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**By: Senator Astle**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Finance

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Residential Service Agencies - Branch Licensure Fee - Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene from  
4 charging the branch of a licensed residential service agency a separate license fee;  
5 and generally relating to residential service agencies.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article - Health - General  
8 Section 19-4A-04  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (1990 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 - Health - General**

14 19-4A-04.

15 (A) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a person shall be licensed by the  
16 Department before the person may operate a residential service agency.

17 (B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT REQUIRE A BRANCH OF A LICENSED  
18 RESIDENTIAL SERVICE AGENCY TO PAY A SEPARATE LICENSE FEE UNDER THIS  
19 SUBTITLE.

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