

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

Approved May 19, 1981.

CHAPTER 577

(Senate Bill 862)

AN ACT concerning

Criminal Law - Evidence

FOR the purpose of providing that a confession of a criminal defendant may not be excluded from evidence solely because the defendant was not taken before a judicial officer within a specified time; and providing that failure to comply with certain rules of court is only one factor, among others, to be considered in determining the voluntariness and admissibility of a confession.

BY adding to

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 10-912
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1980 Replacement Volume and 1980 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

10-912.

(A) A CONFESSION MAY NOT BE EXCLUDED FROM EVIDENCE SOLELY BECAUSE THE DEFENDANT WAS NOT TAKEN BEFORE A JUDICIAL OFFICER AFTER ARREST WITHIN ANY SPECIFIED TIME PERIOD SPECIFIED BY THE MARYLAND DISTRICT RULES.

(B) FAILURE TO STRICTLY COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE MARYLAND DISTRICT RULES PERTAINING TO TAKING A DEFENDANT BEFORE A JUDICIAL OFFICER AFTER ARREST IS ONLY ONE FACTOR, AMONG OTHERS, TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE COURT IN DECIDING THE VOLUNTARINESS AND ADMISSIBILITY OF A CONFESSION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

Approved May 19, 1981.
