

BY RULE REGULATE TERMS OF COURT FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN THE RETURN OF PROCESS AND MAY MAKE OTHER RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE SUBJECT TO AND NOT INCONSISTENT WITH ANY RULE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS. HOWEVER, EXCEPT FOR A RULE REGULATING TERMS OF COURT, EVERY RULE SHALL BE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE LIMITATIONS AND PROCEDURES PRESCRIBED BY THE MARYLAND RULES, UNLESS AUTHORITY TO ADOPT RULES IS EXPRESSLY GRANTED BY PUBLIC GENERAL LAW. FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING THIS SECTION TO THE SEVERAL COURTS COMPRISING THE SUPREME BENCH OF BALTIMORE CITY, "COURT" MEANS THE SUPREME BENCH OF BALTIMORE CITY.

REVISOR'S NOTE: The basic constitutional grants of rule-making power are found in Art. IV, §§ 18 and 18A; see also §33, as to the Supreme Bench. Strictly speaking, no legislative implementation of this power is required. However, subsection (a) of §1-201 is included as a reference to the rule-making authority of the Court of Appeals, and as a legislative rule of construction. Its genesis is Art. 26, §25 of the Code, proposed for repeal. Note that subsection (a) specifically omits §25 of Art. 26 regarding prohibition against rule-making in the criminal field, and also the requirement that every rule be submitted to the General Assembly. The latter requirement has not been observed since at least 1945, when Art. IV, §18A of the Constitution became effective. Neither of these provisions is consistent with the Constitution. The language dealing with rules of evidence is retained.

Subsection (b) eliminates any potential conflict between Art. 26, §§1 and 27 (both proposed for repeal) and Md. Rule 1. It is a restatement of the combined effect of the two statutes; Petite v. Papachrist's Estate, 219 Md. 173, 148 A2d. 377 (1959). It also restates Md. Rule 1.g. relative to terms of the court, and refers to Md. Rule 1.f. with respect to local rules. Finally, it notes the possibility of a legislatively-granted rule-making power, such as the power of the chief judge of the District Court to make rules; §1-605(b) of this article (formerly Art. 26, §144(b)). This must be retained, because the power of