Chapter 270

(House Bill 1181)

AN ACT concerning

Real Estate Appraisal Management Companies – Registration and Regulation
State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers and Home Inspectors – Special
Fund and Registration and Regulation of Real Estate Appraisal Management
Companies

FOR the purpose of requiring certain persons to register as appraisal management
companies with the State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers and Home
Inspectors; requiring an appraisal management company’s registration to
include certain information in a certain form; establishing that a registration is
valid for a certain period of time; requiring the Commission to collect a certain
national registry fee from appraisal management companies; requiring a person
applying for registration to complete a certain consent to service of process;
requiring the Commission to set certain fees by regulation; requiring the
Commission to publish a certain fee schedule; requiring the Commission to pay
certain fees to the Comptroller; requiring the Comptroller to distribute certain
fees to a certain fund; prohibiting a person applying for registration from being
owned by certain persons; requiring the owner of an appraisal management
compny to meet certain requirements; requiring a certain individual to serve
as a main contact for communication between the Commission and an appraisal
management company; prohibiting an appraisal management company from
engaging in certain activities relating to employees; requiring an appraisal
management company to verify that an appraiser is a competent appraiser
before assigning certain work; requiring certain individuals that perform an
appraisal review to hold a certain license or certificate; prohibiting an appraisal
management company from entering into certain agreements with an appraiser
in conjunction with federally related transactions unless the company verifies
certain qualifications; requiring a person applying for registration to make a
certain certification concerning its record keeping; requiring an appraisal
management company to retain certain records for a certain period of time;
prohibiting an appraisal management company from handling certain fees and
certain compensation in a certain manner; requiring an appraisal management
compny to ensure that appraisals are conducted in a certain manner;
prohibiting an individual working on behalf of an appraisal management
company from engaging in certain activities; requiring an appraisal
management company to inform the Commission when the company has a
reasonable basis to believe that an appraiser is behaving in a certain manner;
designating certain conduct as unprofessional; requiring an appraisal
management company to pay an appraiser for certain work within a
certain period of time under certain circumstances; prohibiting an appraisal
management company from changing a completed appraisal report in a certain manner; establishing guidelines for the use of an appraiser’s digital signature or seal; requiring the Commission to issue certain registration numbers; requiring the Commission to publish an annual list of appraisal management companies; requiring an appraisal management company to disclose certain registration information in a certain manner; prohibiting an appraisal management company from taking certain actions relative to an appraiser under certain circumstances without providing certain notice and opportunity to respond; authorizing an appraiser that is removed from an appraisal panel for certain reasons to file a certain complaint with the Commission for certain review; requiring the Commission to adjudicate a complaint within a certain period of time; establishing certain grounds for denying a registration or reprimanding, suspending, or revoking the registration of an appraisal management company; establishing certain penalties; altering provisions relating to commencement of Commission proceedings and hearings; authorizing the Commission to adopt certain regulations; altering the membership of the State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers and Home Inspectors; establishing an appraisal management company hearing board; requiring the referral of certain matters to the appraisal management company hearing board; requiring that a certain evaluation of the law and regulations concerning the registration and regulation of real estate appraisal management companies be performed on or before a certain date; establishing the Appraisal Management Company State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers and Home Inspectors Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund in the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; requiring that the Fund be used for certain purposes; providing for an audit of the Fund; requiring the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, or a designee of the Secretary, to administer the Fund; requiring the Secretary, in consultation with the Commission, to calculate annually certain costs; requiring the Commission to set certain fees, based on certain calculations, beginning on a certain date; prohibiting certain fees from increasing more than a certain amount each year; requiring the Commission to publish a certain fee schedule; repealing a provision of law requiring the Commission to pay certain money into the General Fund of the State; requiring the Commission to pay certain fees to the Comptroller beginning on a certain date; requiring the Comptroller to distribute certain fees to the Fund; requiring any unspent and unencumbered portion of the Fund in excess of a certain amount to revert to the General Fund at the end of each fiscal year; crediting certain earnings to the General Fund; altering, establishing, and specifying the use of certain fees; requiring that certain fees in effect on a certain date shall remain in full force and effect until certain other fees are adopted and made effective; requiring certain fees to approximate the cost of regulating certain professions; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the registration and regulation of real estate appraisal management companies and the State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers and Home Inspectors.

BY adding to
Article – Business Occupations and Professions
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Business Occupations and Professions
Section 16–217
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume)

BY adding to
Article – Business Regulation
Section 2–106.7 and 2–106.8
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – State Government
Section 8–403(b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

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

Article – Business Occupations and Professions


(a) (1) The Commission consists of 15 members.

(2) Of the 15 members of the Commission:

(i) at least 2 shall be certified general real estate appraisers;
(ii) 2 shall be certified general real estate appraisers, certified residential real estate appraisers, or licensed real estate appraisers;

(iii) 2 shall be representatives of a financial institution who are not certified or licensed real estate appraisers or home inspectors;

(iv) 1 shall be a licensed home inspector who is a member of the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI);

(v) 1 shall be a licensed home inspector who is a member of the National Association of Home Inspectors;

(vi) 2 shall be licensed home inspectors without regard to affiliation with or membership in any society or association; [and]

(vii) [5] 4 shall be consumer members; AND

(VIII) 1 SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER SUBTITLE 5B OF THIS TITLE.

(3) The Governor shall:

(i) appoint the members with the advice of the Secretary and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

(ii) consider demographic and geographic diversity when making appointments to the Commission.

(b) Each member of the Commission shall be a citizen of the State.

(c) (1) Each consumer member of the Commission:

(i) shall be a member of the general public;

(ii) may not be a licensee, holder of a certificate, or otherwise be subject to regulation by the Commission;

(iii) may not be required to meet the qualifications for the professional members of the Commission; and

(iv) may not, within 1 year before appointment, have had a financial interest in or have received compensation from a person regulated by the Commission.

(2) While a member of the Commission, a consumer member may not:
have a financial interest in or receive compensation from a person regulated by the Commission; or

(ii) grade any examination given by or for the Commission.

(d) Before taking office, each appointee to the Commission shall take the oath required by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.

(e) (1) The term of a member is 3 years.

(2) The terms of members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Commission on January 1, 1991.

(3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(5) A member may not serve for more than 2 consecutive 3–year terms.

(f) The Governor may remove a member for incompetence or misconduct.

16–210.2.

(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY HEARING BOARD.

(B) (1) THE HEARING BOARD CONSISTS OF THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSION.

