

SENATE BILL 292

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SB 770/00 - JPR

2002 Regular Session  
2r1499

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By: **Senator McFadden (Baltimore City Administration)**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2002

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure - Baltimore City - Bail Bonds**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring bondsmen in Baltimore City to fulfill certain  
4 requirements; requiring the Circuit and District Courts of Baltimore City to  
5 perform certain duties regarding bondsmen; requiring Baltimore City to provide  
6 certain notification to the Circuit and District Courts of Baltimore City  
7 regarding bondsmen; providing a delayed effective date; and generally relating  
8 to bail bonds in Baltimore City.

9 BY adding to  
10 Article - Criminal Procedure  
11 Section 5-214  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2001 Volume)

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

16 **Article - Criminal Procedure**

17 5-214.

18 (A) BEFORE ANY SURETY, PROPERTY BONDSMAN, OR OTHER BONDSMAN MAY  
19 BE APPROVED TO FILE BONDS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY AND  
20 THE DISTRICT COURT OF MARYLAND FOR DISTRICT 1 (BALTIMORE CITY), A  
21 BONDSMAN SHALL:

- 22 (1) BE LICENSED WITH BALTIMORE CITY;
- 23 (2) PAY A LICENSE FEE; AND
- 24 (3) REGISTER ANNUALLY WITH THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE FOR  
25 BALTIMORE CITY.

26 (B) EACH BONDSMAN APPROVED BY THE COURTS UNDER SECTION 5-203 OF  
27 THIS TITLE AND REGISTERED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL PAY

1 THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE OF BALTIMORE CITY A MONTHLY LICENSE FEE EQUAL  
2 TO 1% OF THE GROSS VALUE OF ALL BONDS WRITTEN DURING THE PREVIOUS  
3 MONTH BY THE BONDSMAN IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY AND IN  
4 THE DISTRICT COURT FOR DISTRICT 1.

5 (C) THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY AND THE DISTRICT COURT FOR  
6 DISTRICT 1 SHALL:

7 (1) MAINTAIN A REGISTRY OF BONDSMEN WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO  
8 POST BOND;

9 (2) PROVIDE TO THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE OF BALTIMORE CITY,  
10 AFTER THE FIRST OF EACH MONTH, A LIST OF THE BONDS POSTED BY EACH BAIL  
11 BONDSMAN DURING THE PREVIOUS MONTH THAT INDICATES:

12 (I) THE GROSS AMOUNT OF THE BONDS;

13 (II) THE DATES THAT THE BONDS WERE FILED; AND

14 (III) OTHER INFORMATION AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR  
15 COLLECTION OF THE LICENSE FEE;

16 (3) UPON RECEIPT OF NOTICE UNDER SUBSECTION (D)(1) OF THIS  
17 SECTION, STRIKE A BONDSMAN FROM THE REGISTRY OF APPROVED BONDSMEN; AND

18 (4) UPON RECEIPT OF NOTICE UNDER SUBSECTION (D)(2) OF THIS  
19 SECTION, UNLESS THE BONDSMAN IS OTHERWISE INELIGIBLE, REINSTATE A  
20 BONDSMAN REMOVED UNDER ITEM (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO THE REGISTRY.

21 (D) THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL NOTIFY THE  
22 CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE CITY AND THE DISTRICT COURT FOR DISTRICT 1 OF:

23 (1) THE FAILURE OF ANY BONDSMAN TO PAY THE LICENSE FEE  
24 REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

25 (2) THE RECEIPT OF PAYMENTS ON AN OVERDUE ACCOUNT.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 January 1, 2003.