
By: Senators Green, Baker, Stone, Kelley, Forehand, and Ferguson

Requested: June 25, 1996

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 1997

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **False Statements to Legislative Branch Units**

3 FOR the purpose of making it a misdemeanor for a person, in a matter within the
4 jurisdiction of a unit of the Legislative Branch of the State government, to
5 knowingly and willfully falsify or conceal a material fact, make a false, fictitious, or
6 fraudulent representation, or make or use a document that contains a false,
7 fictitious, or fraudulent representation; making this Act applicable only to certain
8 recorded hearings and proceedings; imposing a penalty for this offense; defining a
9 certain term; and generally relating to false statements to Legislative Branch units.

10 BY adding to

11 Article - State Government
12 Section 2-1703
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - State Government**

18 2-1703.

19 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "UNIT" MEANS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES OF
20 THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT:

21 (1) A STANDING COMMITTEE AS DEFINED IN § 2-101(F) OF THIS TITLE OR
22 A SUBCOMMITTEE OF A STANDING COMMITTEE;

23 (2) A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CREATED BY STATUTE OR A
24 SUBCOMMITTEE OF A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE;

25 (3) THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE OR A SPECIAL COMMITTEE
26 APPOINTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE UNDER § 2-407(B)(3) OF THIS
27 TITLE; OR

2

1 (4) ANY OTHER TASK FORCE OR COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE
2 LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE OR THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE HOUSE OR
3 SENATE.

4 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO HEARINGS OR OTHER PROCEEDINGS OF
5 A UNIT THAT ARE REQUIRED TO BE RECORDED BY THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OR
6 SENATE.

7 (C) A PERSON MAY NOT, IN A MATTER WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF A UNIT,
8 KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY:

9 (1) FALSIFY OR CONCEAL A MATERIAL FACT;

10 (2) MAKE A FALSE, FICTITIOUS, OR FRAUDULENT REPRESENTATION;
11 OR

12 (3) MAKE OR USE A DOCUMENT THAT CONTAINS A FALSE, FICTITIOUS,
13 OR FRAUDULENT REPRESENTATION.

14 (D) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR
15 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1,000,
16 IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 YEAR, OR BOTH.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 1997.