

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 ye 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 April 12, 1994.

CHAPTER 102

(Senate Bill 300)

AN ACT concerning

Declaration of Rights – Victim’s Rights

FOR the purpose of adding a new article to the Maryland Declaration of Rights establishing that a victim of crime has a constitutional right to be treated with dignity, respect, and sensitivity during all phases of the criminal justice process; establishing that a victim of crime has a constitutional right to be informed of the rights established in this Amendment and, under certain circumstances, to be notified of, to attend, and to be heard at a criminal justice proceeding, as these rights are implemented and certain terms are specified by law; providing that nothing in this Amendment permits any civil cause of action for monetary damages for violation of any of its provisions or authorizes a victim of crime to take any action to stay a criminal justice proceeding; and submitting this Amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

BY proposing an addition to the Constitution of Maryland

Declaration of Rights

Article 47

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That it be proposed that the Constitution of Maryland read as follows:

Declaration of Rights

ARTICLE 47.

(A) A VICTIM OF CRIME SHALL BE TREATED BY AGENTS OF THE STATE WITH DIGNITY, RESPECT, AND SENSITIVITY DURING ALL PHASES OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS.

(B) IN A CASE ORIGINATING BY INDICTMENT OR INFORMATION FILED IN A CIRCUIT COURT, A VICTIM OF CRIME SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED OF THE RIGHTS ESTABLISHED IN THIS ARTICLE AND, UPON REQUEST AND IF