the voter in marking the ballot.

(4) If the voter requires the assistance of another in voting, but declines to select an individual to assist, an election judge, in the presence of another election judge that represents another political party, shall assist the voter in the manner prescribed by the voter.

(5) An individual assisting a voter may not suggest in any way how the voter should vote 800 for a particular ticket, candidate, or position on a question.

(6) If a voter requires assistance under paragraph (4) or (5) of this subsection, the election 820 judge shall record, on a form prescribed by the State Board, the name of the voter who required assistance and the name of the individual providing assistance to the voter.

(7) Except as provided in paragraph (3) or (4) of this subsection, an individual over the age of ~~12~~ 17 years may not accompany a voter into a voting booth.



A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE TEACHING OF THE CONCEPT OF TERRORISM IN MARYLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- WHEREAS:** The lack of agreement on the definition of Terrorism has created an obstacle to meaningful international countermeasures; where one state’s “terrorist” is another state’s “freedom fighter.”
- WHEREAS:** Understanding the concept of terrorism is the first step to combating it.
- WHEREAS:** The concept of terrorism is not sought to be justified in its actions but rather understood to prevent a repeated occurrence.
- WHEREAS:** Creating an atmosphere of discussion on the concept of terrorism could help lead to a general understanding that could be accepted around the country.
- WHEREAS:** Since the events of September 11, 2001, the word terrorism has been thrown around loosely by singling out specific ethnic groups in America and around the world that may have no part in a terrorist organization.
- WHEREAS:** Creating an atmosphere of discussion within the public schools in Maryland on the topic of terrorism would be a step in the direction of an understanding of what terrorism is used for, and in relieving an amount of tension of people who have become less trusting of specific ethnic groups in America.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the public high schools in Maryland to require as part of the school curriculum a lesson that discusses the concept of terrorism.
- THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the concept of terrorism be taught under the 220 social science or history curriculum.
- THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the concept of terrorism be taught under the context of one or more of the definitions used by the United States.



**A RESOLUTION CONCERNING LEGALIZATION OF ASSISTED SUICIDE
FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL**

WHEREAS: The patients who are greatly ill and have a deadline on their life and/or have so much pain due to their condition who would prefer to die over living in so much horror ask their doctors to assist them in suicide; and,

WHEREAS: Such doctors who have in the past assisted such patients have been convicted and found guilty of a murder even though the patient gave them complete consent.

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED: The Maryland Student Legislature recommends the Maryland Congress to make assisted suicide legal as long as the patient is qualified and is willing.



A RESOLUTION CONCERNING PRE-PLACEMENT HOME STUDIES BEFORE FINALIZED ADOPTION

WHEREAS: Adoption has become a constant in Maryland life to pursue the best interest of the child but there have been cases of abuse that need preventative measures.

WHEREAS: There is no current legislation in Maryland concerning home studies, pre-adoption home investigation, and adopted child abuse cases have been documented.

WHEREAS: Pennsylvania has legislation making it required for several home studies to occur before the finalization of an adoption. This legislation has led to a decrease of documented child abuse cases because the further investigation of possible adopters led to many disqualifications.

WHEREAS: Many children on the lists for adoption have physical or mental handicaps, sexual abuse history, or a variety of other problems. This lack of knowledge has led to the frustration of adopters, and in some cases have led to the abuse of the child.

WHEREAS: The National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN) reported more than three million children as victims of abuse and neglect in 2006.

WHEREAS: Adoption Policy and Special Needs Children reported that 1% of nation abuse reports come from adoption families, but is more prevalent in states with no legislation concerning home studies.

WHEREAS: NCCAN reported children 0-3 years of age to be more likely to be abused, which is also the age group most likely to be adopted.

WHEREAS: NCCAN reported 79% of children who are killed due to abuse are four years or younger.

WHEREAS: In one-third of previously abused adults, they are likely to continue the cycle of abuse with regards to their own children.

WHEREAS: NCCAN also reported that 36.7% of women and 14.4% of men in prison were abused as children.

WHEREAS: NCCAN reported: "Children who experience child abuse & neglect are 59% more likely to be arrested as a juvenile, 28% more likely to be arrested as an adult, and 30% more likely to commit

violent crime.”

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature recommends the Maryland General Assembly to pass legislation to make home studies within Maryland a required process of adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: This legislation includes a waiver by the court system, unless there is suspicion of abuse of adopter, home studies not to be necessary for adoption cases with previous relationships of the adoptee such as step-parent, intra-family adoptions, or the case if the adoptee is over the age of 18.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: All records of home studies will be kept private, between the adoption agencies and the court system.



A RESOLUTION CONCERNING FISHING LIMITS ON THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

WHEREAS: The fisheries of the Chesapeake Bay are in dire conditions.

WHEREAS: Many species of commercial importance to Marylanders have become overfished and are no longer abundant in the Bay.

WHEREAS: The commercial catch of Atlantic Croaker have declined from 60 million pounds in the 1940s to 2 million pounds in the 1980s.

WHEREAS: The State of Maryland should take action in protecting the fish population of the Chesapeake Bay in order to ensure the preservation of all species found in the Bay for future generations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the State of Maryland to enact a three year ban on the catch of Atlantic Croaker in order to allow the species to recover its numbers in the Chesapeake Bay.



A RESOLUTION CONCERNING TUITION RATES FOR UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

WHEREAS: Various states have enacted legislation, which allow for in-state tuition for undocumented immigrants able to provide proof of residence; and,

WHEREAS: Maryland restricts access to higher education by denying access to in-state tuition to undocumented immigrants; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature recommends that the Maryland General Assembly pass and the Governor sign legislation allowing undocumented residents whose application for citizenship or other legal status is pending access to the same in-state tuition rates available to all other Maryland resident.