or to cause, direct, permit, or authorize an employee or agent to engage in or conduct business or open an establishment in that manner.

534W-1.

The provisions of § 534W of this article do not apply to:

- (5) [The four consecutive Sundays that immediately precede] ALL THE SUNDAYS THAT OCCUR BETWEEN THANKSCIVING DAY AND December 25;
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1985.

Approved May 21, 1985.

## CHAPTER 161

(Senate Bill 273)

AN ACT concerning

Adoption - Consent - Racial Considerations

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the executive head of a child placement agency from withholding consent to certain adoptions for the sole reason that the race of the prospective adoptive parents is different from that of the individual to be adopted.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Family Law Section 5-311 Annotated Code of Maryland (1984 Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

## Article - Family Law

5-311.

- (a) Unless the natural parents' rights have been terminated by a judicial proceeding, an individual may not be adopted without the consent of:
  - (1) the natural mother;