

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2021 and 2022 HB4588

Introduced 1/21/2022, by Rep. Barbara Hernandez

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

705 ILCS 405/1-3	fr	om Ch.	37,	par.	801-3
705 ILCS 405/2-27	fro	om Ch.	37,	par.	802-27
750 ILCS 5/203	fro	om Ch.	40,	par.	203
750 ILCS 5/212	fro	om Ch.	40,	par.	212
750 ILCS 5/301	fro	om Ch.	40,	par.	301
750 ILCS 5/302	fro	om Ch.	40,	par.	302
750 ILCS 5/403	fro	om Ch.	40,	par.	403

Amends the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act. Prohibits the marriage of any person under the age of 18. Makes conforming changes in the Act and in the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

LRB102 24712 LNS 33952 b

1 AN ACT concerning civil law.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Juvenile Court Act of 1987 is amended by changing Sections 1-3 and 2-27 as follows:
- 6 (705 ILCS 405/1-3) (from Ch. 37, par. 801-3)
- Sec. 1-3. Definitions. Terms used in this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, have the following meanings ascribed to them:
- (1) "Adjudicatory hearing" means a hearing to determine 10 whether the allegations of a petition under Section 2-13, 11 3-15, or 4-12 that a minor under 18 years of age is abused, 12 13 neglected or dependent, or requires authoritative 14 intervention, or addicted, respectively, are supported by a preponderance of the evidence or whether the allegations of a 15 16 petition under Section 5-520 that a minor is delinquent are 17 proved beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 18 (2) "Adult" means a person 21 years of age or older.
- 19 (3) "Agency" means a public or private child care facility
 20 legally authorized or licensed by this State for placement or
 21 institutional care or for both placement and institutional
 22 care.
- 23 (4) "Association" means any organization, public or

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1	private, engaged in welfare functions which include services
2	to or on behalf of children but does not include "agency" as
3	herein defined.
4	(4.05) Whenever a "best interest" determination is
5	required, the following factors shall be considered in the
6	context of the child's age and developmental needs:
7	(a) the physical safety and welfare of the child,
8	including food, shelter, health, and clothing;
9	(b) the development of the child's identity;
10	(c) the child's background and ties, including
11	familial, cultural, and religious;
12	(d) the child's sense of attachments, including:
13	(i) where the child actually feels love,
14	attachment, and a sense of being valued (as opposed to
15	where adults believe the child should feel such love,
16	attachment, and a sense of being valued);
17	(ii) the child's sense of security;
18	(iii) the child's sense of familiarity;
19	(iv) continuity of affection for the child;
20	(v) the least disruptive placement alternative for

(e) the child's wishes and long-term goals;

the child;

- (f) the child's community ties, including church,
 school, and friends;
- (g) the child's need for permanence which includes the child's need for stability and continuity of relationships

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- with parent figures and with siblings and other relatives;
- 2 (h) the uniqueness of every family and child;
- 3 (i) the risks attendant to entering and being in substitute care; and
- 5 (j) the preferences of the persons available to care 6 for the child.
- 7 (4.1) "Chronic truant" shall have the definition ascribed 8 to it in Section 26-2a of the School Code.
- 9 (5) "Court" means the circuit court in a session or division assigned to hear proceedings under this Act.
 - (6) "Dispositional hearing" means a hearing to determine whether a minor should be adjudged to be a ward of the court, and to determine what order of disposition should be made in respect to a minor adjudged to be a ward of the court.
 - (6.5) "Dissemination" or "disseminate" means to publish, produce, print, manufacture, distribute, sell, lease, exhibit, broadcast, display, transmit, or otherwise share information in any format so as to make the information accessible to others.
- 20 (7) "Emancipated minor" means any minor 16 years of age or 21 over who has been completely or partially emancipated under 22 the Emancipation of Minors Act or under this Act.
- 23 (7.03) "Expunge" means to physically destroy the records 24 and to obliterate the minor's name from any official index, 25 public record, or electronic database.
- 26 (7.05) "Foster parent" includes a relative caregiver

