

HOUSE BILL 717

P3

0lr2519
CF SB 514

By: **Delegates Carr, Charles, Palakovich Carr, Pena–Melnyk, Pendergrass, Shetty, and Solomon**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2020

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Information Act – Required Denials – Distribution Lists**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a custodian to deny inspection under the Public Information
4 Act of only a certain part of a certain distribution list, rather than the full
5 distribution list; altering a certain purpose of a distribution list for which a custodian
6 must deny inspection; defining “distribution list”; and generally relating to
7 distribution lists and the Public Information Act.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – General Provisions
10 Section 4–341
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2019 Replacement Volume)

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

15 **Article – General Provisions**

16 4–341.

17 (a) **(1)** In this [section, “governmental] **SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS**
18 **HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.**

19 **(2) “DISTRIBUTION LIST” MEANS A LIST OF RECIPIENTS WHO HAVE**
20 **AFFIRMATIVELY OPTED TO RECEIVE INFORMATION OR ALERTS.**

21 **(3) “GOVERNMENTAL entity” means a unit or an instrumentality of the**
22 **State or of a political subdivision.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) A custodian shall deny inspection of **THE PART OF** a distribution list and a
2 request to be added to a distribution list that identifies a physical address, an e-mail
3 address, or a telephone number of an individual that is used by a governmental entity or
4 an elected official for the sole purpose of:

5 (1) periodically sending news about the official activities of the
6 governmental entity or elected official; or

7 (2) sending [informational notices or] emergency alerts.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2020.