

HOUSE BILL 19

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1999 Regular Session
9r0379

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Owings (By Request)**
Requested: October 8, 1998
Introduced and read first time: January 13, 1999
Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Business Regulation - Trade Names - Deceptive Practices**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the use of certain trade names; providing certain
4 penalties; and generally relating to the use of trade names in business.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article - Business Regulation
7 Section 1-415
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (1998 Replacement Volume)

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

12 **Article - Business Regulation**

13 1-415.

14 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a person may not, with
15 intent to defraud[,]:

16 (1) do business in the State under or imitate a name, title, or trade name
17 that is the same as, or similar to, that used by another person already doing business
18 in the State; OR

19 (2) USE A NAME IN THE CONDUCT OF THE BUSINESS OF SELLING
20 FLOWERS OR PLANTS WHICH MISREPRESENTS THE GEOGRAPHIC ORIGIN OR
21 LOCATION OF THE PERSON'S BUSINESS.

22 (b) This section does not apply to individuals with similar names.

23 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, on
24 conviction, is subject to a fine not exceeding \$100 for each day that the offense is
25 committed.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 1999.