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**By: Delegates Conroy, Hubbard, Workman, McHale, Exum, B. Hughes, Perry, Vallario, Harrison, Healey, C. Mitchell, Benson, Grosfeld, Barve, Shriver, and Kagan**

Introduced and read first time: February 14, 1997

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Business Organizations - Right to Associate - Services and Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain business organizations that provide certain  
4 representational services to certain members to provide certain free services to any  
5 person who operates a place of business in the State; defining a certain term; and  
6 generally relating to business organizations.

7 BY adding to

8 Article - Labor and Employment

9 Section 4-406

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (1991 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Labor and Employment**

15 4-406.

16 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "BUSINESS ORGANIZATION" MEANS ANY PERSON OR  
17 ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS OR ADVOCATES ON BEHALF OF ANY OTHER  
18 PERSON OR GROUP RELATING TO BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND CHARGES  
19 THE PERSON OR GROUP A MEMBERSHIP FEE OR DUES.

20 (B) A BUSINESS ORGANIZATION THAT OFFERS REPRESENTATION,  
21 ADVOCACY, INFORMATIONAL, OR OTHER SERVICES REGARDING BUSINESS ISSUES  
22 TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION WHO PAY FEES OR DUES, SHALL  
23 PROVIDE FREE IDENTICAL SERVICES IN THE ORGANIZATION TO ANY PERSON WHO  
24 OPERATES A PLACE OF BUSINESS IN THE STATE.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

26 October 1, 1997.