

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Section 149T be and it is hereby added to Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume and 1969 Supplement), title "Health," subtitle "Practitioners of Medicine," to follow immediately after Section 149S thereof, and to read as follows:*

149T.

(a) *Valid Consent—A minor who has attained the age of 18 years and who has or professes to have a mental or emotional disorder may consent to diagnosis or treatment of the disorder by a physician or clinic. Consent given under this section shall have in all respects the same effect as if the minor had reached majority.*

(b) *Informing spouse, parent, custodian or guardian—Upon the advice and direction of a treating physician or if more than one, any one of them, member of the medical staff of a clinic or physician licensed to practice medicine, may but shall not be obligated to, inform the spouse, parent, custodian or guardian of any such minor in the circumstances as enumerated in subsection (a) hereof, as to the treatment given or needed, and such information may be given to, or withheld from the spouse, parent, custodian or guardian without the consent of the minor patient and even over the express refusal of the minor patient providing such information, the providing or withholding of such information to rest in the sole discretion of a member of the medical staff of a clinic or the physician licensed to practice medicine, as the case may be.*

(c) *Liability of parent, custodian, or guardian for costs, etc.—The parent, custodian, or guardian of a minor consenting to diagnosis and treatment under this section shall not be liable for any costs, fees, or other expenses on account of such diagnosis and treatment unless the parent, custodian, or guardian consents thereto.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1970.*

Approved April 28, 1970

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CHAPTER 453

(Senate Bill 695)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 1231½ (a) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Calvert County (1963 Edition, being Article 5 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Calvert County," subtitle "County Commissioners," as added by Chapter 586 of the Acts of 1966; to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 54A (a) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Charles County (1969 Edition, being Article 9 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "Charles County," subtitle "County Commissioners," and to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 52A (a) of the Code of Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County (1965 Edition, being Article 19 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland), title "St. Mary's