

agreements. Therefore, I am unclear as to what actual effect the bill would have other than perhaps to discourage infertile couples from pursuing the option that surrogacy provides. The creation of a family is a personal decision I think best left to the individuals involved.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 251.

Sincerely,
William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Senate Bill No. 251

AN ACT concerning

~~Commercial Surrogate Mother Agreements~~ Parentage Contracts

FOR the purpose of establishing that a surrogate mother agreement that requires the exchange of consideration is void and against public policy; prohibiting a person from procuring, acting as an agent for, facilitating, or assisting in the carrying out of a surrogate mother agreement for consideration; prohibiting the enforcement of certain surrogate mother agreements in a court of the State; establishing certain penalties for violation of this Act; defining certain terms; providing that provisions of this Act are severable; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to surrogate mother agreements parentage contract is void and unenforceable as against State policy.

BY adding to

Article - Family Law

Section 5-2A-01 through 5-2A-05 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 2A. Surrogate ~~Mother Agreements~~ Parentage Contracts"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1984 Volume and 1991 Supplement)

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

Article - Family Law

SUBTITLE 2A. ~~SURROGATE MOTHER AGREEMENTS~~

~~5-2A-01.~~

~~(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.~~