

HOUSE BILL 211

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1999 Regular Session  
9r1425  
CF 9r1146

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By: **Delegates Clagett, Dembrow, Love, and Owings**  
Introduced and read first time: February 1, 1999  
Assigned to: Economic Matters

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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.