- selected by the Department of Children and Family Services to provide care for the minor.
 - (8) "Guardianship of the person" of a minor means the duty and authority to act in the best interests of the minor, subject to residual parental rights and responsibilities, to make important decisions in matters having a permanent effect on the life and development of the minor and to be concerned with his or her general welfare. It includes but is not necessarily limited to:
 - (a) the authority to consent to marriage, to enlistment in the armed forces of the United States, or to a major medical, psychiatric, and surgical treatment; to represent the minor in legal actions; and to make other decisions of substantial legal significance concerning the minor;
 - (b) the authority and duty of reasonable visitation, except to the extent that these have been limited in the best interests of the minor by court order;
 - (c) the rights and responsibilities of legal custody except where legal custody has been vested in another person or agency; and
 - (d) the power to consent to the adoption of the minor, but only if expressly conferred on the guardian in accordance with Section 2-29, 3-30, or 4-27.
- 25 (8.1) "Juvenile court record" includes, but is not limited to:

- 1 (a) all documents filed in or maintained by the 2 juvenile court pertaining to a specific incident, 3 proceeding, or individual;
 - (b) all documents relating to a specific incident, proceeding, or individual made available to or maintained by probation officers;
 - (c) all documents, video or audio tapes, photographs, and exhibits admitted into evidence at juvenile court hearings; or
 - (d) all documents, transcripts, records, reports, or other evidence prepared by, maintained by, or released by any municipal, county, or State agency or department, in any format, if indicating involvement with the juvenile court relating to a specific incident, proceeding, or individual.
 - (8.2) "Juvenile law enforcement record" includes records of arrest, station adjustments, fingerprints, probation adjustments, the issuance of a notice to appear, or any other records or documents maintained by any law enforcement agency relating to a minor suspected of committing an offense, and records maintained by a law enforcement agency that identifies a juvenile as a suspect in committing an offense, but does not include records identifying a juvenile as a victim, witness, or missing juvenile and any records created, maintained, or used for purposes of referral to programs relating to diversion as defined in subsection (6) of Section 5-105.

- (9) "Legal custody" means the relationship created by an order of court in the best interests of the minor which imposes on the custodian the responsibility of physical possession of a minor and the duty to protect, train and discipline him and to provide him with food, shelter, education and ordinary medical care, except as these are limited by residual parental rights and responsibilities and the rights and responsibilities of the guardian of the person, if any.
- (9.1) "Mentally capable adult relative" means a person 21 years of age or older who is not suffering from a mental illness that prevents him or her from providing the care necessary to safeguard the physical safety and welfare of a minor who is left in that person's care by the parent or parents or other person responsible for the minor's welfare.
- (10) "Minor" means a person under the age of 21 years subject to this Act.
- (11) "Parent" means a father or mother of a child and includes any adoptive parent. It also includes a person (i) whose parentage is presumed or has been established under the law of this or another jurisdiction or (ii) who has registered with the Putative Father Registry in accordance with Section 12.1 of the Adoption Act and whose paternity has not been ruled out under the law of this or another jurisdiction. It does not include a parent whose rights in respect to the minor have been terminated in any manner provided by law. It does not include a person who has been or could be determined to be a parent under

