## CHAPTER 629

(Senate Bill 639)

AN ACT concerning

Wrongful Death Actions - Limitations - Occupational Diseases

FOR the purpose of altering a statute of limitations for the filing of a wrongful death action where the death is alleged to have been caused by an occupational disease;—defining certain-terms;—and-making-stylistic-changes.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings Section 3-904(g) Annotated Code of Maryland (1984 Replacement Volume and 1986 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

3-904.

- (g) (l) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an action under this subtitle shall be filed within three years after the death of the injured person.
- (2) (i) In this paragraph "occupational disease" means a disease caused by exposure to any toxic substance in the person's workplace and contracted by a person in the course of the person's employment.
- (ii) If an occupational disease was a cause of a person's death, an action shall be filed:
- 1. Within [5]  $-7-\frac{10}{2}$  years of the time of death; or
- 2. Within 3 years of the date when the cause of death was discovered, whichever is the shorter.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1987.

Approved June 2, 1987.