

CHAPTER 427

(Senate Bill 94)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 8 of Article 12 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Bastardy and Fornication"; to repeal Section 9 of said Article and to re-enact a new Section 9 in lieu thereof, said new section to stand in the place and stead of the section so repealed; to add Section 7-A to said Article, said new section to follow immediately after Section 7 thereof, and to add Sections 9-A, 9-B and 9-C to said Article, the said sections to follow immediately after Section 9 thereof, generally amending the bastardy laws, relating generally to the order of the court for maintenance and support of an illegitimate child, and making the responsibility of a continuing one, and providing that the offense of bastardy shall be a crime subject to the laws of extradition.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 8 of Article 12 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Bastardy and Fornication", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments; that Section 9 be and the same is hereby repealed and that a new Section 9 be and the same is hereby enacted in lieu thereof, said new section to stand in the place and stead of the section so repealed; that a new Section 7-A be and the same is hereby added to said Article, the said new section to follow immediately after Section 7 thereof; and that Sections 9-A, 9-B and 9-C be and the same are hereby added to said Article, said new sections to follow immediately after Section 9 thereof, all to read as follows:

7-A. *Whenever a person is accused of bastardy on the sworn complaint of the mother of a bastard child, and before any proceedings shall have been initiated by the State's Attorney, OR IS SO ACCUSED BY ANY INDICTMENT OR CRIMINAL INFORMATION AND the accused person shall offer to make a lump sum settlement to a depository designated by the Court having jurisdiction, to be held in escrow, and paid to the complainant in equal installments as designated by the State's Attorney, unless otherwise ordered by the Court, in an amount sufficient to cover the accused's obligations to support the bastard child of the complainant during the period provided for in this Article, and the complainant shall agree to accept such settlement, then the State's Attorney, after satisfying himself that the amount of the settlement is an adequate contribution to the support of the bastard child and that the complainant has been properly advised as to her rights and is competent to accept such settlement, shall prepare an agreement setting forth the terms of the settlement and submit the same to the Judge of the Circuit Court of the County (or Criminal Court of Baltimore City as the case may be) for approval. Whenever any such settlement shall be approved by the Court, AND the record of such settlement shall be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the*

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.