

CHAPTER 70

(Senate Bill 171)

AN ACT concerning

Family Law - Marriage Ceremonies - Solicitation

FOR the purpose of repealing the prohibition against erecting or maintaining an information booth or advertisement that is intended to help solicit the performance of a marriage ceremony; repealing the penalties for a violation of the prohibition; and generally relating to marriage ceremonies.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Family Law

Section 2-408

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

Article - Family Law

2-408.

(a) [(1)] 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.

[(2)] A person may not erect or maintain any information booth or advertisement that is intended to help solicit the performance of any marriage ceremony.]

(b) [(1)] An authorized official who violates the provisions of subsection [(a)(1)] (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$50 for each offense.

[(2)] A person who violates the provisions of subsection (a)(2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject:

(i) for the first offense, to a fine not exceeding \$100; and

(ii) for each subsequent offense, to a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding 1 year or both.]

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

Approved April 22, 2003.