By: **Senator Della**
Constitutional Requirements Complied with for Introduction in the last 35 Days of
Session
Introduced and read first time: March 27, 2000
Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2   **Constitutional Amendment - Retroactive Legislation**

3 FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland
4   prohibiting the General Assembly from passing any legislation that may or must
5   be applied or take effect retroactively to a date prior to the date of the signing of
6   the legislation by the Governor; providing a certain exception; and submitting
7   this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their
8   adoption or rejection.

9 BY proposing an addition to the Constitution of Maryland
10   Article III - Legislative Department
11   Section 62

12   SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses
14 concurring), That it be proposed that the Constitution of Maryland read as follows:

15   **Article III - Legislative Department**

16 62.

17   EXCEPT BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF ALL THE MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH OF
18 THE TWO HOUSES CONCURRING, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL PASS NO LAW
19 THAT MAY OR MUST BE APPLIED OR TAKE EFFECT RETROACTIVELY TO A DATE PRIOR
20 TO THE DATE OF THE SIGNING OF THE LEGISLATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

21   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly
22 determines that the amendment to the Constitution of Maryland proposed by this Act
23 affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, Section 1 of the
24 Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

25   SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the aforegoing section
26 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland shall be submitted to the
27 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in

1 November, 2000 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in
2 Article XIV of the Constitution of this State. At that general election, the vote on this
3 proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot
4 there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against
5 the Constitutional Amendments," as now provided by law. Immediately after the
6 election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the
7 proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Constitution, and further
8 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.