

~~IN A CASE OF ALLEGED CHILD ABUSE, AS DEFINED IN § 5-901 OF THE FAMILY LAW ARTICLE OR ARTICLE 27, § 35A OF THE CODE, THE AGE OR MENTAL CAPACITY OF A CHILD VICTIM MAY NOT PRECLUDE THE CHILD VICTIM FROM TESTIFYING. IN A CRIMINAL TRIAL, THE AGE OF A CHILD MAY NOT BE THE SOLE BASIS FOR PRECLUDING THE REASON FOR PRECLUDING A CHILD FROM TESTIFYING.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1985.

Approved May 28, 1985.

CHAPTER 499

(House Bill 1346)

AN ACT concerning

Child Abuse - Child Victims - Use of
Closed Circuit Television

FOR the purpose of reducing the psychological harm to a child victim testifying in a child abuse case by allowing a judge to order the child's testimony to be taken outside the courtroom and the physical presence of the defendant by means of closed circuit television under certain circumstances and subject to certain procedural safeguards for a defendant; limiting the persons allowed to be present when a child testifies in this manner; specifying those persons allowed to question the child; requiring certain persons operating certain equipment to take certain precautions; and generally relating to the use of closed circuit television for the testimony of certain child witnesses.

BY adding to

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 9-102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1984 Replacement Volume and 1984 Supplement)

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

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

9-102.