(2) OF THE THREE POSITIONS ON THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY HEARING BOARD:

(I) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION;

(II) ONE SHALL BE A CONSUMER MEMBER; AND

(III) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY.
(C) From among the members of the Hearing Board, the Commission shall designate a chair.

16–211.

(a) The Commission shall refer to the Hearing Board for a hearing any matter for which a hearing may be required under § 16–701, or § 16–701.1, or § 16–701.2 of this title.

16–217.

Except as otherwise provided by law, the Commission shall pay all money collected under this title into the General Fund of the State.

16–217.

(A) (1) Beginning on July 1, 2011, the Commission may set by regulation reasonable fees for its services.

(2) The fees charged shall be:

(I) Set so as to produce funds to approximate the cost of maintaining the Commission; and

(II) Based on the calculations performed by the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation under § 2–106.8 of the Business Regulation Article.

(B) The Commission shall publish the fee schedule set by the Commission.

(C) (1) Beginning on July 1, 2011, the Commission shall pay all fees collected under this title to the Comptroller.

(2) The Comptroller shall distribute the fees to the State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers and Home Inspectors Fund established in § 2–106.7 of the Business Regulation Article.

16–303.

(a) An applicant for a license shall:

(2) Pay to the Commission a fee of $75 set by the Commission.
16–308.

(c) Before a license expires, the licensee periodically may renew it for an additional 3–year term, if the licensee:

(2) pays to the Commission a renewal fee [of $125] SET BY THE COMMISSION; and

16–310.

The Commission shall reinstate the license of a real estate appraiser who has failed to renew the license, if the real estate appraiser:

(3) in addition to the renewal fee required under § 16–308 of this subtitle, pays to the Commission a reinstatement fee [of $25] SET BY THE COMMISSION.

16–3A–03.

[Effective July 1, 2002, an] AN applicant for a home inspector license shall:

(1) have completed a minimum of 72 hours of an on–site training course approved by a national home inspection organization and the Commission that at a minimum requires successful completion of the National Home Inspector Examination or its equivalent as determined by the Commission;

(2) have a high school diploma or its equivalent;

(3) have insurance as required under § 16–4A–04 of this title;

(4) submit to the Commission an application on the form that the Commission provides; and

(5) pay to the Commission an application fee [of $50] SET BY THE COMMISSION.

16–3A–05.

If an applicant qualifies for a home inspector license under this title, the Commission shall send the applicant a notice that states:

(2) the Commission will issue the home inspector license to an applicant upon receipt of a license fee [not to exceed $400] SET BY THE COMMISSION.

16–3A–07.
(c) Before a license expires, the licensee may renew it for an additional 2–year term, if the licensee:

(2) pays to the Commission a renewal fee [not to exceed $400] SET BY THE COMMISSION:

16–3A–08.

(a) The Commission shall reinstate the license of an individual who has failed to renew a license for any reason if the individual:

(3) in addition to the renewal fee required under § 16–3A–07 of this subtitle, pays to the Commission a reinstatement fee [of $50] SET BY THE COMMISSION.

16–505.

An applicant for a certificate shall:

(2) pay to the Commission an application fee [of $100] SET BY THE COMMISSION.

16–510.

(c) Not earlier than 120 days and not later than 30 days before a certificate expires, the certificate holder may renew it for an additional 3–year term, if the certificate holder:

(2) pays to the Commission a renewal fee [of $125] SET BY THE COMMISSION; and

16–512.

The Commission shall reinstate the certificate of a real estate appraiser who has failed to renew the certificate during the regular term of the certificate or the grace period, if the real estate appraiser:

(3) in addition to the renewal fee required under § 16–511 of this subtitle, pays to the Commission a reinstatement fee [of $25] SET BY THE COMMISSION.

16–5A–01.

(b) An applicant for a real estate appraiser trainee license shall:
5. pay to the Commission an application fee $75] SET BY THE
COMMISSION.

16–5A–04.

(b) (1) Before a real estate appraiser trainee license expires, the licensee
may renew the license for one additional 3–year term if the licensee:

(ii) pays to the Commission a renewal fee $75] SET BY THE
COMMISSION; and

SUBTITLE 5B. REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANIES.

16–5B–01.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
INDICATED.

(B) “APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY” MEANS A THIRD PARTY
AUTHORIZED BY A CREDITOR OF A CONSUMER CREDIT TRANSACTION SECURED
BY A CONSUMER’S PRINCIPAL DWELLING, OR BY AN UNDERWRITER OF OR
OTHER PRINCIPAL IN THE SECONDARY MORTGAGE MARKETS, THAT DIRECTLY
OR INDIRECTLY PROVIDES APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES IN CONNECTION
WITH VALUING PROPERTIES COLLATERALIZING MORTGAGE LOANS OR
MORTGAGES INCORPORATED IN A SECURITIZATION.

(C) “APPRAISER” MEANS A LICENSED REAL ESTATE APPRAISER OR A
CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE APPRAISER.

(D) “APPRAISER PANEL” MEANS A NETWORK OF LICENSED OR
CERTIFIED APPRAISERS WHO ARE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS TO THE
APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY.

(E) (1) “APPRAISAL REVIEW” MEANS THE ACT OF DEVELOPING AND
COMMUNICATING AN OPINION ABOUT THE QUALITY OF ANOTHER APPRAISER’S
WORK THAT WAS PERFORMED AS PART OF AN APPRAISER ASSIGNMENT.

(2) “APPRAISAL REVIEW” DOES NOT INCLUDE AN EXAMINATION
OF AN APPRAISAL FOR GRAMMATICAL, TYPOGRAPHICAL, OR OTHER SIMILAR
ERRORS THAT DO NOT MAKE A SUBSTANTIVE VALUATION CHANGE.

(F) “COMPETENT APPRAISER” MEANS AN APPRAISER THAT SATISFIES
EACH PROVISION OF THE COMPETENCY RULE OF THE UNIFORM STANDARDS OF
Professional Practice for a specific appraisal assignment that the appraiser has received, or may receive, from an appraisal management company.

(G) “Controlling person” means:

(1) An owner, officer, or director of an appraisal management company;

(2) An individual employed, appointed, or authorized by an appraisal management company that has the authority to enter into:

   (I) A contractual relationship with other persons for the performance of appraisal management services; and

   (II) Agreements with appraisers for the performance of appraisals; or

(3) An individual who possesses the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of an appraisal management company.

