VETOES

House Bill No. 232

AN ACT concerning

Family Law – Adoption Search, Contact, and Reunion Services – Siblings

FOR the purpose of expanding the adoption search, contact, and reunion services program within the Social Services Administration to include services to siblings of adopted individuals; authorizing a sibling of an adopted individual to apply to receive adoption search, contact, and reunion services under certain circumstances; requiring a confidential intermediary to attempt to contact a sibling of an adopted individual under certain circumstances; requiring the Director of the Social Services Administration to adopt regulations concerning a certain agreement between a confidential intermediary and a sibling of an adopted individual; establishing that the consent of a natural parent to an adoption or guardianship of a child is not valid unless the consent contains a certain notice; defining a certain term; altering a certain definition; and generally relating to adoption search, contact, and reunion services.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
　　Article – Family Law
　　Section 5–314(a), 5–4B–01(f), 5–4B–02(a), 5–4B–05, and 5–4B–12
　　Annotated Code of Maryland
　　(1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

BY adding to
　　Article – Family Law
　　Section 5–4B–01(g)
　　Annotated Code of Maryland
　　(1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

Article – Family Law

5–314.

　　(a)　The consent of a natural parent to either an adoption or guardianship of a child is not valid unless the consent contains an express notice of:

　　　　(1)　the right to revoke consent under § 5–311 or § 5–317 of this subtitle;

　　　　(2)　the search rights of adopted individuals and biological parents under [Subtitles 3A and 4B] SUBTITLE 3A of this title AND THE SEARCH RIGHTS OF ADOPTED INDIVIDUALS, BIOLOGICAL PARENTS, AND SIBLINGS UNDER SUBTITLE 4B OF THIS TITLE; and

　　　　(3)　the right to file a disclosure veto under § 5–3A–05 of this title.