

(C) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN ~~§ 21-112(F)~~ § 21-111(F) OF THIS TITLE, THIS TITLE DOES NOT REQUIRE A GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY OF THIS STATE TO USE OR PERMIT THE USE OF ELECTRONIC RECORDS OR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES.

21-118. INTEROPERABILITY.

(A) A GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY OF THIS STATE THAT ADOPTS STANDARDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 21-117 OF THIS TITLE MAY ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE CONSISTENCY AND INTEROPERABILITY WITH SIMILAR REQUIREMENTS ADOPTED BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES OF THIS STATE, OTHER STATES, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND NONGOVERNMENTAL PERSONS INTERACTING WITH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES OF THIS STATE.

(B) IF APPROPRIATE, THOSE STANDARDS MAY SPECIFY DIFFERING LEVELS OF STANDARDS FROM WHICH GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES OF THIS STATE MAY CHOOSE IN IMPLEMENTING THE MOST APPROPRIATE STANDARD FOR A PARTICULAR APPLICATION.

(C) STANDARDS ADOPTED BY UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH THOSE SPECIFIED IN THE STATE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MASTER PLAN.

21-119. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.

IF ANY PROVISION OF THIS TITLE OR ITS APPLICATION TO ANY PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCE IS HELD INVALID, THE INVALIDITY DOES NOT AFFECT OTHER PROVISIONS OR APPLICATIONS OF THIS TITLE WHICH CAN BE GIVEN EFFECT WITHOUT THE INVALID PROVISION OR APPLICATION, AND TO THIS END THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE ARE SEVERABLE.

21-120. SHORT TITLE.

THIS TITLE MAY BE CITED AS THE MARYLAND UNIFORM ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS ACT.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the catchlines contained in this Act are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as part of this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or application to any electronic record or electronic signature created, sent, communicated, received, or stored before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~October~~ June 1, 2000.

May 17, 2000

The Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.
Speaker of the House