(H) “Provide appraisal management services” means to, directly or indirectly, on behalf of a lender, financial institution, client, or other person in conjunction with a consumer credit transaction that is secured by a consumer’s primary dwelling:

(1) Administer an appraisal panel;

(2) Recruit, retain, or select appraisers;

(3) Verify licensing or certification, negotiate fees and service level expectations, and review the qualifications of persons who are part of, or who wish to become part of, an appraiser panel;

(4) Contract with appraisers to perform appraisal assignments;

(5) Receive an order for an appraisal from one person, and deliver the order for the appraisal to an appraiser that is part of an appraiser panel for completion;
MANAGE THE PROCESS OF HAVING AN APPRAISAL PERFORMED, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES:

(I) RECEIVING APPRAISAL ORDERS AND REPORTS;

(II) SUBMITTING COMPLETED APPRAISAL REPORTS TO CREDITORS AND UNDERWRITERS;

(III) COLLECTING FEES FROM CREDITORS AND UNDERWRITERS FOR SERVICES PROVIDED; AND

(IV) REIMBURSING APPRAISERS FOR SERVICES PERFORMED;

(7) TRACK AND DETERMINE THE STATUS OF ORDERS FOR APPRAISALS;

(8) CONDUCT QUALITY CONTROL OF A COMPLETED APPRAISAL PRIOR TO THE DELIVERY OF THE APPRAISAL TO THE PERSON THAT ORDERED THE APPRAISAL; OR

(9) PROVIDE A COMPLETED APPRAISAL PERFORMED BY AN APPRAISER TO A CLIENT.

16–5B–02.

THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO:

(1) A PERSON THAT EXCLUSIVELY EMPLOYS APPRAISERS ON AN EMPLOYER–EMPLOYEE BASIS FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF APPRAISALS; OR

(2) AN ENTITY THAT IS A SUBSIDIARY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION AND REGULATED BY A FEDERAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTION REGULATORY AGENCY.

16–5B–03.

(A) A PERSON SHALL REGISTER WITH THE COMMISSION BEFORE THE PERSON:

(1) ENGAGES OR ATTEMPTS TO ENGAGE IN BUSINESS AS AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY;
(2) PROVIDES OR ATTEMPTS TO PROVIDE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES; OR

(3) ADVERTISES OR REPRESENTS THE PERSON TO BE AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY.

(B) THE REGISTRATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

(1) THE NAME OF THE PERSON SEEKING REGISTRATION;

(2) THE BUSINESS ADDRESS OF THE PERSON SEEKING REGISTRATION;

(3) THE PHONE CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE PERSON SEEKING REGISTRATION;

(4) IF THE PERSON SEEKING REGISTRATION IS NOT A CORPORATION THAT IS DOMICILED IN THE STATE, THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE COMPANY’S AGENT FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS IN THIS STATE;

(5) THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ANY CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, OR OTHER BUSINESS ENTITY THAT OWNS 10% OR MORE OF THE PERSON SEEKING REGISTRATION;

(6) A CERTIFICATION THAT THE PERSON SEEKING REGISTRATION WILL VERIFY THAT A PERSON BEING ADDED TO THE APPRAISER PANEL OF THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY HOLDS A APPROPRIATE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATION IN GOOD STANDING IN THE STATE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERFORMING REAL ESTATE APPRAISALS;

(7) A CERTIFICATION THAT THE PERSON SEEKING REGISTRATION REQUIRES APPRAISERS COMPLETING APPRAISALS AT ITS REQUEST TO COMPLY WITH THE UNIFORM STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE, INCLUDING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR GEOGRAPHIC AND PRODUCT COMPETENCE;

(8) A CERTIFICATION THAT THE PERSON SEEKING REGISTRATION WILL REQUIRE APPRAISALS TO BE CONDUCTED INDEPENDENTLY AS REQUIRED BY THE APPRAISAL INDEPENDENCE STANDARDS UNDER SECTION 129E OF THE TRUTH IN LENDING ACT, INCLUDING THE REQUIREMENTS OF PAYMENT OF A REASONABLE AND CUSTOMARY FEE TO APPRAISERS WHEN THE APPRAISAL
MANAGEMENT COMPANY IS PROVIDING SERVICES FOR A CONSUMER CREDIT TRANSACTION SECURED BY THE PRINCIPAL DWELLING OF A CONSUMER;

(9) A CERTIFICATION THAT THE PERSON SEEKING REGISTRATION MAINTAINS A DETAILED RECORD OF EACH SERVICE REQUEST THAT IT RECEIVES AND THE APPRAISER THAT PERFORMS THE RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL SERVICES FOR THE PERSON UNDER § 16–5B–09 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

(10) AN IRREVOCABLE UNIFORM CONSENT TO SERVICE OF PROCESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 16–5B–04(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

(11) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE COMMISSION REASONABLY REQUIRES TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBTITLE.

(C) IF THE REGISTRATION PROCESS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBTITLE, AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY MAY, WITHOUT BEING REGISTERED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, CONTINUE TO PROVIDE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE FOR 120 DAYS AFTER A REGISTRATION PROCESS BECOMES AVAILABLE.

(D) AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY THAT HAS SUBMITTED A COMPLETE APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION MAY CONTINUE TO PROVIDE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE UNTIL THE COMMISSION MAKES A FINAL DECISION TO APPROVE OR DENY THE COMPANY’S APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

16–5B–04.

(A) AN APPLICANT FOR REGISTRATION AS AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION AN APPLICATION ON A FORM REQUIRED BY THE COMMISSION.

(B) A REGISTRATION ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IS VALID FOR 1 YEAR.

(C) A PERSON APPLYING FOR REGISTRATION AS AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY SHALL COMPLETE AN IRREVOCABLE UNIFORM CONSENT TO SERVICE OF PROCESS, AS REQUIRED BY THE COMMISSION.

(D) THE COMMISSION SHALL COLLECT FROM EACH APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY THE AMOUNT DETERMINED BY THE APPRAISAL SUBCOMMITTEE TO BE A NATIONAL REGISTRY FEE FOR EACH APPRAISER ON

(1) (d) The Commission may set by regulation reasonable fees for registering appraisal management companies under this subtitle.

(2) The fees shall be:

(i) Set so as to produce funds to approximate the cost of administering this subtitle; and

(ii) Based on calculations performed by the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation under § 2–106.8 of the Business Regulation Article.

(3) The Commission shall publish the fee schedule set by the Commission under this section.