- the Illinois Parentage Act of 1984 or the Illinois Parentage 1 2 Act of 2015, or similar parentage law in any other state, if 3 that person has been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to a crime that resulted in the conception of the child under Section 11-1.20, 11-1.30, 11-1.40, 11-11, 12-13, 12-14, 5 12-14.1, subsection (a) or (b) (but not subsection (c)) of 6 7 Section 11-1.50 or 12-15, or subsection (a), (b), (c), (e), or (f) (but not subsection (d)) of Section 11-1.60 or 12-16 of the 8 9 Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012, or similar 10 statute in another jurisdiction unless upon motion of any 11 party, other than the offender, to the juvenile court 12 proceedings the court finds it is in the child's best interest to deem the offender a parent for purposes of the juvenile 13 14 court proceedings.
- 15 (11.1) "Permanency goal" means a goal set by the court as 16 defined in subdivision (2) of Section 2-28.
- 17 (11.2) "Permanency hearing" means a hearing to set the permanency goal and to review and determine 18 (i) the 19 appropriateness of the services contained in the plan and 20 whether those services have been provided, (ii) whether 21 reasonable efforts have been made by all the parties to the 22 service plan to achieve the goal, and (iii) whether the plan 23 and goal have been achieved.
- (12) "Petition" means the petition provided for in Section 25 2-13, 3-15, 4-12 or 5-520, including any supplemental 26 petitions thereunder in Section 3-15, 4-12 or 5-520.

- (12.1) "Physically capable adult relative" means a person 21 years of age or older who does not have a severe physical disability or medical condition, or is not suffering from alcoholism or drug addiction, that prevents him or her from providing the care necessary to safeguard the physical safety and welfare of a minor who is left in that person's care by the parent or parents or other person responsible for the minor's welfare.
 - (12.2) "Post Permanency Sibling Contact Agreement" has the meaning ascribed to the term in Section 7.4 of the Children and Family Services Act.
 - (12.3) "Residential treatment center" means a licensed setting that provides 24-hour care to children in a group home or institution, including a facility licensed as a child care institution under Section 2.06 of the Child Care Act of 1969, a licensed group home under Section 2.16 of the Child Care Act of 1969, a secure child care facility as defined in paragraph (18) of this Section, or any similar facility in another state. "Residential treatment center" does not include a relative foster home or a licensed foster family home.
 - (13) "Residual parental rights and responsibilities" means those rights and responsibilities remaining with the parent after the transfer of legal custody or guardianship of the person, including, but not necessarily limited to, the right to reasonable visitation (which may be limited by the court in the best interests of the minor as provided in subsection

- 1 (8) (b) of this Section), the right to consent to adoption, the
- 2 right to determine the minor's religious affiliation, and the
- 3 responsibility for his support.
- 4 (14) "Shelter" means the temporary care of a minor in
- 5 physically unrestricting facilities pending court disposition
- 6 or execution of court order for placement.
- 7 (14.05) "Shelter placement" means a temporary or emergency
- 8 placement for a minor, including an emergency foster home
- 9 placement.
- 10 (14.1) "Sibling Contact Support Plan" has the meaning
- 11 ascribed to the term in Section 7.4 of the Children and Family
- 12 Services Act.
- 13 (14.2) "Significant event report" means a written document
- 14 describing an occurrence or event beyond the customary
- operations, routines, or relationships in the Department of
- 16 Children of Family Services, a child care facility, or other
- 17 entity that is licensed or regulated by the Department of
- 18 Children of Family Services or that provides services for the
- 19 Department of Children of Family Services under a grant,
- 20 contract, or purchase of service agreement; involving children
- or youth, employees, foster parents, or relative caregivers;
- 22 allegations of abuse or neglect or any other incident raising
- 23 a concern about the well-being of a minor under the
- 24 jurisdiction of the court under Article II of the Juvenile
- 25 Court Act; incidents involving damage to property, allegations
- 26 of criminal activity, misconduct, or other occurrences

- 1 affecting the operations of the Department of Children of
- 2 Family Services or a child care facility; any incident that
- 3 could have media impact; and unusual incidents as defined by
- 4 Department of Children and Family Services rule.
- 5 (15) "Station adjustment" means the informal handling of
- an alleged offender by a juvenile police officer.
- 7 (16) "Ward of the court" means a minor who is so adjudged
- 8 under Section 2-22, 3-23, 4-20 or 5-705, after a finding of the
- 9 requisite jurisdictional facts, and thus is subject to the
- 10 dispositional powers of the court under this Act.
- 11 (17) "Juvenile police officer" means a sworn police
- officer who has completed a Basic Recruit Training Course, has
- been assigned to the position of juvenile police officer by
- 14 his or her chief law enforcement officer and has completed the
- 15 necessary juvenile officers training as prescribed by the
- 16 Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board, or in the
- 17 case of a State police officer, juvenile officer training
- 18 approved by the Director of the Illinois State Police.
- 19 (18) "Secure child care facility" means any child care
- 20 facility licensed by the Department of Children and Family
- 21 Services to provide secure living arrangements for children
- 22 under 18 years of age who are subject to placement in
- facilities under the Children and Family Services Act and who
- are not subject to placement in facilities for whom standards
- are established by the Department of Corrections under Section
- 26 3-15-2 of the Unified Code of Corrections. "Secure child care

