
By: Senator Astle

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Consumer Protection - Mediation Services - Liability Insurance**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring persons who hold themselves out to the public as providing
4 mediation services to possess malpractice insurance in at least a certain amount;
5 providing for certain penalties; and generally relating to consumer protection in the
6 practice of mediation.

7 BY adding to

8 Article - Commercial Law

9 Section 14-2801 through 14-2803, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle

10 28. Mediation Services"

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - Commercial Law**

16 SUBTITLE 28. MEDIATION SERVICES.

17 14-2801.

18 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
19 INDICATED.

20 (B) "MEDIATION SERVICES" MEANS AN INTERVENTION IN DISPUTE
21 NEGOTIATIONS BY A TRAINED NEUTRAL THIRD PARTY WITH THE PURPOSE OF
22 ASSISTING THE PARTIES TO REACH THEIR OWN SOLUTION.

23 (C) "MEDIATOR" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HOLDS HIMSELF OR HERSELF
24 OUT TO THE PUBLIC AS PROVIDING MEDIATION SERVICES.

25 14-2802.

26 A MEDIATOR SHALL POSSESS MALPRACTICE INSURANCE, INCLUDING
27 COVERAGE FOR MEDIATION PRACTICE, OF AT LEAST \$100,000 PER OCCURRENCE
28 AND AN AGGREGATE LIMIT OF AT LEAST \$250,000.

2

1 14-2803.

2 A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE
3 SUBJECT TO THE PROCEDURES AND PENALTIES PROVIDED IN TITLE 13, SUBTITLE 4
4 OF THIS ARTICLE.

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