

persons harmless for a failure to ascertain the filing of certain judgments prior to the effective date of this Act.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 11-802
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1989 Replacement Volume and 1990 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

11-802.

(a) (1) (i) Except as provided in [subparagraph (ii)] SUBPARAGRAPHS (II) AND (III) of this paragraph, a copy of any foreign judgment authenticated in accordance with an act of Congress or statutes of this State may be filed in the office of the clerk of a circuit court.

(ii) If the face amount of the judgment is \$2,500 or less, the copy shall be filed with the clerk of the District Court.

(III) IF THE FACE AMOUNT OF THE JUDGMENT IS ~~\$10,000 OR LESS~~ NOT MORE THAN A JURISDICTIONAL AMOUNT DESCRIBED IN § 4-401 OF THIS ARTICLE, BUT MORE THAN \$2,500, THE COPY MAY BE FILED EITHER WITH THE CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT OR IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF A CIRCUIT COURT.

(2) The clerk shall treat the foreign judgment in the same manner as a judgment of the court in which the foreign judgment is filed.

(b) A filed foreign judgment has the same effect and is subject to the same procedures, defenses, and proceedings for reopening, vacating, staying, enforcing, or satisfying as a judgment of the court in which it is filed.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed retroactively and shall be applied to and interpreted to affect all foreign judgments filed before and after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That in no instance may a person be held liable for any failure to ascertain the filing of a foreign judgment with a face amount of more than \$2,500 in the District Court prior to the effective date of this Act that would be valid under the terms of this Act.

~~SECTION 2, 3, 4.~~ AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1991.

Approved May 14, 1991.