

## (A) PETITION BY CHILD.

A CHILD WHO IS 16 YEARS OLD OR OLDER AND WHO IS SUBJECT TO A CUSTODY ORDER OR DECREE MAY FILE A PETITION TO CHANGE CUSTODY.

## (B) GUARDIAN OR NEXT FRIEND NOT REQUIRED.

A PETITIONER UNDER THIS SECTION MAY FILE THE PROCEEDING IN THE PETITIONER'S OWN NAME AND NEED NOT PROCEED BY GUARDIAN OR NEXT FRIEND.

## (C) HEARING REQUIRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE, IF A PETITIONER UNDER THIS SECTION PETITIONS A COURT TO AMEND A CUSTODY ORDER OR DECREE, THE COURT:

(1) SHALL HOLD A HEARING; AND

(2) MAY AMEND THE ORDER OR DECREE AND PLACE THE CHILD IN THE CUSTODY OF THE PARENT DESIGNATED BY THE CHILD.

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

In subsection (a) of this section, the former reference to a "court" is deleted as unnecessary.

In subsection (b) of this section, the former phrase "on his own" is deleted as unnecessary.

In subsection (c)(2) of this section, the term "order" is added to conform to the language in this section.

## SUBTITLE 2. MARYLAND UNIFORM CHILD CUSTODY JURISDICTION ACT.

## 9-201. DEFINITIONS.

## (A) IN GENERAL.

IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection formerly appeared as the introductory language of Article 16, § 185.

The only changes are in style.

## (B) CONTESTANT.

"CONTESTANT" MEANS A PERSON, INCLUDING A PARENT, WHO CLAIMS A RIGHT TO CUSTODY OR VISITATION RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO A CHILD.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This subsection formerly appeared as Article 16, § 185(1).