

SENATE BILL 24

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SB 3/97 - JPR

1998 Regular Session  
8lr0210

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Senators Green, Baker, Stone, and Forehand**

Requested: August 7, 1997

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 1998

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 4, 1998

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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,  
6 or fraudulent representation, or make or use a document that contains a false,  
7 fictitious, or fraudulent representation; making this Act applicable only to  
8 certain recorded hearings and proceedings; imposing a penalty for this offense;  
9 defining a certain term; and generally relating to false statements to Legislative  
10 Branch units.

11 BY adding to  
12 Article - State Government  
13 Section 2-1703  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - State Government**

19 2-1703.

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

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

3 (2) A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CREATED BY STATUTE OR A  
4 SUBCOMMITTEE OF A LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE;

5 (3) THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE OR A SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
6 APPOINTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE UNDER § 2-407(B)(3) OF THIS  
7 TITLE; OR

8 (4) ANY OTHER TASK FORCE OR COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE  
9 LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE OR THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE HOUSE OR  
10 SENATE.

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

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

16 (1) FALSIFY OR CONCEAL A MATERIAL FACT;

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

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

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

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