

(1) THIS STATE HAS A DUTY TO IMPROVE THE DEPRIVED SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATUS OF CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK; AND

(2) THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN THIS SUBTITLE ARE SOCIALLY NECESSARY AND DESIRABLE.

(B) PURPOSE.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUBTITLE IS:

(1) TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE AND BEST INTERESTS OF CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK BY SECURING FOR THEM, AS NEARLY AS PRACTICABLE, THE SAME RIGHTS TO SUPPORT, CARE, AND EDUCATION AS CHILDREN BORN IN WEDLOCK;

(2) TO IMPOSE ON THE MOTHERS AND FATHERS OF CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK THE BASIC OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTHOOD; AND

(3) TO SIMPLIFY THE PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINING PATERNITY, CUSTODY, GUARDIANSHIP, AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUPPORT OF CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Article 16, § 66A.

In subsection (a)(1) of this section, the word "improve" is substituted for the former word "ameliorate", for clarity.

Defined term: "Support" § 1-101

5-1003. RESERVED.

5-1004. RESERVED.

PART II. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

5-1005. LEGITIMATION PROCEEDINGS.

(A) IN GENERAL.

AN EQUITY COURT MAY DETERMINE THE LEGITIMACY OF A CHILD PURSUANT TO § 1-208 OF THE ESTATES AND TRUSTS ARTICLE.

(B) BAR.

THIS SECTION DOES NOT LIMIT PATERNITY PROCEEDINGS UNDER THIS SUBTITLE EXCEPT AFTER THE LEGITIMATION OF A CHILD UNDER THIS SECTION.

REVISOR'S NOTE: Subsection (a) of this section is new language derived without substantive change from former CJ § 3-602(a)(2) and the first sentence of (a), as that sentence related to legitimation.