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- 1 facility" also means a facility that is designed and operated
- 2 to ensure that all entrances and exits from the facility, a
- 3 building, or a distinct part of the building are under the
- 4 exclusive control of the staff of the facility, whether or not
- 5 the child has the freedom of movement within the perimeter of
- 6 the facility, building, or distinct part of the building.
- 7 (Source: P.A. 102-538, eff. 8-20-21.)
- 8 (705 ILCS 405/2-27) (from Ch. 37, par. 802-27)
- 9 Sec. 2-27. Placement; legal custody or guardianship.
- 10 If the court determines and puts in writing the 11 factual basis supporting the determination of whether the parents, quardian, or legal custodian of a minor adjudged a 12 13 ward of the court are unfit or are unable, for some reason 14 other than financial circumstances alone, to care for, 15 protect, train or discipline the minor or are unwilling to do 16 so, and that the health, safety, and best interest of the minor will be jeopardized if the minor remains in the custody of his 17 18 or her parents, quardian or custodian, the court may at this 19 hearing and at any later point:
 - (a) place the minor in the custody of a suitable relative or other person as legal custodian or guardian;
 - (a-5) with the approval of the Department of Children and Family Services, place the minor in the subsidized guardianship of a suitable relative or other person as legal guardian; "subsidized guardianship" means a private

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guardianship arrangement for children for whom the permanency goals of return home and adoption have been ruled out and who meet the qualifications for subsidized guardianship as defined by the Department of Children and Family Services in administrative rules;

- (b) place the minor under the guardianship of a probation officer;
- (c) commit the minor to an agency for care or placement, except an institution under the authority of the Department of Corrections or of the Department of Children and Family Services;
- (d) on and after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly and before January 1, 2017, commit the minor to the Department of Children and Family Services for care and service; however, a minor charged with a criminal offense under the Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012 or adjudicated delinquent shall not be placed in the custody of or committed to the Department of Children and Family Services by any court, except (i) a minor less than 16 years of age and committed to the Department of Children and Family Services under Section 5-710 of this Act, (ii) a minor under the age of 18 for whom an independent basis of abuse, neglect, or dependency exists, or (iii) a minor for whom the court has granted a supplemental petition to reinstate wardship pursuant to subsection (2) of Section

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2-33 of this Act. On and after January 1, 2017, commit the minor to the Department of Children and Family Services for care and service; however, a minor charged with a criminal offense under the Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012 or adjudicated delinquent shall not be placed in the custody of or committed to the Department of Children and Family Services by any court, except (i) a minor less than 15 years of age and committed to the Department of Children and Family Services under Section 5-710 of this Act, (ii) a minor under the age of 18 for whom an independent basis of abuse, neglect, or dependency exists, or (iii) a minor for whom the court has granted a supplemental petition to reinstate wardship pursuant to subsection (2) of Section 2-33 of this Act. An independent basis exists when the allegations or adjudication of abuse, neglect, or dependency do not arise from the same facts, incident, or circumstances which give rise to a charge or adjudication of delinquency. The Department shall be given due notice of the pendency of the action and Guardianship Administrator of the Department of Children and Family Services shall be appointed guardian of the person of the minor. Whenever the Department seeks discharge a minor from its care and service, the Guardianship Administrator shall petition the court for an quardianship. terminating The Administrator may designate one or more other officers of

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Department officers by Department, appointed as administrative order of the Department Director, authorized to affix the signature of the Guardianship Administrator to documents affecting the quardian-ward relationship of children for whom he or she has been appointed quardian at such times as he or she is unable to perform the duties of his or her office. The signature authorization shall include but not be limited to matters of consent of marriage, enlistment in the armed forces, legal proceedings, adoption, major medical and surgical treatment, and application for driver's license. Signature authorizations made pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph shall be filed with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of State shall provide upon payment of the customary fee, certified copies of the authorization to any court or individual who requests a copy.

