

# HOUSE BILL 1109

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71r0827

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By: **Delegates Ramirez, Vallario, Anderson, Barnes, Frank, Kramer, Lee, McConkey, Shank, Simmons, Smigiel, and Valderrama**

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2007

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

Re-referred to: Judiciary, February 26, 2007

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 13, 2007

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **District Court – Civil Jurisdiction – Amount in Controversy**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the civil jurisdiction of the District Court to include  
4 certain cases involving not more than a certain amount in controversy;  
5 providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the civil  
6 jurisdiction of the District Court.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
9 Section 4–401(1) and (3)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2006 Replacement Volume)

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

14 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

15 4–401.

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### EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Except as provided in § 4-402 of this subtitle, and subject to the venue  
2 provisions of Title 6 of this article, the District Court has exclusive original civil  
3 jurisdiction in:

4 (1) An action in contract or tort, if the debt or damages claimed do not  
5 exceed [\$25,000] **\$30,000**, exclusive of prejudgment or postjudgment interest, costs,  
6 and attorney’s fees if attorney’s fees are recoverable by law or contract;

7 (3) A matter of attachment before judgment, if the sum claimed does  
8 not exceed [\$25,000] **\$30,000**, exclusive of prejudgment or postjudgment interest,  
9 costs, and attorney’s fees if attorney’s fees are recoverable by law or contract;

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be  
11 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have  
12 any effect on or application to any case filed before the effective date of this Act.

13 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2007.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.