(4) (i) The Commission shall pay all fees collected under this subtitle to the Comptroller.

(ii) The Comptroller shall distribute the fees to the Appraisal Management Company Fund established in § 2–106.7 of the Business Regulation Article.

16–5B–05.

(a) A person applying for registration as an appraisal management company may not be owned in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, by:

(1) A person who has had a license or certificate to act as an appraiser refused, denied, canceled, revoked, or surrendered in any state; or

(2) Another entity that is owned by a person who has had a license or certificate to act as an appraiser refused, denied, canceled, revoked, or surrendered in any state.
(B) THE OWNER OF AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY SHALL:

(1) BE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER AND REPUTATION, AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION; AND

(2) SUBMIT TO A BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION, AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION.

(C) A PERSON APPLYING FOR REGISTRATION AS AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY SHALL CERTIFY TO THE COMMISSION THAT IT HAS REVIEWED EACH ENTITY THAT OWNS THE PERSON AND THAT NO OTHER ENTITY THAT OWNS THE PERSON IS DIRECTLY OWNED BY A PERSON THAT HAS HAD A LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE TO ACT AS AN APPRAISER REFUSED, DENIED, CANCELED, REVOKED, OR SURRENDERED IN ANY STATE.

16–5B–06.

(A) A PERSON APPLYING FOR REGISTRATION AS AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY SHALL DESIGNATE AN INDIVIDUAL TO SERVE AS A CONTROLLING PERSON THAT WILL BE THE MAIN CONTACT FOR ALL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE COMMISSION AND THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY.

(B) THE CONTROLLING PERSON DESIGNATED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:

(1) HAVE NEVER HAD A LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE TO ACT AS AN APPRAISER REFUSED, DENIED, CANCELED, REVOKED, OR SURRENDERED IN ANY STATE, UNLESS THE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY GRANTED OR REINSTATED;

(2) BE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER AND REPUTATION, AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION; AND

(3) SUBMIT TO A BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION, AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION.

16–5B–07.

AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY MAY NOT:

(1) KNOWINGLY EMPLOY A PERSON IN A POSITION IN WHICH THE PERSON HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO ORDER APPRAISALS OR TO REVIEW COMPLETED APPRAISALS WHO HAS HAD A LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE TO ACT AS
AN APPRAISER REFUSED, DENIED, CANCELED, REVOKED, OR SURRENDERED IN ANY STATE, UNLESS THE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY GRANTED OR REINSTATED;

(2) KNOWINGLY ENTER INTO AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACT ARRANGEMENT FOR REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL SERVICES WITH A PERSON WHO HAS HAD A LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE TO ACT AS AN APPRAISER REFUSED, DENIED, CANCELED, REVOKED, OR SURRENDERED IN ANY STATE, UNLESS THE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY GRANTED OR REINSTATED;

(3) KNOWINGLY ENTER INTO A CONTRACT, AN AGREEMENT, OR ANY OTHER BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP, FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL SERVICES, WITH AN ENTITY THAT EMPLOYS, HAS ENTERED INTO AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACT ARRANGEMENT WITH, OR HAS ENTERED INTO A CONTRACT, AN AGREEMENT, OR ANY OTHER BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP WITH A PERSON WHO HAS EVER HAD A LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE TO ACT AS AN APPRAISER REFUSED, DENIED, CANCELED, REVOKED, OR SURRENDERED IN ANY STATE, UNLESS THE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY GRANTED OR REINSTATED.

16–5B–08.

(A) BEFORE PLACING AN ASSIGNMENT WITH AN APPRAISER ON THE APPRAISER PANEL OF AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY, THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY SHALL VERIFY REQUIRE THAT AN APPRAISER CONFIRM IN WRITING OR VIA ELECTRONIC MEANS THAT THE APPRAISER RECEIVING THE ASSIGNMENT IS A COMPETENT APPRAISER FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THE APPRAISAL BEING ASSIGNED.

(B) AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY THAT HAS COMPLIED WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IN RELATION TO AN ASSIGNMENT MAY NOT BE HELD LIABLE FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE IN RELATION TO THAT ASSIGNMENT IF THE COMMISSION SUBSEQUENTLY DETERMINES THAT THE APPRAISER COMPLETING THE ASSIGNMENT VIOLATED THE COMPETENCY RULE OF THE UNIFORM STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE.

(C) AN EMPLOYEE OF OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR TO THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY THAT PERFORMS AN APPRAISAL REVIEW ON A PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE STATE SHALL BE AN APPRAISER LICENSED OR CERTIFIED IN THE STATE IN WHICH THE PROPERTY THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THE APPRAISAL IS LOCATED.
An appraisal management company may not enter into any agreements with an appraiser for the performance of appraisals in conjunction with federally related transactions unless it verifies that the appraiser is licensed or certified to perform the appraisal under this subtitle.

16–5B–09.

(A) A person applying for registration as an appraisal management company shall certify to the Commission on an annual basis that it will maintain a detailed record of:

(1) Each service request that it receives; and

(2) Each appraiser that performs the appraisal for the appraisal management company.

(B) An appraisal management company shall retain the records required under subsection (A) of this section for 5 years after an appraisal is completed, or 2 years after final disposition of a judicial proceeding related to the assignment, whichever period expires later.

16–5B–10.

(A) An appraisal management company may not:

(1) Knowingly fail to compensate an appraiser at a rate that is reasonable and customary for appraisals being performed without the services of an appraisal management company in the market area of the property being appraised;

(2) Knowingly include any fees for providing appraisal management services in the amount that it charges a lender, client, or other person for the completion of an appraisal by an appraiser that is part of the appraiser panel of the appraisal management company;

(3) Knowingly fail to separate and disclose any fees charged to a client by the appraisal management company for the completion of an appraisal by an appraiser from the fees charged to a lender, client, or any other person by an appraisal management company for providing appraisal management services; or
(4) (2) knowingly prohibit an appraiser from recording the fee that the appraiser was paid by the appraisal management company for the performance of the appraisal. The provision of real estate services within the appraisal report that is submitted by the appraiser to the appraisal management company; or

(5) knowingly fail to separately state the fees paid to an appraiser for appraisal services and the fees charged by the appraisal management company for services associated with the management of the appraisal process to a client, borrower, or other payer.

(B) The Commission may not bring disciplinary action under § 16–702.2 of this title or recommend criminal sanctions under § 16–706 of this title based solely on subsection (a) of this section.

