

### **Child Support Guidelines**

FOR the purpose of requiring, instead of permitting, a court to use the child support guidelines established under certain provisions of law in certain proceedings; establishing a rebuttable presumption that the amount of child support which would result from the application of the guidelines is the correct amount of child support to be awarded; providing that the presumption may be rebutted by certain evidence; authorizing the court to consider certain factors in determining whether the application of the guidelines would be unjust or inappropriate in a particular case; requiring the court to make certain findings when departing from the guidelines; requiring the court's finding to include certain information; providing for review of a child support award upon expiration of a use and possession order or right to occupy the family home under a separation or property settlement agreement; requiring the Child Support Enforcement Administration of the Department of Human Resources to periodically review the guidelines for a certain purpose and to make a certain report to the General Assembly; requiring the Secretary of Human Resources to adopt certain regulations; repealing certain inconsistent provisions; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to determining the amount of a child support award.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Family Law

Section 10-114, 12-202, and 12-204(a)(1) and (j)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1984 Volume and 1989 Supplement)

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

#### **Article – Family Law**

10-114.

The Secretary of Human Resources shall:

- (1) adopt rules and regulations for the collection of support;
- (2) adopt standards for staffing, recordkeeping, reporting, intergovernmental cooperation, and other management operations that are necessary to assure proper and efficient collection of support; [and]
- (3) delegate any responsibility for support enforcement to a local department of social services, for as long as:
  - (i) the local government asks that responsibility be delegated to the local department;
  - (ii) the Secretary finds that the local department is capable of carrying out the responsibility; and
  - (iii) a delegation of that responsibility is consistent with guidelines of