

(2) An individual to be adopted may revoke the individual's consent at any time before a final decree of adoption or an interlocutory decree of adoption is entered.

(3) Except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, the required consent to an adoption filed under this section may not be revoked at any time by the individual or agency executing the consent.

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.

(e) In a proceeding for guardianship, consent may be revoked at any time WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE CONSENT IS FILED UNDER THIS SECTION OR ANY TIME before a final decree of guardianship IS ENTERED, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.

(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 October 1, 1992.

May 26, 1992

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

Dear Mr. President: