

HOUSE BILL 1032

D4
HB 508/17 – JUD

8lr2112
CF SB 684

By: **Delegates Dumais and McComas**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2018
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Custody – Legal Decision Making and Parenting Time**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing references to the terms “child custody” and “visitation” in
4 certain instances and substituting the terms “legal decision making” and “parenting
5 time” in certain instances; requiring the court, in determining the appropriate
6 allocation of legal decision making or parenting time between the parties, to consider
7 certain factors; authorizing the court to consider certain factors; requiring the court
8 to articulate certain findings of fact on the record; authorizing the court to award
9 joint legal decision making to both parties under certain circumstances; prohibiting
10 a party from unilaterally making certain decisions concerning a child without
11 agreement of the other party or order of the court under certain circumstances;
12 authorizing the court to modify a child custody or visitation order or a legal decision
13 making or parenting time order under certain circumstances; specifying that a
14 party’s proposal to relocate the residence of the party or the child in a certain manner
15 constitutes a material change in circumstances for purposes of a modification of an
16 order; specifying the purposes of this Act; repealing certain provisions relating to the
17 relevancy of a disability of a party in a child custody or visitation proceeding; making
18 certain clarifying and conforming changes; defining certain terms; and generally
19 relating to child custody, visitation, legal decision making, and parenting time.

20 BY repealing

21 Article – Family Law
22 Section 5–203(d) and 9–107
23 Annotated Code of Maryland
24 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

25 BY adding to

26 Article – Family Law
27 Section 9–101 and 9–103 to be under the amended subtitle “Subtitle 1. Definitions;
28 General Provisions” and the amended title “Title 9. Custodial Arrangements
29 for Children”; and 9–201 through 9–204 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



