

certain foreign decree that meets certain requirements and is granted by a certain foreign body; and generally relating to petitions for final decrees of adoption or guardianship for children born--in of a jurisdiction or a country other than the United States its territories or possessions.

BY adding to

Article - Family Law
Section 5-313.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1984 Volume and 1985 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Family Law
Section 5-317
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1984 Volume and 1985 Supplement)

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

Article - Family Law

5-313.1.

A COURT MAY GRANT A DECREE OF ADOPTION OR A DECREE OF GUARDIANSHIP WITHOUT REQUIRING THE CONSENT OF A NATURAL PARENT OTHERWISE REQUIRED UNDER §§ 5-311 AND 5-317 OF THIS SUBTITLE IF:

{1} THE PETITIONER FILES WITH THE PETITION FOR ADOPTION OR GUARDIANSHIP A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION, GUARDIANSHIP, OR CUSTODY TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS GRANTED BY A JUDICIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE, OR EXECUTIVE BODY OF A JURISDICTION OR COUNTRY OTHER THAN THE UNITED STATES, ITS TERRITORIES OR POSSESSIONS, OR THAT IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THAT COUNTRY.

~~{2}--THE--CHILD--WHO--IS--THE--SUBJECT--OF--THE--DECREE--OF--ADOPTION,--GUARDIANSHIP,--OR--CUSTODY--WAS--BORN--IN--THE--COUNTRY--WHERE--THE--DECREE--WAS--GRANTED.~~

5-317.

(a) A petition for a decree of adoption may be preceded by a petition for guardianship of the child.

(b) Only the executive head of a child placement agency may file a petition for the agency to be granted guardianship.