SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved May 5, 1992.

CHAPTER 95

(Senate Bill 433)

AN ACT concerning

District Court - Civil Actions - Jury Trials

FOR the purpose of altering the amount in controversy necessary to demand a jury trial in a civil action; making this Act contingent on the passage and ratification of another Act; and generally relating to the right of trial by jury in civil actions.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 4-402(e)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1991 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 4-405

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1991 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

4-402.

- (e) (1) In a civil action in which the amount in controversy exceeds [\$500] \$5,000, exclusive of attorney's fees if attorney's fees are recoverable by law or contract, a party may demand a jury trial pursuant to the Maryland Rules.
- (2) Except in a replevin action, if a party is entitled to and files a timely demand, in accordance with the Maryland Rules, for a jury trial, jurisdiction is transferred forthwith and the record of the proceeding shall be transmitted to the appropriate court. In a replevin action, if a party is entitled to and files a timely demand for a jury trial, the District Court may conduct a hearing on the show cause order prior to