- (1.5) In making a determination under this Section, the court shall also consider whether, based on health, safety, and the best interests of the minor,
 - (a) appropriate services aimed at family preservation and family reunification have been unsuccessful in rectifying the conditions that have led to a finding of unfitness or inability to care for, protect, train, or discipline the minor, or
 - (b) no family preservation or family reunification services would be appropriate,

and if the petition or amended petition contained an allegation that the parent is an unfit person as defined in subdivision (D) of Section 1 of the Adoption Act, and the order of adjudication recites that parental unfitness was established by clear and convincing evidence, the court shall, when appropriate and in the best interest of the minor, enter an order terminating parental rights and appointing a guardian with power to consent to adoption in accordance with Section 2-29.

When making a placement, the court, wherever possible, shall require the Department of Children and Family Services to select a person holding the same religious belief as that of the minor or a private agency controlled by persons of like religious faith of the minor and shall require the Department to otherwise comply with Section 7 of the Children and Family Services Act in placing the child. In addition, whenever alternative plans for placement are available, the court shall ascertain and consider, to the extent appropriate in the particular case, the views and preferences of the minor.

(2) When a minor is placed with a suitable relative or other person pursuant to item (a) of subsection (1), the court shall appoint him or her the legal custodian or guardian of the person of the minor. When a minor is committed to any agency, the court shall appoint the proper officer or representative thereof as legal custodian or guardian of the person of the minor. Legal custodians and guardians of the person of the

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minor have the respective rights and duties set forth in subsection (9) of Section 1-3 except as otherwise provided by order of court; but no guardian of the person may consent to adoption of the minor unless that authority is conferred upon him or her in accordance with Section 2-29. An agency whose representative is appointed quardian of the person or legal custodian of the minor may place the minor in any child care facility, but the facility must be licensed under the Child Care Act of 1969 or have been approved by the Department of Children and Family Services as meeting the established for such licensing. No agency may place a minor adjudicated under Sections 2-3 or 2-4 in a child care facility unless the placement is in compliance with the rules and regulations for placement under this Section promulgated by the Department of Children and Family Services under Section 5 of the Children and Family Services Act. Like authority and restrictions shall be conferred by the court upon any probation officer who has been appointed quardian of the person of a minor.

- (3) No placement by any probation officer or agency whose representative is appointed guardian of the person or legal custodian of a minor may be made in any out of State child care facility unless it complies with the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children. Placement with a parent, however, is not subject to that Interstate Compact.
- (4) The clerk of the court shall issue to the legal

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- custodian or guardian of the person a certified copy of the order of court, as proof of his authority. No other process is necessary as authority for the keeping of the minor.
 - (5) Custody or guardianship granted under this Section continues until the court otherwise directs, but not after the minor reaches the age of 19 years except as set forth in Section 2-31, or if the minor was previously committed to the Department of Children and Family Services for care and service and the court has granted a supplemental petition to reinstate wardship pursuant to subsection (2) of Section 2-33.
- 11 (6) (Blank).
- 12 (Source: P.A. 101-79, eff. 7-12-19.)
- Section 10. The Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act is amended by changing Sections 203, 212, 301, 302, and 403 as follows:
- 16 (750 ILCS 5/203) (from Ch. 40, par. 203)
- Sec. 203. License to Marry. When a marriage application has been completed and signed by both parties to a prospective marriage and both parties have appeared before the county clerk and the marriage license fee has been paid, the county clerk shall issue a license to marry and a marriage certificate form upon being furnished:
- 23 (1) satisfactory proof that each party to the marriage 24 has will have attained the age of 18 years at the time the

