

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 658

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “and Smigiel” and substitute “Smigiel, Hammen, Pendergrass, Bromwell, Costa, Cullison, Donoghue, Elliott, Hubbard, Kach, A. Kelly, Kipke, Krebs, McDonough, Morhaim, Murphy, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Pena-Melnyk, Ready, Reznik, Tarrant, and V. Turner”; strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute “Joint Committee on Transparency and Open Government – Study on Appeals Under the Maryland Public Information Act”; and strike beginning with “establishing” in line 4 down through “Board” in line 22 and substitute “requiring the Joint Committee on Transparency and Open Government to conduct a study on how to improve the administrative process for resolving appeals under the Maryland Public Information Act; requiring that the study take into consideration certain factors; requiring the Joint Committee to report to certain committees on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Joint Committee on Transparency and Open Government and the Study on Appeals Under the Maryland Public Information Act”.

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 23 on page 1 through line 13 on page 2, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 15, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”; and after line 15, insert:

“(a) The Joint Committee on Transparency and Open Government, as established under § 2-10A-14 of the State Government Article, shall conduct a study on how to improve the administrative process for resolving appeals under the Maryland Public Information Act.

(Over)

- (b) The study shall take into consideration:
- (1) appeals from denials and fees charged under the Act;
 - (2) the administrative processes used by other states to resolve appeals;
 - (3) the costs to State government, local government, and the public associated with resolving appeals; and
 - (4) input from:
 - (i) the Office of the Attorney General;
 - (ii) the Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association;
 - (iii) representatives of local and State government, including the Maryland Association of Counties and the Maryland Municipal League; and
 - (iv) other parties that express interest in participating in the study.
- (c) On or before January 1, 2015, the Joint Committee shall report its findings and any recommended legislation to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.”

On pages 2 through 10, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 16 on page 2 through line 20 on page 10, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 10, in line 21, strike “3.” and substitute “2.”; in line 22, strike “October” and substitute “July”; and in the same line, after “2014.” insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.