#### CHAPTER 442

### (House Bill 602)

### AN ACT concerning

## Maryland Safe Haven Act of 2002

FOR the purpose of establishing certain exemptions from prosecution for certain persons who abandon a newborn under certain circumstances; requiring the approval of a certain person to abandon a newborn under certain circumstances; requiring a certain person who accepts a newborn to take certain action within a certain time providing immunity from civil liability and criminal prosecution for certain persons who leave an unharmed newborn with a certain person under certain circumstances; requiring the approval of a certain person to leave a newborn under certain circumstances; requiring certain persons who accept a newborn to take certain actions within a certain time; providing immunity from civil liability and criminal prosecution for certain persons, hospitals, and other facilities under certain circumstances: requiring the Secretary of Human Resources to adopt certain regulations; providing that the provisions of this Act are severable; providing certain immunity for certain persons and entities under certain circumstances; requiring a certain-entity to develop certain protocol procedures for certain persons; establishing that a claim against certain persons and entities shall be governed by certain provisions of law; establishing that a certain provision of this Act does not create a new cause of action or substantive legal right and does not affect certain immunities or defenses; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the safe abandonment of a newborn.

#### BY adding to

Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 5 621.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1998 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

### BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 3 828

**Annotated Code of Maryland** 

(1998-Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

# BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article Family Law

Section 10 219

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)