marriage license is effective or will have attained the age of 16 years and has either the consent to the marriage of both parents or his guardian or judicial approval; provided, if one parent cannot be located in order to obtain such consent and diligent efforts have been made to locate that parent by the consenting parent, then the consent of one parent plus a signed affidavit by the consenting parent which (i) names the absent parent and states that he or she cannot be located, and (ii) states what diligent efforts have been made to locate the absent parent, shall have the effect of both parents' consent for purposes of this Section;

- (2) satisfactory proof that the marriage is not prohibited; and
- (3) an affidavit or record as prescribed in subparagraph (1) of Section 205 or a court order as prescribed in subparagraph (2) of Section 205, if applicable.

With each marriage license, the county clerk shall provide a pamphlet describing the causes and effects of fetal alcohol syndrome. At least annually, the county board shall submit to the Illinois Department of Public Health a report as to the county clerk's compliance with the requirement that the county clerk provide a pamphlet with each marriage license. All funding and production costs for the aforementioned educational pamphlets for distribution to each county clerk

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- 1 shall be provided by non-profit, non-sectarian statewide
- 2 programs that provide education, advocacy, support, and
- 3 prevention services pertaining to Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.
- 4 (Source: P.A. 96-1323, eff. 1-1-11.)
- 5 (750 ILCS 5/212) (from Ch. 40, par. 212)
- 6 Sec. 212. Prohibited Marriages.
 - (a) The following marriages are prohibited:
 - (1) a marriage entered into prior to the dissolution of an earlier marriage, civil union, or substantially similar legal relationship of one of the parties, unless the parties to the marriage are the same as the parties to a civil union and are seeking to convert their civil union to a marriage pursuant to Section 65 of the Illinois Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act;
 - (2) a marriage between an ancestor and a descendant or between siblings, whether the relationship is by the half or the whole blood or by adoption;
 - (3) a marriage between an uncle and a niece, between an uncle and a nephew, between an aunt and a nephew, or between an aunt and a niece, whether the relationship is by the half or the whole blood;
 - (4) a marriage between cousins of the first degree; however, a marriage between first cousins is not prohibited if:
 - (i) both parties are 50 years of age or older; or

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-	(ii) either party, at the time of application for
2	a marriage license, presents for filing with the
3	county clerk of the county in which the marriage is to
1	be solemnized, a certificate signed by a licensed
5	physician stating that the party to the proposed
5	marriage is permanently and irreversibly sterile;

- (5) (blank);
- (6) a marriage of any person under the age of 18.
- 9 (b) Parties to a marriage prohibited under subsection (a)
 10 of this Section who cohabit after removal of the impediment
 11 are lawfully married as of the date of the removal of the
 12 impediment.
- (c) Children born or adopted of a prohibited or common law
 marriage are the lawful children of the parties.
- 15 (Source: P.A. 98-597, eff. 6-1-14.)
- 16 (750 ILCS 5/301) (from Ch. 40, par. 301)
 - Sec. 301. Declaration of Invalidity Grounds. The court shall enter its judgment declaring the invalidity of a marriage (formerly known as annulment) entered into under the following circumstances:
 - (1) a party lacked capacity to consent to the marriage at the time the marriage was solemnized, either because of mental incapacity or infirmity or because of the influence of alcohol, drugs, or other incapacitating substances, or a party was induced to enter into a marriage by force or duress or by

- 1 fraud involving the essentials of marriage;
- 2 (2) a party lacks the physical capacity to consummate the 3 marriage by sexual intercourse and at the time the marriage 4 was solemnized the other party did not know of the incapacity;
- 5 (3) (blank) a party was aged 16 or 17 years and did not
 6 have the consent of his parents or guardian or judicial
 7 approval; or
- 8 (4) the marriage is prohibited.
- 9 (Source: P.A. 80-923.)

