
By: **Senator Della**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2001

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Ethics Law - Preliminary Disclosure Statement**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a requirement that members of the General Assembly
4 file a "preliminary disclosure", under certain circumstances, on or before the
5 seventh day of the regular legislative session; and generally relating to financial
6 disclosure under the Maryland Public Ethics Law.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - State Government
9 Section 15-602
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - State Government**

15 15-602.

16 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a statement filed under §
17 15-601, § 15-603, § 15-604, or § 15-605 of this subtitle shall:

- 18 (1) be filed with the Ethics Commission;
- 19 (2) be filed under oath;
- 20 (3) be filed on or before April 30 of each year;
- 21 (4) cover the calendar year immediately preceding the year of filing; and
- 22 (5) contain the information required in § 15-607 of this subtitle.

23 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(1) of this section, a statement filed by a
24 member of the General Assembly shall be filed in duplicate with the Joint Ethics
25 Committee.

1 [(c) (1) In addition to the statement filed under § 15-601 of this subtitle, a
2 member of the General Assembly shall file a preliminary disclosure on or before the
3 seventh day of the regular legislative session if there will be a substantial change in
4 the statement covering the calendar year immediately preceding the year of filing, as
5 compared to the next preceding calendar year.

6 (2) A member of the General Assembly whose statement under § 15-601
7 of this subtitle will not contain a substantial change is not required to file a
8 preliminary disclosure under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

9 (3) The Joint Ethics Committee shall:

10 (i) prescribe the form of a preliminary disclosure under this
11 subsection; and

12 (ii) determine which aspects of financial disclosure are subject to
13 this subsection.

14 (4) A preliminary disclosure shall be filed and maintained, and may be
15 disclosed, in the same manner prescribed for a statement filed under § 15-601 of this
16 subtitle.

17 (d)] (C) The Ethics Commission shall develop procedures under which a
18 statement under this subtitle may be filed electronically and without additional cost
19 to the individual who files the statement.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2001.