

GANY, GARRETT AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES IN WHICH (1) THE PETITIONER OR PETITIONERS HAVE THEIR DOMICILE; OR (2) THE PERSON TO BE ADOPTED IS DOMICILED; OR (3) ANY LAWFULLY LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, HAVING LEGAL OR PHYSICAL CARE, CUSTODY OR CONTROL OF THE PERSON TO BE ADOPTED IS LOCATED; OR (4) SUCH PETITION MAY BE FILED IN ANY COURT HAVING EQUITY JURISDICTION WHICH HAD PRIOR TO THE FILING OF THE PETITION FOR ADOPTION ASSUMED A CONTINUING JURISDICTION OVER THE CUSTODY OF THE PERSON TO BE ADOPTED. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, EXCEPT IN (4) ABOVE NO SUCH PETITION SHALL BE FILED UNLESS EITHER THE PERSON TO BE ADOPTED OR THE CUSTODIAN SHALL BE PHYSICALLY WITHIN THIS STATE AND SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURTS THEREOF.

78. (Federal Reservations.) All persons residing *or stationed for not less than ninety (90) days* NEXT PRECEDING THE FILING OF A PETITION on property lying within the physical boundaries of any county of this State or within the boundaries of the City of Baltimore, but on property over which jurisdiction is exercised by the Government of the United States by virtue of the 17th Clause, Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution of the United States, and of Sections 31 and 35 of Article 96 of this Code, shall be considered as residents of the State of Maryland and of the county or City of Baltimore, as the case may be, in which the land is situate, for the purposes of jurisdiction in the courts of equity of this State in all petitions for adoption.

80A. *A petition for adoption, as hereinafter described, may be preceded by a petition for guardianship with the right to consent to adoption, and such guardianship decree, which the courts having jurisdiction of adoption matters may require and shall have power to grant after such hearing and investigation as the court may deem appropriate, shall terminate natural parental rights, provided that due notice of the proceedings shall have been given immediately upon the filing of the petition by summons, order of publication, or otherwise, as the Court may order to be given to the natural parent or parents, as the case may be, and when such notice shall have been given, the duly appointed guardian's consent to an adoption, for which the petition may be filed in the same proceeding, shall eliminate the necessity of further notice to the natural parent or parents. When a petition for guardianship with the right to consent to adoption precedes a petition for adoption, the titling of the cause shall be substantially as follows: "Ex parte in the matter of the petition of .....for guardianship with the right to consent to adoption of a minor." In all respects not mentioned in this section, adoption proceedings preceded by a guardianship petition, as herein described, shall conform to the procedure outlined in this sub-title for adoptions generally. If within a year from the entry of a decree of guardianship, as aforementioned, a petition praying a decree of adoption has not been filed, the guardian shall file with the Court a report explaining the delay in filing such a petition and, if he so desire, requesting an extension of the guardianship, and the Court may thereupon in its discretion, either extend, for such time as it may deem advisable, or terminate the guardianship.*