

Senate Bill 428, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on June 1, 1982, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 653.

Sincerely,  
Harry Hughes  
Governor

-----  
House Bill No. 740

AN ACT concerning

District Court - Civil Jurisdiction -  
Jurisdictional Amount - Attorney's Fees

FOR the purpose of clarifying that attorney's fees are not part of the amount in controversy or of damages for certain purposes; making stylistic changes; providing for the prospective effect of these provisions; and generally relating to the jurisdiction of the District Court.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
Section 4-401, 4-402(d)(1) and (e)(1), 4-405, and  
12-401(d)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1980 Replacement Volume and 1981 Supplement)

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

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

4-401.

Except as provided in § 4-402 of this subtitle, and subject to the venue provisions of Title 6 of this article, the District Court has exclusive original civil jurisdiction in:

(1) An action in contract or tort, if the debt or damages claimed do not exceed \$10,000, EXCLUSIVE OF ATTORNEY'S FEES IF ATTORNEY'S FEES ARE RECOVERABLE BY LAW OR CONTRACT;