16–5B–11.

(A) (1) Each appraisal management company shall ensure that appraisals are conducted real estate appraisal services are provided independently and free from inappropriate influence and coercion under the appraisal independence standards established under Section 129E of the Truth in Lending Act.

(2) (I) An appraisal management company shall pay an appraiser reasonable and customary fees consistent with the presumptions of compliance defined under federal law.

(ii) The Commission may not bring disciplinary action under § 16–702.2 of this title or recommend criminal sanctions under § 16–706 of this title based solely on subparagraph (I) of this paragraph.

(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, an employee, a director, an officer, or an agent of an appraisal management company may not: an employee, partner, director, officer, or agent of an appraisal management company may not influence or attempt to influence the development, reporting, result, or review of an appraisal through coercion, extortion, collusion, compensation, inducement, intimidation, bribery, or any other means, including:
(1) **Compensate, Collude, or Influence, or Attempt Compensating, Colluding, or Influencing, or Attempting to Compensate, Collude, or Influence** a person involved in an appraisal for the purpose of causing the appraised value assigned under the appraisal to the property to be based on a factor other than the independent judgment of the appraiser;

(2) **Mischaracterize, or Suborn Mischaracterizing, or Suborning** any mischaracterization of, the appraised value of a property in conjunction with a consumer credit transaction;

(3) **Seek, Seeking to Influence an Appraiser or Otherwise Encourage** encouraging a targeted value in order to facilitate the making or pricing of a consumer credit transaction;

(4) **Withhold or Threaten Withholding or Threatening** to withhold timely payment for an appraisal report or for appraisal services rendered the provision of real estate appraisal services when the appraisal report or services are provided in accordance with a contract between the parties;

(5) **Withhold or Threaten Withholding or Threatening** to withhold future business from an appraiser;

(6) **Demote or Terminate or Threaten Demoting or Terminating or Threatening** to demote or terminate an appraiser;

(7) **Expressly or Impliedly Promise Promising** future business, promotions, or increased compensation for an appraiser;

(8) **Require Requiring** an appraiser to indemnify an appraisal management company or hold an appraisal management company harmless for any liability, damage, losses, or claims arising out of the services provided by the appraisal management company, and not the services performed by the appraiser;

(9) **Condition Conditioning** a request for an appraisal or the payment of an appraisal fee or salary or bonus on:

   (I) **an opinion, a conclusion, or a valuation to be reached; or**

   (II) **on a preliminary estimate or opinion requested from an appraiser;**
(10) REQUEST REQUESTING THAT AN APPRAISER PROVIDE:

(I) AN ESTIMATED, PREDETERMINED, OR DESIRED VALUATION IN AN APPRAISAL REPORT; OR

(II) ESTIMATED VALUES OR COMPARABLE SALES AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE APPRAISER’S COMPLETION OF AN APPRAISAL;

(11) EXCEPT FOR A COPY OF THE SALES CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE TRANSACTIONS, PROVIDE PROVIDING TO AN APPRAISER AN ANTICIPATED, ESTIMATED, ENCOURAGED, OR DESIRED VALUE FOR A SUBJECT PROPERTY OR A PROPOSED OR TARGET AMOUNT TO BE LOANED TO THE BORROWER;

(12) PROVIDE PROVIDING TO AN APPRAISER, OR A PERSON RELATED TO THE APPRAISER, STOCK OR OTHER FINANCIAL OR NONFINANCIAL BENEFITS;

(13) ALLOW ALLOWING THE REMOVAL OF AN APPRAISER FROM AN APPRAISER PANEL WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE APPRAISER;

(14) OBTAIN, USE, OR PAY OBTAINING, USING, OR PAYING FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT APPRAISAL, OR ORDER ORDERING AN AUTOMATED VALUATION MODEL, IN CONNECTION WITH A MORTGAGE FINANCING TRANSACTION UNLESS:

(I) THERE IS A REASONABLE BASIS TO BELIEVE THAT THE INITIAL APPRAISAL WAS FLAWED AND THE BASIS IS CLEARLY AND APPROPRIATELY NOTED IN THE LOAN FILE; OR

(II) THE SUBSEQUENT APPRAISAL OR AUTOMATED VALUATION MODEL IS DONE UNDER A BONA FIDE PREFUNDING OR POSTFUNDING APPRAISAL REVIEW OR QUALITY CONTROL PROCESS;

(III) A SECOND APPRAISAL IS REQUIRED UNDER STATE OR FEDERAL LAW; OR

(IV) THE SECOND APPRAISAL OR AUTOMATED VALUATION MODEL IS ORDERED BY AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST BY A CLIENT IN ORDER TO SATISFY CLIENT VALUATION POLICIES FOR THE PROPERTY BEING APPRAISED AND THE SECOND APPRAISAL OR AUTOMATED VALUATION MODEL IS ORDERED BY THE CLIENT PRIOR TO THE COMPLETION OF THE FIRST APPRAISAL; OR
(15) ANY OTHER ACT THAT IMPAIRS OR ATTEMPTS IMPAIRING OR ATTEMPTING TO IMPAIR AN APPRAISER’S INDEPENDENCE OR IMPARTIALITY.

(C) NOTHING IN SUBSECTION (A) OR (B) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY FROM ASKING AN APPRAISER TO:

(1) CONSIDER ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATE PROPERTY INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL COMPARABLE PROPERTIES TO MAKE OR SUPPORT AN APPRAISAL;

(2) PROVIDE FURTHER DETAIL, SUBSTANTIATION, OR EXPLANATION FOR AN APPRAISER’S VALUE CONCLUSION; OR

(3) CORRECT ERRORS IN AN APPRAISAL REPORT.

16–5B–12.

AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY SHALL INFORM THE COMMISSION WHEN THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY HAS A REASONABLE BASIS TO BELIEVE THAT:

(1) AN APPRAISER HAS:

(1) IS FAILING FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE UNIFORM STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE;

(2) IS VIOLATING VIOLATED APPLICABLE LAWS; OR

(3) IS ENGAGING ENGAGED IN UNETHICAL OR UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT; AND

(2) THE APPRAISER’S CONDUCT UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS SECTION IS LIKELY TO AFFECT THE VALUE ASSIGNED TO THE CONSUMER’S PRINCIPAL DWELLING.


AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY COMMITS UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IF THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY:

(1) REQUIRES AN APPRAISER TO MODIFY AN ASPECT OF AN APPRAISAL REPORT AND THE MODIFICATION REQUESTED IS NOT RELATED TO
SUBSTANDARD PERFORMANCE OR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT;

(2) REQUIRES AN APPRAISER TO PREPARE AN APPRAISAL REPORT IF THE APPRAISER HAS NOTIFIED THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY THAT, IN THE APPRAISER’S OWN PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT, THE APPRAISER BELIEVES THE APPRAISER DOES NOT HAVE THE NECESSARY EXPERTISE FOR THE SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC AREA;

(3) REQUIRES AN APPRAISER TO PREPARE AN APPRAISAL REPORT UNDER A TIME FRAME THAT THE APPRAISER HAS NOTIFIED THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY THAT, IN THE APPRAISER’S OWN PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT, THE APPRAISER BELIEVES DOES NOT AFFORD THE APPRAISER THE ABILITY TO MEET ALL THE RELEVANT LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL OBLIGATIONS;

(4) PROHIBITS OR INHIBITS COMMUNICATION BETWEEN AN APPRAISER AND A LENDER, A REAL ESTATE LICENSEE, OR ANY OTHER PERSON FROM WHOM THE APPRAISER, IN THE APPRAISER’S OWN PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT, BELIEVES INFORMATION WOULD BE RELEVANT;

(5) REQUIRES THE APPRAISER TO DO ANYTHING THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH:

(I) THE UNIFORM STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE; OR

(II) ANY ASSIGNMENT CONDITIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS REQUIRED BY THE CLIENT; OR

(6) MAKES ANY PORTION OF THE APPRAISER’S FEE OR THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY’S FEE CONTINGENT ON A FAVORABLE OUTCOME, INCLUDING:

(I) A LOAN CLOSING; OR

(II) A SPECIFIC DOLLAR AMOUNT BEING ACHIEVED BY THE APPRAISER IN THE APPRAISAL REPORT; OR

(7) REQUESTS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING A MORTGAGE LOAN TRANSACTION:

(I) A BROKER PRICE OPINION; OR
(II) ANY OTHER REAL PROPERTY PRICE OR VALUE ESTIMATION THAT DOES NOT QUALIFY AS AN APPRAISAL.

16–5B–14.

(A) EXCEPT IN CASES OF BREACH OF CONTRACT OR SUBSTANDARD PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES, AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY SHALL PAY AN APPRAISER FOR THE COMPLETION OF AN APPRAISAL OR VALUATION ASSIGNMENT WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE APPRAISER PROVIDES THE COMPLETED APPRAISAL OR VALUATION STUDY TO THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY OR ITS ASSIGNEE.

(B) THE COMMISSION MAY NOT BRING DISCIPLINARY ACTION UNDER § 16–702.2 OF THIS TITLE OR RECOMMEND CRIMINAL SANCTIONS UNDER § 16–706 OF THIS TITLE BASED SOLELY ON SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

16–5B–15.

(A) AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY MAY NOT CHANGE A COMPLETED APPRAISAL REPORT SUBMITTED BY AN APPRAISER BY:

(1) PERMANENTLY REMOVING THE APPRAISER’S SIGNATURE OR SEAL; OR

(2) ADDING INFORMATION TO, OR REMOVING INFORMATION FROM, THE APPRAISAL REPORT WITH AN INTENT TO CHANGE THE VALUATION CONCLUSION.

(B) (1) AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY MAY NOT REQUIRE AN APPRAISER TO PROVIDE THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY WITH THE APPRAISER’S DIGITAL SIGNATURE OR SEAL.

(2) SUBJECT TO THE RESTRICTIONS IN THE UNIFORM STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE, AN APPRAISER MAY VOLUNTARILY PROVIDE THE APPRAISER’S DIGITAL SIGNATURE TO ANOTHER PERSON.

16–5B–16.

(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL ISSUE A UNIQUE REGISTRATION NUMBER TO EACH APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY THAT IS REGISTERED IN THIS STATE.
(B) The Commission shall publish annually a list of appraisal management companies.

(C) An appraisal management company shall disclose the company’s registration number on all print and electronic advertising, including any electronic advertising or communication via the Internet any instrument utilized by the appraisal management company to procure appraisal services in this State.

16–5B–17.

(A) Except within 30 days after an appraiser is first added to the appraiser panel of an appraisal management company, an appraisal management company may not remove an appraiser from its appraiser panel, or otherwise refuse to assign requests for real estate appraisal services to an appraiser, without:

(1) Notifying the appraiser in writing of the reasons why the appraiser is being removed from the appraiser panel of the appraisal management company;

(2) Identifying the illegal conduct, violation of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice, or violation of State licensing standards, or substandard performance or violations of contractual terms between the appraiser and the appraisal management company that the appraisal management company has a reasonable basis to believe that the appraiser has engaged in; and

(3) Providing an opportunity for the appraiser to respond.

(B) (1) An appraiser that is removed from the appraiser panel of an appraisal management company for alleged illegal conduct, a violation of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice, or a violation of State licensing standards may file a complaint with the Commission for a review of the decision of the appraisal management company.

(2) The Commission’s review under paragraph (1) of this subsection is limited to determining whether:
(I) THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY HAS COMPLIED WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION; AND

(II) THE APPRAISER HAS COMMITTED A VIOLATION OF:

1. State law; or

2. The Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

(C) (1) If an appraiser files a complaint against an appraisal management company under subsection (B) of this section, the Commission shall adjudicate the complaint within 180 days schedule a hearing within a reasonable time, not exceeding 1 year, after the complaint is filed.

(2) The time specified under paragraph (1) of this subsection may be extended for good cause by the Commission on written notice to the parties.

(D) If after opportunity for hearing and review, the Commission determines that an appraisal management company acted improperly in removing an appraiser from the appraiser panel, or that an appraiser did not commit a violation of State law or a violation of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice, the Commission shall order that an appraiser be restored to the appraiser panel of the appraisal management company that was the subject of the complaint.

(E) If the Commission finds that the appraisal management company acted improperly in removing the appraiser from the appraiser panel, an appraisal management company may not:

(1) Reduce the number of real estate appraisal assignments the company gives to an appraiser; or

(2) Penalize the appraiser in any other manner.

16–5B–18.

The Commission may adopt regulations necessary to implement, administer, and enforce this subtitle.

16–5B–19.
SUBJECT TO THE EVALUATION AND REESTABLISHMENT PROVISIONS OF THE MARYLAND PROGRAM EVALUATION ACT, THE SUBTITLE AND ALL REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL TERMINATE AND BE OF NO EFFECT AFTER JULY 1, 2022.

