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By: **Senator Baker**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2000

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Legal Services Corporation - Use of Grant Funds**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting grantees of the Maryland Legal Services Corporation  
4 from using grant funds to provide legal assistance or support the provision of  
5 legal assistance in certain cases; and generally relating to the use of funds made  
6 available to grantees by the Maryland Legal Services Corporation.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article 10 - Legal Officials  
9 Section 45J(b)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

14 **Article 10 - Legal Officials**

15 45J.

16 (b) Funds made available to grantees by the Corporation under this subtitle  
17 may not be used:

18 (1) To provide legal assistance with respect to any fee-generating case;

19 (2) To provide legal assistance with respect to the defense of any criminal  
20 prosecution;

21 (3) To provide legal assistance in civil actions to persons who have been  
22 convicted of a criminal charge where the civil action arises out of alleged acts or  
23 failures to act and the action is brought against an official of the court or against a  
24 law enforcement official for the purpose of challenging the validity of the criminal  
25 conviction;

26 (4) To influence the issuance, amendment, or revocation of any executive  
27 order or similar promulgation by any federal, State, or local agency, or to undertake to

1 influence the passage or defeat of any legislation by the Congress of the United  
2 States, or by any State or local legislative bodies, or State proposals by referendum by  
3 petition;

4 (5) To contribute to or be made available to any political party or  
5 association, or the campaign of any candidate for public or party office; [or]

6 (6) To provide representation in a class action suit; OR

7 (7) TO PROVIDE LEGAL ASSISTANCE OR SUPPORT THE PROVISION OF  
8 LEGAL ASSISTANCE WITH RESPECT TO ANY CASE IN WHICH THE GRANTEE IS  
9 PROVIDING REPRESENTATION UNDER A PROCUREMENT CONTRACT WITH A UNIT OF  
10 STATE GOVERNMENT AWARDED THROUGH A COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCESS.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 October 1, 2000.