

HOUSE BILL 1202

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1998 Regular Session  
8r2033  
CF 8r1046

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By: **Delegate Harkins**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Assembly - Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics - Subpoena and**  
3 **Enforcement Powers**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics to  
5 administer oaths, issue certain subpoenas, and cause certain depositions to be  
6 taken; providing for judicial enforcement of certain subpoenas; providing that  
7 false swearing by a witness before the Committee is perjury; and generally  
8 relating to enforcement powers of the Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics.

9 BY adding to  
10 Article - State Government  
11 Section 2-709  
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:

16 **Article - State Government**

17 2-709.

18 (A) IN CARRYING OUT ANY OF ITS FUNCTIONS OR POWERS, THE COMMITTEE  
19 MAY:

20 (1) ADMINISTER OATHS;

21 (2) ISSUE SUBPOENAS FOR THE ATTENDANCE OF WITNESSES TO  
22 TESTIFY OR TO PRODUCE EVIDENCE; AND

23 (3) CAUSE THE DEPOSITIONS OF WITNESSES, WHO RESIDE IN OR  
24 OUTSIDE OF THE STATE, TO BE TAKEN IN THE MANNER PROVIDED BY LAW FOR  
25 TAKING DEPOSITIONS IN A CIVIL CASE.

26 (B) A SUBPOENA ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE JUDICIALLY  
27 ENFORCED.

1 (C) FALSE SWEARING BY A WITNESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE IS PERJURY.

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

3 October 1, 1998.