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By: **Delegates Miller, Cluster, Elliott, Montgomery, and Stull**  
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2004  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Ethics Files - Public Examination**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring an individual who examines or copies certain financial  
4 disclosure statements on file with the Ethics Commission and the Joint Ethics  
5 Committee, or certain ethics statements on file with the Joint Ethics  
6 Committee, to present a form of identification issued by a government unit that  
7 contains a photograph of the individual; and generally relating to public  
8 examination of ethics files.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - State Government  
11 Section 2-706(b) and 15-606  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - State Government**

17 2-706.

18 (b) (1) The Committee shall maintain the statements filed by members of  
19 the General Assembly under Title 15, Subtitle 5 of this article and, during normal  
20 office hours, make the statements available to the public for examination and  
21 copying.

22 (2) THE COMMITTEE SHALL REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO EXAMINES  
23 OR COPIES A STATEMENT TO PRESENT A FORM OF IDENTIFICATION ISSUED BY A  
24 GOVERNMENT UNIT THAT CONTAINS A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

25 [(2)] (3) The Committee shall maintain a record of:

26 (i) the name and home address of each individual who examines or  
27 copies a statement filed with the Committee by a member of the General Assembly;  
28 and

1 (ii) the name of the member whose statement was examined or  
2 copied.

3 [(3)] (4) On the request of the member whose statement was examined  
4 or copied, the Committee shall forward to the member a copy of the record maintained  
5 by the Committee under [paragraph (2)(i)] PARAGRAPH (3)(I) of this subsection.

6 15-606.

7 (a) (1) The Ethics Commission and the Joint Ethics Committee shall  
8 maintain the statements submitted under this subtitle and, during normal office  
9 hours, make the statements available to the public for examination and copying.

10 (2) The Ethics Commission and the Joint Ethics Committee:

11 (I) may charge a reasonable fee and adopt administrative  
12 procedures for the examination and copying of a statement; AND

13 (II) SHALL REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO EXAMINES OR COPIES A  
14 STATEMENT TO PRESENT A FORM OF IDENTIFICATION ISSUED BY A GOVERNMENT  
15 UNIT THAT CONTAINS A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

16 (b) (1) The Ethics Commission and the Joint Ethics Committee shall  
17 maintain a record of:

18 (i) the name and home address of each individual who examines or  
19 copies a statement under this section; and

20 (ii) the name of the individual whose statement was examined or  
21 copied.

22 (2) On the request of the individual whose statement was examined or  
23 copied, the Ethics Commission or the Joint Ethics Committee shall forward a copy of  
24 that record to that individual.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 2004.