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- 10 (750 ILCS 5/302) (from Ch. 40, par. 302)
- 11 Sec. 302. Time of commencement.
- 12 Time of Commencement.) (a) A declaration of invalidity
 13 under paragraph (1) or (2) paragraphs (1) through (3) of
 14 Section 301 may be sought by any of the following persons and
 15 must be commenced within the times specified:
 - (1) for any of the reasons set forth in paragraph (1) of Section 301, by either party or by the legal representative of the party who lacked capacity to consent, no later than 90 days after the petitioner obtained knowledge of the described condition;
 - (2) for the reason set forth in paragraph (2) of Section 301, by either party, no later than one year after the petitioner obtained knowledge of the described condition;
- 24 (3) (blank) for the reason set forth in paragraph (3) of 25 Section 301, by the underaged party, his parent or guardian,

- 1 prior to the time the underaged party reaches the age at which
- 2 he could have married without needing to satisfy the omitted
- 3 requirement.
- 4 (b) In no event may a declaration of invalidity of
- 5 marriage be sought after the death of either party to the
- 6 marriage under paragraph (1) or (2) subsections (1), (2) and
- 7 $\frac{(3)}{(3)}$ of Section 301.
- 8 (c) A declaration of invalidity for the reason set forth
- 9 in paragraph (4) of Section 301 may be sought by either party,
- 10 the legal spouse in case of a bigamous marriage, the State's
- 11 Attorney or a child of either party, at any time not to exceed
- 3 years following the death of the first party to die.
- 13 (Source: P.A. 80-923.)
- 14 (750 ILCS 5/403) (from Ch. 40, par. 403)
- 15 Sec. 403. Pleadings Commencement Abolition of Existing
- 16 Defenses Procedure.
- 17 (a) The complaint or petition for dissolution of marriage
- 18 or legal separation shall be verified and shall minimally set
- 19 forth:
- 20 (1) the age, occupation and residence of each party
- and his length of residence in this State;
- (2) the date of the marriage and the place at which it
- 23 was registered;
- 24 (2.5) whether a petition for dissolution of marriage
- is pending in any other county or state;

- (3) that the jurisdictional requirements of subsection
 (a) of Section 401 have been met and that irreconcilable
 differences have caused the irretrievable breakdown of the
 marriage;
 - (4) the names, ages and addresses of all living children of the marriage and whether a spouse is pregnant;
 - (5) any arrangements as to support, allocation of parental responsibility of the children and maintenance of a spouse; and
 - (6) the relief sought.
 - (b) Either or both parties to the marriage may initiate the proceeding. A minor may independently initiate the proceeding in the minor's own name and appear on the minor's own behalf without a parent, guardian, guardian ad litem, next friend, or other appointed person.
- 16 (c) (Blank).
 - (d) The court may join additional parties necessary and proper for the exercise of its authority under this Act.
 - (e) Contested trials shall be on a bifurcated basis with the issue of whether irreconcilable differences have caused the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage, as described in Section 401, being tried first, regardless of whether that issue is contested or uncontested. Upon the court determining that irreconcilable differences have caused the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage, the court may allow additional time for the parties to settle amicably the remaining issues before

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resuming the trial, or may proceed immediately to trial on the remaining issues. The court has the discretion to use the date of the trial or such other date as agreed upon by the parties, or ordered by the court within its discretion, for purposes of determining the value of assets or property. In cases where the requirements of Section 401 are uncontested and proved as in cases of default, the trial on all other remaining issues shall proceed immediately, if so ordered by the court or if the parties so stipulate. Except as provided in subsection (b) of Section 401, the court shall enter a judgment of dissolution of marriage, including an order dissolving the marriage, incorporation of a marital settlement agreement if applicable, and any other appropriate findings or orders, only at the conclusion of the case and not after hearing only the testimony as to whether irreconcilable differences have caused the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage.

17 (f) (Blank).

18 (Source: P.A. 99-90, eff. 1-1-16.)