

HOUSE BILL 31

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P5

1999 Regular Session
9lr0454

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Giannetti**

Requested: November 12, 1998

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 1999

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland General Assembly - Recording of Floor Sessions and Standing**
3 **Committee Proceedings**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Legislative Services to produce an
5 audio and video recording of floor sessions of the Senate and House of Delegates
6 and of meetings of the General Assembly's standing committees; requiring the
7 Legislative Policy Committee to adopt certain guidelines relating to the
8 recording of legislative sessions and meetings; requiring the Department of
9 Legislative Services to make recordings and access to its recording system
10 available to the media for a certain purpose; and generally relating to the
11 recording of legislative sessions and meetings.

12 BY adding to
13 Article - State Government
14 Section 2-1250
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

19 **Article - State Government**

20 2-1250.

21 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRODUCE AN AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING
22 OF:

23 (1) EACH FLOOR SESSION OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE; AND

24 (2) EACH MEETING OF A STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE OR
25 HOUSE.

26 (B) SUBJECT TO GUIDELINES ADOPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS
27 SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE RECORDINGS AND ACCESS TO ITS

1 RECORDING SYSTEM AVAILABLE TO THE MEDIA FOR BROADCASTING TO INFORM
2 THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE WORK OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3 (C) (1) THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE SHALL ADOPT GUIDELINES
4 COVERING THE RECORDING OF SENATE AND HOUSE FLOOR SESSIONS AND
5 STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

6 (2) THE GUIDELINES SHALL INCLUDE:

7 (I) CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH RECORDINGS MAY NOT BE
8 MADE;

9 (II) PROCEDURES GOVERNING PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF
10 RECORDINGS; AND

11 (III) CHARGES FOR RECORDINGS OR ACCESS TO THE RECORDING
12 SYSTEM TO OFFSET THE COST OF PRODUCTION OR REPRODUCTION.

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