Unofficial Copy 1996 Regular Session

(PRE-FILED)

C2 6lr0157

Bv: Senator Boozer

Requested: July 17, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Lawyers - Written Solicitation of Clients - Limited Prohibition

- 3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a lawyer from sending a written communication, directly
- 4 or through an agent, to a certain prospective client during a certain period of time;
- 5 and generally relating to written solicitations by lawyers.
- 6 BY adding to
- 7 Article Business Occupations and Professions
- 8 Section 10-605.1
- 9 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 10 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)
- 11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 13 Article Business Occupations and Professions
- 14 10-605.1.
- 15 A LAWYER MAY NOT SEND A WRITTEN COMMUNICATION, DIRECTLY OR
- 16 THROUGH AN AGENT, TO A PROSPECTIVE CLIENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING
- 17 PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT IF THE COMMUNICATION CONCERNS:
- 18 (1) AN ACTION FOR PERSONAL INJURY OR WRONGFUL DEATH, OR
- 19 RELATES TO AN ACCIDENT OR DISASTER INVOLVING THE PERSON TO WHOM THE
- 20 COMMUNICATION IS ADDRESSED OR THE PERSON'S RELATIVE, UNLESS THE
- 21 ACCIDENT OR DISASTER OCCURRED MORE THAN 30 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE THE
- 22 COMMUNICATION IS MAILED; OR
- 23 (2) A CRIMINAL PROSECUTION, OR A PROSECUTION OF A TRAFFIC
- 24 OFFENSE THAT CARRIES A PERIOD OF INCARCERATION. INVOLVING THE PERSON
- 25 TO WHOM THE COMMUNICATION IS ADDRESSED OR THE PERSON'S RELATIVE,
- 26 UNLESS THE CHARGING DOCUMENT WAS FILED MORE THAN 30 DAYS BEFORE THE
- 27 DATE THE COMMUNICATION IS MAILED.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 29 October 1, 1996.