
By: **Delegates Montague and Hutchins**
Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2002
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Private Detectives - Bounty Hunters**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the scope of providing private detective services to
4 include conducting an investigation to locate a fugitive from justice unless the
5 person conducting the investigation is licensed by the Insurance Commissioner
6 as a bail bondsman or is an employee of a licensed bail bondsman; and generally
7 relating to private detectives and bounty hunters.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Business Occupations and Professions
10 Section 13-101(i)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article - Business Occupations and Professions
15 Section 13-201, 13-301, and 13-401
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

20 **Article - Business Occupations and Professions**

21 13-101.

22 (i) (1) "Provide private detective services" means to provide, for
23 compensation, the service of:

24 (i) conducting an investigation that concerns:

25 1. a crime or wrong committed, assumed to have been
26 committed, or threatened to be committed;

1 13-201.

2 Subject to the provisions of this title, the Secretary is responsible for the
3 licensing of private detective agencies and the regulation of those persons who
4 provide private detective services in the State.

5 13-301.

6 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, a person shall be licensed by the
7 Secretary as a private detective agency before the person may:

8 (1) conduct a business that provides private detective services in the
9 State; and

10 (2) solicit to engage in a business that provides private detective services
11 in the State.

12 (b) An individual or a firm may qualify for a license as a private detective
13 agency.

14 13-401.

15 (a) Except as provided under subsection (b) of this section, an individual shall
16 be certified by the Secretary as a private detective before the individual personally
17 may provide any private detective service in the State.

18 (b) An individual who is not certified as a private detective may provide
19 private detective services in the State if:

20 (1) the individual is employed by or has applied for employment with a
21 licensed private detective agency;

22 (2) the licensed private detective agency has submitted to the Secretary
23 the application of the individual for certification as a private detective, fingerprint
24 cards, and fees required under § 13-403 of this subtitle;

25 (3) after a preliminary background investigation, the Secretary
26 determines that the provision of private detective services by the individual would not
27 result in a potential threat to public safety; and

28 (4) the Secretary has not denied the application.

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