

years in all areas, except relating to alcoholic beverages, and except relating to juvenile court jurisdiction, and except relating to special provisions regarding Federal aid to families with dependent children, and special provisions regarding Federal aid to families with dependent children, and special provisions regarding Federal and State aid to families with dependent children -- foster care, and providing clarifying language regarding these special aid provisions, and generally related to a comprehensive lowering of the age of majority from 21 to 18 years of age in common law and in the enumerated sections and articles of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 21 be and it is hereby added to Article 1 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume), title "Rules of Interpretation," to follow immediately after Section 20 thereof, and to read as follows:

21.

(A) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED BY STATUTE, A PERSON EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR MORE IS AN ADULT FOR ALL PURPOSES WHATSOEVER AND HAS THE SAME LEGAL CAPACITY, RIGHTS, POWERS, PRIVILEGES, DUTIES, LIABILITIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS PRIOR TO JULY 1, 1973, PERSONS HAD AT TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE, AND THE "AGE OF MAJORITY" IS HEREBY DECLARED TO BE EIGHTEEN YEARS.

(B) (1) THE TERMS "ADULT", "OF FULL AGE", OR "OF LEGAL AGE" REFER TO PERSONS WHO HAVE ATTAINED THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN YEARS.

(2) THE TERM "MINOR", AS IT PERTAINS TO LEGAL AGE AND CAPACITY, REFERS TO PERSONS WHO HAVE NOT ATTAINED THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN YEARS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 5 of Article 10 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume), title "Attorneys At Law and Attorneys In Fact," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

5.

All persons, graduates of a recognized law school and possessing all other qualifications which are now or may hereafter be prescribed by law, shall be eligible to take the examination provided for in this article at the regular examination of the Examining Board, held at any time following his graduation, even though he be less than [twenty-one] EIGHTEEN years of age; provided, however, that no such person shall receive his certificate of admission to the bar of this State, nor be qualified nor permitted to perform any of the duties of an attorney at law as provided by this article until he shall have arrived at the age of [twenty-one] EIGHTEEN.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 57, 100 and 149 of Article 11 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume), title "Banks and Trust Companies," be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, and all to read as follows: