

**CHAPTER 290**

**(House Bill 846)**

AN ACT concerning

**Adoption – Access to Records**

FOR the purpose of authorizing certain individuals to have access to certain information contained in certain adoption records; requiring a court to open records to inspection under certain circumstances; defining a term; making certain technical changes; and generally relating to the access of adoption records.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Family Law

Section 5-301 and 5-329

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1991 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

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

**Article – Family Law**

5-301.

(a) In this subtitle, the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “Child placement agency” means:

(1) a local department of social services; or

(2) a private agency that:

(i) engages in the placement of children in homes or with individuals;

and

(ii) is licensed by the Social Services Administration under § 5-507 of

this title.

(c) “Disability” means:

(1) a mental disorder, as defined in § 10-101 of the Health – General Article;

(2) mental retardation, as defined in § 7-101 of the Health – General Article;

(3) alcohol dependence, as defined in § 8-101 of the Health – General Article; or

(4) drug dependence, as defined in § 8-101 of the Health – General Article.