

Article - Family Law

5-317.

(a) A petition for a decree of adoption may be preceded by a petition for guardianship of the child.

(b) Only the executive head of a child placement agency or the attorney for the child on behalf of the child may file a petition for the agency to be granted guardianship.

(c) Except as provided in §§ 5-313 and 5-313.1 of this subtitle, the court may grant a decree awarding guardianship only:

- (1) after any investigation and hearing the court considers necessary; and
- (2) with the consent of each living natural parent of the child.

(D) WITHIN 180 DAYS AFTER A PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP OR PETITION FOR ADOPTION IS FILED UNDER § 5-313 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE COURT SHALL RULE ON THE PETITION.

[(d)] (E) In a proceeding for guardianship, consent may be revoked at any time before a final decree of guardianship.

[(e)] (F) A decree of guardianship:

- (1) terminates the natural parents' rights, duties, and obligations toward the child;
- (2) subject to § 5-319 of this subtitle, eliminates the need to give notice to the natural parents of the filing of a petition for adoption of the child; and
- (3) eliminates the need for a further consent by the natural parents to an adoption of the child.

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

May 24, 1991

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller
 President of the Senate
 State House
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 676.

This bill would prohibit bringing or consuming alcoholic beverages in Baltimore County on the premises of any place of public entertainment where the entertainment constitutes