

CHAPTER 495

(House Bill 926)

AN ACT concerning

Prisoner Litigation Act

FOR the purpose of requiring a prisoner who files a civil action relating to the conditions of confinement to pay ~~the full amount~~ all or a certain portion of the applicable filing fee; establishing certain exceptions; prohibiting the initiation of certain events until the filing fee is paid in full; ~~requiring a prisoner who files a civil action to submit to the Clerk certain information relating to the prisoner's account; requiring the Clerk to issue to a prisoner a consent form containing certain information relating to the prisoner's account; requiring the Clerk to forward a copy of the consent form to the institution or agency that has custody of the prisoner; requiring the prisoner's custodian, under certain conditions, to remit to the Clerk certain funds from the prisoner's account; authorizing a custodian, under certain circumstances, to set aside or freeze certain funds deposited into the prisoner's account; authorizing a court, under certain circumstances, to dismiss a civil action filed under this Act;~~ prohibiting a prisoner from maintaining a civil action under certain circumstances; requiring a prisoner who files a civil action to attach certain information to the initial complaint; ~~requiring~~ allowing a court, prior to a certain event, to review a prisoner's complaint to identify any cognizable claims; establishing the effect of a dismissal of a prisoner's civil action; authorizing a court to take certain action if a prisoner has filed a certain number of frivolous complaints; requiring a certain finding to be reflected in the docket entries of a civil action filed under this Act; ~~providing for the disposition of compensatory and punitive damages awarded to a prisoner in connection with a civil action filed under this Act; requiring a prisoner's custodian to notify, in a certain manner, a victim of the prisoner and a recipient of a child support obligation for which the prisoner is responsible of certain information; authorizing a court to rescind any or all of a prisoner's diminution or confinement credits under certain circumstances; establishing that punitive damages awarded in a civil action filed under this Act may not exceed a certain amount; establishing a transaction fee for payments forwarded to the Clerk from a prisoner's account providing certain sanctions for filing a certain number of frivolous actions;~~ providing that a court is not required to hold a hearing under certain circumstances; providing for the application of this Act; defining certain terms; and generally relating to civil actions filed by prisoners.

BY adding to

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 5-501 through ~~5-511~~ ~~5-506~~ ~~5-507~~ to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 5. Prisoner Litigation Act"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1995 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)