

File No. 290

House Bill No. 5638

House of Representatives, April 2, 1998. The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. LAWLOR, 99th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SIGNING OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 (NEW) No legal document shall be invalid as a
2 result of the illegibility of a signature,
3 provided the name of the person signing the
4 document is legibly typed, printed or stamped
5 under such person's signature.

6 JUD COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 39 NAY 0 JF

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"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER HB 5638

STATE IMPACT	None
MUNICIPAL IMPACT	None
STATE AGENCY(S)	Various Agencies

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OLR BILL ANALYSIS

HB 5638

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SIGNING OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS

SUMMARY: This bill prohibits the invalidation of a legal document because a signature is illegible, as long as the person signing the document has legibly typed, printed, or stamped his name under the signature. Its provisions would presumably apply not only to Superior Court and probate court, but also to other institutions and entities that process legal documents. The bill does not define "legal document."

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1998

BACKGROUND

Relevant Court Case

In a May 20, 1997 Superior Court memorandum of decision, Judge Levin denied a motion for default in a summary process case because the attorney in the case had signed the document with "two wavy lines."

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 39 Nay 0