

**HOUSE BILL 995**  
**EMERGENCY BILL**

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P1

1998 Regular Session  
8lr2183

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By: **Delegates Flanagan, Jacobs, M. Burns, Bissett, Ports, Schade,  
Kittleman, Morgan, McKee, Kach, Klima, Brinkley, Elliott, La Vay, Stull,  
Getty, Stocksdale, Beck, Mossburg, and Faulkner**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Payment of Attorneys Fees - Tobacco Litigation**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Attorney General to terminate the contract with the  
4 Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos, dated March 27, 1996, to provide certain legal  
5 services to the Attorney General and the State in connection with litigation  
6 against the tobacco industry; providing that certain payment be made to the  
7 Law Offices for services rendered; specifying that if the Attorney General enters  
8 into a contract for subsequent legal services in connection with the litigation,  
9 the contract shall be awarded on the basis of a competitive process; making this  
10 Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to contracts for legal services  
11 in connection with tobacco litigation.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That:

14 (a) The Attorney General of the State of Maryland shall immediately  
15 terminate the contract between the Attorney General and the Law Offices of Peter G.  
16 Angelos, dated March 27, 1996, to provide legal services to the Attorney General and  
17 the State in connection with litigation against the tobacco industry.

18 (b) The Attorney General shall comply with the provisions of subsection (a) of  
19 this Section by invoking provision number 16 in the contract, which provides that the  
20 Attorney General may terminate the contract, and all matters related to it, in whole  
21 or part, at any time.

22 (c) The Attorney General shall compensate the Law Offices of Peter G.  
23 Angelos, on the basis of "quantum meruit", for services rendered under the contract.

24 (d) If the Attorney General enters into a contract for subsequent legal services  
25 in connection with litigation against the tobacco industry, the contract may only be  
26 awarded on the basis of a competitive process.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
28 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety,

1 has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members  
2 elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from  
3 the date it is enacted.