

injury wrongfully or negligently inflicted on the child, is deleted. The common law basis of the mother's exclusive right to sue -- her exclusive right to custody and guardianship of the child, and her primary responsibility for the child's care and support -- has been altered expressly by the provisions of former Article 72A, § 1 that now appear in § 5-203(c) of this subtitle and implicitly by the provisions of the Estates and Trusts Article and Title 5, Subtitle 10 of this article, concerning the determination of paternity and the imposition of support obligations on the father of an illegitimate child. In addition, the resulting abridgement of the rights of the father of an illegitimate child violates the Maryland Equal Rights Amendment. The Commission to Revise the Annotated Code calls the attention of the General Assembly to this deletion.

SUBTITLE 3. ADOPTION AND GUARDIANSHIP WITH THE RIGHT TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION.

PART 1. DEFINITIONS; LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.

5-301. DEFINITIONS.

(A) IN GENERAL.

IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection formerly appeared as Article 16, § 68(a).

The only changes are in style.

(B) CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY.

"CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY" MEANS:

(1) A LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES; OR

(2) A PRIVATE AGENCY THAT:

(I) ENGAGES IN THE PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN IN HOMES OR WITH INDIVIDUALS; AND

(II) IS LICENSED BY THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION UNDER § 5-507 OF THIS TITLE.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection formerly appeared as Article 16, § 68(b).

In item (2)(ii) of this subsection, the phrase "by the Social Services Administration" is new language added for clarity.