

(1978 Volume and 1982 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General
Section 18-403
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1982 Volume and 1982 Supplement)

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

Article - Education

7-402.

(b) (1) Unless the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene declares an emergency or an epidemic of disease, a child whose parent or guardian objects [in writing] to immunization on the ground that it conflicts with [the tenets and practice of a recognized church or religious denomination of which he is an adherent or member] THE PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S BONA FIDE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES may not be required to present a physician's certification of immunization IN ORDER to be admitted to school.

~~(2) -- A -- REQUEST FOR AN EXEMPTION SHALL BE SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING SWORN AFFIDAVIT --~~

~~AFFIDAVIT OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF~~

- ~~1. -- (I) -- (WE) -- (AM) -- (ARE) -- THE -- PARENT(S) -- LEGAL GUARDIAN(S) OF -----~~
- ~~2. -- (I) -- (WE) -- HEREBY -- (SWEAR) -- (AFFIRM) -- THAT -- (I) -- (WE) SUBSCRIBE TO A BELIEF IN A RELATION TO -- A -- SUPREME BEING -- INVOLVING -- DUTIES SUPERIOR TO THOSE ARISING FROM ANY HUMAN RELATION.~~
- ~~3. -- (I) -- (WE) -- FURTHER -- (SWEAR) -- (AFFIRM) -- THAT -- OUR -- BELIEF IS -- SINCERE AND MEANINGFUL AND OCCUPIES A PLACE IN (MY) -- (OUR) -- LIFE PARALLEL TO -- THAT -- FILLED -- BY -- THE ORTHODOX BELIEF IN GOD.~~
- ~~4. -- THIS -- BELIEF -- IS NOT A POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL, OR PHILOSOPHICAL VIEW -- OF -- A -- MERELY -- PERSONAL -- MORAL CODE.~~
- ~~5. -- THIS -- BELIEF -- CAUSES -- (ME) -- (US) -- TO -- REQUEST -- AN EXEMPTION FROM THE MANDATORY -- SCHOOL -- IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM FOR -----
NAME OF CHILD~~