16–601.

(a) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Commission shall start proceedings under § 16–701 [or], § 16–701.1, OR § 16–701.2 of this title on a complaint made to the Commission by any person.

(b) (1) A complaint shall:

(i) be in writing; and

(ii) state specifically the facts on which the complaint is based.

(2) If a complaint is made by any person other than the Commission, the complaint shall be made under oath by the person who submits the complaint.

(3) A complaint may be accompanied by documentary or other evidence.

(c) The Commission shall investigate each complaint submitted to the Commission if the complaint:

(1) alleges facts that establish a prima facie case that is grounds for disciplinary action under § 16–701 [or], § 16–701.1, OR § 16–701.2 of this title; and

(2) meets the requirements of this section.

(d) (1) On conclusion of the investigation, the Commission shall determine if there is a reasonable basis to believe that there are grounds for disciplinary action under § 16–701 [or], § 16–701.1, OR § 16–701.2 of this title against an applicant or licensee.

(2) (i) If the Commission finds a reasonable basis as provided under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Commission shall act on the complaint as provided under § 16–602 of this subtitle.

(ii) If the Commission does not find a reasonable basis as provided under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Commission shall dismiss the complaint.
16–602.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in § 10–226 of the State Government Article, before the Commission takes any final action under § 16–701 [or], § 16–701.1, OR § 16–701.2 of this title, it shall give the individual against whom the action is contemplated an opportunity for a hearing before:

(1) the Commission; or

(2) the Hearing Board for proceedings under § 16–211 of this title.

(b) The Commission shall give notice and hold the hearing in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

(c) The Commission may administer oaths in connection with any proceeding under this section.

(d) The hearing notice to be given to the individual shall be sent by certified mail to the last known address of the individual at least 10 days before the hearing.

(e) The individual may be represented at the hearing by counsel.

(f) (1) The Commission may issue subpoenas in connection with any proceeding under this section.

(2) If a person fails to comply with a subpoena issued under this subsection, on petition of the Commission, a circuit court may compel compliance with the subpoena.

(g) If, after due notice, the individual against whom the action is contemplated fails or refuses to appear, nevertheless the Commission may hear and determine the matter.

16–701.2.

(A) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 16–602 OF THIS TITLE, THE COMMISSION MAY DENY REGISTRATION TO ANY APPLICANT FOR REGISTRATION AS AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY, REPRIMAND ANY REGISTERED APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY, OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE THE REGISTRATION OF AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY IF THE APPLICANT OR REGISTRANT:

(1) FRAUDULENTLY OR DECEPTIVELY OBTAINS OR ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN REGISTRATION FOR THE APPLICANT OR REGISTRANT OR FOR ANOTHER;
(2) Fraudulently or deceptively uses a registration;

(3) Under the laws of the United States or any state is convicted of:

   (I) A felony; or

   (II) A misdemeanor that is directly related to the fitness and qualifications of the registrant to provide appraisal management services;

   (3) (4) Violates or attempts to violate any provision of this title; or

   (4) (5) Violates or attempts to violate any regulation adopted under this title; or

   (6) Violates § 14–127 of the Real Property Article.

(B) (1) Instead of or in addition to reprimanding a registrant or suspending or revoking a registration under this section, the Commission may impose a penalty not exceeding $25,000 for each violation.

(2) To determine the amount of the penalty imposed, the Commission shall consider:

   (I) The seriousness of the violation;

   (II) The harm caused by the violation;

   (III) The good faith of the registrant; and

   (IV) Any history of previous violations by the registrant.

(3) The Commission shall pay any penalty collected under this subsection into the General Fund of the State.

(C) The Commission shall consider the following facts in the granting, denial, renewal, suspension, or revocation of a registration or the reprimand of a registrant when an applicant or registrant is convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor described in subsection (A)(3) of this section:
(1) THE NATURE OF THE CRIME;

(2) THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE CRIME TO THE ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED BY THE REGISTRATION;

(3) WITH RESPECT TO A FELONY, THE RELEVANCE OF THE CONVICTION TO THE FITNESS AND QUALIFICATION OF THE APPLICANT OR REGISTRANT TO PROVIDE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES;

(4) THE LENGTH OF TIME SINCE THE CONVICTION; AND

(5) THE BEHAVIOR AND ACTIVITIES OF THE APPLICANT OR REGISTRANT BEFORE AND AFTER THE CONVICTION.

Article – Business Regulation

2–106.7.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “COMMISSION” MEANS THE STATE COMMISSION OF REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS AND HOME INSPECTORS.

(3) “FUND” MEANS THE APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY STATE COMMISSION OF REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS AND HOME INSPECTORS FUND.

(B) (1) THERE IS AN APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY A STATE COMMISSION OF REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS AND HOME INSPECTORS FUND IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(2) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT SUBJECT TO § 7–302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

(C) THE FUND CONSISTS OF FEES COLLECTED BY THE COMMISSION AND DISTRIBUTED TO THE FUND UNDER § 16–5B–04 TITLE 16 OF THE BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE.

(D) THE FUND SHALL BE USED TO COVER THE COMMISSION’S ACTUAL DOCUMENTED DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS OF REGISTERING AND REGULATING APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT COMPANIES UNDER TITLE 16,
SUBTITLE 5B OF THE BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE FULFILLING THE STATUTORY AND REGULATORY DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.

(E) THE SECRETARY OR A DESIGNEE OF THE SECRETARY SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

(F) THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR SHALL AUDIT THE ACCOUNTS AND TRANSACTIONS OF THE FUND AS PROVIDED IN § 2–1220 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

(G) AT THE END OF EACH FISCAL YEAR, ANY UNSPENT AND UNENCUMBERED PORTION OF THE FUND IN EXCESS OF $100,000 SHALL REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.

(H) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE GENERAL FUND.

2–106.8.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “COMMISSION” MEANS THE STATE COMMISSION OF REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS AND HOME INSPECTORS.

(B) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSION, THE SECRETARY SHALL CALCULATE ANNUALLY THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ADMINISTERING TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 5B OF THE BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE THE COMMISSION.

(C) THE BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2011, THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH FEES BASED ON THE CALCULATIONS PROVIDED BY THE SECRETARY UNDER THIS SECTION.

(D) EACH FEE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION MAY NOT BE INCREASED ANNUALLY BY MORE THAN 12.5% OF THE EXISTING AND CORRESPONDING FEE OF THE COMMISSION.

