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**By: Delegate Getty**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Laws - State Administrative Board of Election Laws - Campaign Finance**  
3 **Reports - Enforcement Authority**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Administrative Board of Election Laws to review  
5 all reports and statements of contributions and expenditures that are filed with the  
6 Board to determine if the report or statement is in compliance with the  
7 requirements of law; authorizing the Board to conduct audits and investigations,  
8 hold hearings, issue civil actions, and refer a matter for criminal prosecution; and  
9 generally relating to the authority of the State Administrative Board of Election  
10 Laws regarding the review and enforce of certain requirements relating to campaign  
11 finance reports.

12 BY adding to

13 Article 33 - Election Code  
14 Section 26-19  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

19 **Article 33 - Election Code**

20 26-19.

21 (A) THE STATE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF ELECTION LAWS SHALL REVIEW  
22 ALL REPORTS AND STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES THAT  
23 ARE FILED WITH THE BOARD TO DETERMINE IF THE REPORT OR STATEMENT  
24 COMPLIES WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

25 (B) IN ORDER TO FACILITATE ITS REVIEW OF THE REPORTS AND  
26 STATEMENTS FILED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE  
27 ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF ELECTION LAWS MAY:

28 (1) AUDIT AND COMPEL THE PRODUCTION OF ALL FINANCIAL  
29 RECORDS AND STATEMENTS NECESSARY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE AUDIT;

30 (2) INVESTIGATE ANY MATTER COVERED BY THIS SUBSECTION;

1                   (3) HOLD A HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF  
2 THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADJUDICATING  
3 SUSPECTED OR ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF THE CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENDITURE  
4 LIMITATIONS SPECIFIED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;

5                   (4) INITIATE A CIVIL ACTION FOR A TEMPORARY INJUNCTION OR  
6 RESTRAINING ORDER IF THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT A VIOLATION OF CONTRIBUTION  
7 OR EXPENDITURE LIMITATIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE ARE OCCURRING OR ARE ABOUT  
8 TO OCCUR; OR

9                   (5) AS IN ITS JUDGMENT IT DEEMS APPROPRIATE, REFER A MATTER  
10 FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION TO THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY.

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