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By: Delegate Harkins

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998 Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics - Open Meetings and Public Information

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that all meetings of the Joint Committee on Legislative

- 5 Ethics be open to the public; requiring that certain information relating to
- 6 complaints received by and investigations conducted by the Committee shall be
- 7 public information; and generally relating to the procedures of the Joint
- 8 Committee on Legislative Ethics.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- 10 Article State Government
- 11 Section 2-705 and 15-516
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

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

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Article - State Government

17 2-705.

18 (A) The Committee shall meet at the times and places that it determines.

19 (B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, ALL MEETINGS OF 20 THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

21 15-516.

Each statement filed or prepared pursuant to § 15-515 of this subtitle [and the

23 fact that it has been filed or prepared], any preliminary summary prepared pursuant

24 to § 15-517 of this subtitle, all information relating to any proceedings under this

25 Part II emanating from the statement including proceedings of an investigating

26 committee pursuant to § 15-521 of this subtitle, and any reports thereupon are

27 [confidential and, except as permitted by this Part II or upon the written request of

28 the legislator involved, shall remain confidential] PUBLIC INFORMATION.

HOUSE BILL 1177

- 1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 2 October 1, 1998.