

HOUSE BILL 1179

G2, P5, P1

4lr2616

By: **Delegates Bobo and O'Donnell**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Ethics – Former Members of the General Assembly, Legislative**
3 **Branch Officials, and Executive Branch Officials – Lobbying Restrictions**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a former member of the General Assembly from
5 registering as a lobbyist for a certain period of time after the member leaves
6 office; prohibiting certain former officials of the Executive Branch and former
7 officials of the Legislative Branch from registering as a lobbyist for 2 years after
8 leaving office; and generally relating to public ethics, former members of the
9 General Assembly, former Legislative Branch officials, and former Executive
10 Branch officials.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – General Provisions
13 Section 5–504(d)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (As enacted by Chapter ___ (H.B. 270) of the Acts of the General Assembly of
16 2014)

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

19 **Article – General Provisions**

20 5–504.

21 (d) (1) Except for a former member of the General Assembly, who shall be
22 subject to the restrictions provided under paragraph (2) of this subsection, a former
23 official or employee may not assist or represent a party, other than the State, in a
24 case, a contract, or any other specific matter for compensation if:

25 (i) the matter involves State government; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) the former official or employee participated significantly in
2 the matter as an official or employee.

3 (2) (i) 1. Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this
4 paragraph, until the conclusion of the next regular session that begins after the
5 member leaves office, a former member of the General Assembly may not assist or
6 represent another party for compensation in a matter that is the subject of legislative
7 action.

8 [(ii)] 2. The limitation under subparagraph (i) of this
9 paragraph on representation by a former member of the General Assembly does not
10 apply to the former member's representation of a municipal corporation, county, or
11 State governmental entity.

12 (II) A FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY
13 NOT REGISTER AS A REGULATED LOBBYIST UNDER § 5-702(A) OF THIS TITLE
14 UNTIL:

15 1. FOR A MEMBER THAT RESIGNS DURING A
16 REGULAR SESSION, THE CONCLUSION OF THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION THAT
17 BEGINS AFTER THE MEMBER LEAVES OFFICE; AND

18 2. FOR ALL OTHER MEMBERS, 2 YEARS AFTER THE
19 MEMBER LEAVES OFFICE.

20 (3) (I) THIS PARAGRAPH APPLIES TO:

21 1. EXCEPT FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS A PUBLIC
22 OFFICIAL ONLY AS A MEMBER OF A BOARD AND WHO RECEIVED LESS THAN 25%
23 OF THE LOWEST ANNUAL COMPENSATION AT A STATE GRADE LEVEL 16, A
24 FORMER OFFICIAL OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH WHO HAD DUTIES
25 SUBSTANTIALLY RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE MATTERS AND THE GENERAL
26 ASSEMBLY;

27 2. A FORMER OFFICIAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE
28 BRANCH;

29 3. THE GOVERNOR;

30 4. THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR;

31 5. THE COMPTROLLER; AND

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6. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

(II) AN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT TO THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT REGISTER AS A REGULATED LOBBYIST FOR 2 YEARS AFTER LEAVING STATE OFFICE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.