

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; ~~requiring a court to order a defendant to reimburse a prisoner for court costs and filing fees under certain circumstances; 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~~ *5-507* to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 5. Prisoner Litigation Act"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1995 Replacement Volume and 1996 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**