

CHAPTER 5

(House Bill 34)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Section 82 of Article 16 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Chancery," sub-title "Adoption," correcting an error in said section.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 82 of Article 16 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Chancery," sub-title "Adoption," be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments, to read as follows:*

82. (Consent.) Every petition for adoption shall be accompanied by written statements of consent, subscribed and sworn to before a person authorized by law to administer an oath, as specified in this section, except that the court may in its discretion permit any petition to be filed **[with]** *without* a necessary consent if such consent is added to the petition before the time set for hearings; but in no event shall an interlocutory or final decree of adoption be made without having the consent required by this section unless for reasons satisfactory to the court, it shall appear proper to dispense therewith.

Consent to any proposed adoption shall be obtained from:

(a) the person to be adopted, if he is ten years of age or over; and also,

(b) both the natural parents, if married, if they are alive and not lost their paternal rights through court action or voluntary relinquishment or abandonment; or

(c) one natural parent, if the other is not alive or has lost his parental rights as mentioned in (b) above; or

(d) the mother of a child born out of wedlock, except that if the child has been legitimated according to the laws of any jurisdiction, the consent of the father shall then also be required, if he is alive and has not subsequently lost his parental rights through court action or voluntary relinquishment or abandonment; or

(e) the mother of a child born in wedlock, if the illegitimacy of the child has been established to the satis-

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.