(E) THE FEES ESTABLISHED FOR EACH PROFESSION REGULATED UNDER TITLE 16 OF THE BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE SHALL BE SET SO AS TO PRODUCE FUNDS TO APPROXIMATE THE COST OF REGULATING EACH PROFESSION.
(h) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a) of this section, on or before the evaluation date for the following governmental activities or units, an evaluation shall be made of the following governmental activities or units and the statutes and regulations that relate to the governmental activities or units:

(1) Acupuncture Board, State (§ 1A–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2014);

(2) Amusement Ride Safety, State Advisory Board (§ 3–303 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2013);

(3) Apprenticeship and Training Council (§ 11–403 of the Labor and Employment Article: July 1, 2013);

(4) Architects, State Board of (§ 3–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2012);

(5) Athletic Commission, State (§ 4–201 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2020);

(6) Athletic Training Advisory Committee (§ 14–5D–04 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(7) Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and Speech Language Pathologists, State Board of Examiners for (§ 2–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2015);

(8) Banking Board (§ 2–201 of the Financial Institutions Article: July 1, 2011);

(9) Barbers, State Board of (§ 4–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2020);

(10) Boiler Rules, Board of (§ 12–904 of the Public Safety Article: July 1, 2013);

(11) Cemetery Oversight, Office of (§ 5–201 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2012);

(12) Chiropractic and Massage Therapy Examiners, State Board of (§ 3–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2021);

(13) Collection Agency Licensing Board, State (§ 7–201 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2011);
(14) Cosmetologists, State Board of (§ 5–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2020);

(15) Counselors and Therapists, State Board of Professional (§ 17–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2018);

(16) Dental Examiners, State Board of (§ 4–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2020);

(17) Dietetic Practice, State Board of (§ 5–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2014);

(18) Electricians, State Board of Master (§ 6–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2012);

(19) Electrology Practice Committee (§ 8–6B–05 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(20) Elevator Safety Review Board (§§ 12–819 through 12–841 of the Public Safety Article: July 1, 2013);

(21) Engineers, State Board for Professional (§ 14–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2012);

(22) Engineers, State Board of Stationary (§ 6.5–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2013);

(23) Environmental Sanitarians, State Board of (§ 11–201 of the Environment Article: July 1, 2012);

(24) Financial Regulation, Office of the Commissioner of (§ 2–101 of the Financial Institutions Article: July 1, 2011);

(25) Foresters, State Board of (§ 7–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2014);

(26) Health Care Commission, Maryland (§ 19–103 of the Health–General Article: July 1, 2017);

(27) Health Services Cost Review Commission, State (§ 19–202 of the Health–General Article: July 1, 2017);

(28) Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Contractors, State Board of (§ 9A–201 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2012);
(29) Home Improvement Commission, Maryland (§ 8–201 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2011);

(30) Horse Industry Board, Maryland (§ 2–701 of the Agriculture Article: July 1, 2015);

(31) Individual Tax Preparers, State Board of (§ 21–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2015);

(32) Insurance Administration (§§ 2–101 and 2–103 of the Insurance Article: July 1, 2012);

(33) Interior Designers, State Board of Certified (§ 8–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2013);

(34) Labor and Industry, Division of (Title 2 of the Labor and Employment Article: July 1, 2013);

(35) Land Surveyors, State Board for Professional (§ 15–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2023);

(36) Landscape Architects, State Board of Examiners of (§ 9–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2023);

(37) Law Examiners, State Board of (§ 10–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2019);

(38) Maryland Bred Race Fund Advisory Committee (§ 11–531 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2013);

(39) mold remediation services, licensing and regulation of (§ 8–701 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2015);

(40) Morticians and Funeral Directors, State Board of (§ 7–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2017);

(41) Nursing, State Board of (§ 8–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(42) Nursing Home Administrators, State Board of Examiners of (§ 9–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(43) Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Board (§ 5–302 of the Labor and Employment Article: July 1, 2013);
(44) Occupational Therapy Practice, State Board of (§ 10–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2014);

(45) Optometry, State Board of Examiners in (§ 11–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2022);

(46) Pharmacy, State Board of (§ 12–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(47) Physical Therapy Examiners, State Board of (§ 13–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2021);

(48) Physician Assistant Advisory Committee (§ 15–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(49) Physicians, State Board of (§ 14–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(50) Pilots, State Board of (§ 11–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2021);

(51) Plumbing, State Board of (§ 12–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2022);

(52) Pediatric Medical Examiners, State Board of (§ 16–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2011);

(53) Polysomnography Professional Standards Committee (§ 14–5C–05 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(54) Prevailing Wage Rates, Advisory Council on (§ 17–203 of the State Finance and Procurement Article: July 1, 2013);

(55) Psychologists, State Board of Examiners of (§ 18–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(56) Public Accountancy, State Board of (§ 2–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2014);

(57) Racing Commission, State (§ 11–201 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2013);

(58) Radiation Oncology/Therapy Technologists, Medical Radiation Technologists, and Nuclear Medicine Technologists Advisory Committee (§ 14–5B–05 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);
(59) Real Estate Appraisal Management Companies, Registration and Regulation of (§ 16–5B–103 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2021);

(60) Real Estate Appraisers and Home Inspectors, State Commission of (§ 16–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2012);

(61) Real Estate Commission, State (§ 17–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2011);

(62) Residential Child Care Program Professionals, State Board for Certification of (§ 20–202 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2013);

(63) Respiratory Care Professional Standards Committee, State (§ 14–5A–05 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2012);

(64) Security Systems Technicians, Licensing and Regulation of (§ 18–201 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article: July 1, 2015);

(65) Social Work Examiners, State Board of (§ 19–201 of the Health Occupations Article: July 1, 2013);

(66) Standardbred Race Fund Advisory Committee, Maryland (§ 11–625 of the Business Regulation Article: July 1, 2013);

(67) Veterinary Medical Examiners, State Board of (§ 2–302 of the Agriculture Article: July 1, 2020);

(68) Waterworks and Waste Systems Operators, State Board of (§ 12–201 of the Environment Article: July 1, 2020); and


SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the fees set forth in Title 16, Subtitles 3, 3A, 5, and 5A of the Business Occupations and Professions Article in effect on June 30, 2011, shall remain in full force and effect until the fees authorized to be set by the State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers and Home Inspectors under this Act are adopted and become effective.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

Approved by the Governor, May 10, 2011.