
By: Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee (Departmental - Ethics, State Commission on)

Requested: November 8, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 20, 1996

CHAPTER ____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Ethics Law - Enforcement - Limitation on Actions**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a limitation period for institution of actions to impose a
4 civil fine under the Public Ethics Law.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article - State Government
7 Section 15-401
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (1995 Replacement Volume)

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

12 **Article - State Government**

13 15-401.

14 (a) (1) Any entity may file with the Ethics Commission a written complaint
15 alleging a violation of this title.

16 (2) A complaint filed under this subsection shall be:

17 (i) signed; and

18 (ii) made under oath.

19 (b) The Ethics Commission on its own motion may issue a complaint alleging a
20 violation of this title.

HOUSE BILL 95

2

1 (C) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE COMMISSION
2 MAY NOT INITIATE ACTION TO IMPOSE A CIVIL FINE UNDER § 15-902(B) OF THIS
3 TITLE UNLESS THE COMPLAINT HAS BEEN FILED WITHIN ~~4~~ 2 YEARS FROM THE TIME
4 THE CONDUCT ENDED.

5 [(c)] (D) The Ethics Commission promptly shall transmit to the respondent a copy
6 of the complaint.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 1996.