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By: **Delegate Wood**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2002

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Open Meetings Law Compliance Board - Duties**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a certain provision concerning the date by which the  
4 State Open Meetings Law Compliance Board shall conduct certain educational  
5 programs; altering the date by which the Board shall submit an annual report;  
6 repealing a certain provision concerning the contents of the annual report of the  
7 Board; and generally relating to the duties of the State Open Meetings Law  
8 Compliance Board.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - State Government  
11 Section 10-502.4  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - State Government**

17 10-502.4.

18 (a) The Board shall receive, review, and resolve complaints from any person  
19 alleging a violation of the provisions of this subtitle and issue a written opinion as to  
20 whether a violation has occurred.

21 (b) The Board shall receive and review any complaint alleging a prospective  
22 violation of the provisions of this subtitle as provided under § 10-502.6 of this  
23 subtitle.

24 (c) The Board shall study ongoing compliance with the provisions of this  
25 subtitle by public bodies and make recommendations to the General Assembly for  
26 improvements in this subtitle.

27 (d) [On or before January 1, 1992, the] THE Board, in conjunction with the  
28 Office of the Attorney General and other interested organizations or persons, shall

1 develop and conduct educational programs on the requirements of the open meetings  
2 law for the staffs and attorneys of:

3 (1) public bodies;

4 (2) the Maryland Municipal League; and

5 (3) the Maryland Association of Counties.

6 (e) (1) On or before [July] OCTOBER 1 of each year, the Board shall submit  
7 an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly.

8 (2) The report shall include a description of:

9 (i) the activities of the Board;

10 (ii) the opinions of the Board in any cases brought before it;

11 (iii) the number and nature of complaints filed with the Board,  
12 including a discussion of complaints concerning the reasonableness of the notice  
13 provided for meetings; AND

14 (iv) [the impact on State and local governments of the provisions of  
15 § 10-502(h)(2) of this article, including a discussion of how the affected entities have  
16 adhered to the requirements of this subtitle; and

17 (v)] any recommendations for improvements to the provisions of this  
18 subtitle.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
20 October 1, 2002.