

HB0379/332113/1

BY: House Judiciary Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 379

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “and Cardin” and substitute “, Cardin, Griffith, and McComas”; in line 6, after “communications;” insert “requiring a court to rule expeditiously on a certain motion to dismiss an alleged SLAPP suit;”; in line 8, after “suit;” insert “providing that a court may order certain discovery under certain circumstances;”; strike beginning with “providing” in line 9 down through “appealable;” in line 10; and in line 14, strike “and 12–303”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 20, strike “OR”; and in line 22, after “INTEREST” insert “;OR

(4) TO A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR AN INDIVIDUAL RUNNING FOR PUBLIC OFFICE”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, strike beginning with “MADE” in line 8 down through “SERVICES” in line 15 and substitute “**IS ALLEGED TO HAVE MADE A STATEMENT OR ENGAGED IN CONDUCT THAT DISPARAGES A BUSINESS COMPETITOR’S BUSINESS OPERATIONS, GOODS, OR SERVICES**”; in line 27, after “practicable” insert “**AND RULE EXPEDITIOUSLY**”; in line 33, after “(3)” insert “**(1) IF IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT TARGETED DISCOVERY WILL ENABLE THE PLAINTIFF TO DEFEAT THE MOTION AND THAT THE DISCOVERY WILL NOT BE UNDULY BURDENSOME, THE COURT MAY ORDER THAT SPECIFIED TARGETED DISCOVERY BE CONDUCTED.**”

(Over)

(II) AN ORDER UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE
CONDITIONED ON THE PLAINTIFF PAYING ANY EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE
DEFENDANT IN RESPONDING TO THE DISCOVERY.

(4)”;

and in the same line, strike “(I)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 4, strike in their entirety lines 4 through 7, inclusive.

On pages 4 and 5, strike the lines beginning with line 12 on page 4 through line 18 on page 5, inclusive.