

Annotated Code of Maryland
(1991 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

Article - Estates and Trusts

3-101.

Any part of the net estate of a decedent not effectively disposed of by his will shall be distributed by the personal representative to the heirs of the decedent in the order prescribed in this subtitle.

3-104.

(a) If there is no surviving issue the net estate exclusive of the share of the surviving spouse, or the entire net estate if there is no surviving spouse, shall be distributed by the personal representative pursuant to the provisions of this section.

(b) **[It]** SUBJECT TO §§ 3-111 AND 3-112 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IT shall be distributed to the surviving parents equally, or if only one parent survives, to the survivor; or if neither parent survives, to the issue of the parents, by representation.

3-112.

(A) A SURVIVING PARENT IS NOT ENTITLED UNDER § 3-104 OF THIS SUBTITLE TO A DISTRIBUTION OF THE NET ESTATE OF A MINOR CHILD OF THE PARENT IF THE PARENT:

(1) ABANDONED THE CHILD; OR

(2) WILLFULLY FAILED TO PAY CHILD CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUPPORT FOR OF THE CHILD FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST 2 YEARS DURING WHICH THE PARENT WAS REQUIRED TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT 3 CONSECUTIVE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DEATH OF THE CHILD OR FOR THE LIFE OF THE CHILD, WHICHEVER IS LESS.

(B) A PARENT SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE ABANDONED A MINOR CHILD UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION IF THE CONDUCT OF THE PARENT DEMONSTRATES A SETTLED PURPOSE ~~TO~~ WILLFULLY AND INTENTIONALLY TO RELINQUISH ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES WITH RESPECT TO THE CHILD AND TO RENOUNCE AND FORSAKE THE CHILD ENTIRELY.

5-104.

In granting letters in administrative or judicial probate, or in appointing a successor personal representative, or a special administrator as provided in Subtitle 4 of Title 6, the court and register shall observe the following order of priority, with any person in any one of the following paragraphs considered as a class:

(1) The personal representatives named in a will admitted to probate;