

HOUSE BILL 1229

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By: **Delegate Lisanti**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Ethics – Local Officials – Electronic Filing of Financial Disclosure**
3 **Statements**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain provisions concerning financial disclosure enacted by
5 a county or a municipal corporation to require that a local official file a financial
6 disclosure statement in an electronic format; requiring certain regulations
7 concerning financial disclosure adopted by a school board to require that school board
8 members and certain school system officials and employees file a financial disclosure
9 statement in an electronic format; and generally relating to electronic filing of
10 financial disclosure statements by local officials.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – General Provisions
13 Section 5–809(c) and 5–817(c)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – General Provisions**

19 5–809.

20 (c) (1) This subtitle does not compel the governing body of a county or
21 municipal corporation to require a local official to file a financial disclosure statement
22 except when the personal interest of the local official will present a potential conflict with
23 the public interest in connection with an anticipated public action of the local official.

24 (2) The governing body of a county or municipal corporation shall require
25 a local official to file a financial disclosure statement at least annually to report on gifts

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 received by the local official.

2 (3) The financial disclosure provisions shall require that a statement be
3 filed:

4 (i) under paragraph (1) of this subsection sufficiently in advance of
5 the action to provide adequate disclosure to the public; [and]

6 (ii) by an elected local official under subsection (b)(2) of this section
7 on or before April 30 of each year; AND

8 (III) IN AN ELECTRONIC FORMAT.

9 5–817.

10 (c) (1) (i) This section does not compel a school board to require an
11 individual to file a financial disclosure statement except:

12 1. when the personal interest of the individual will present a
13 potential conflict with the public interest in connection with an anticipated public action of
14 the individual; and

15 2. at least annually to report on gifts received by the
16 individual.

17 (ii) The regulations adopted under subsection (a)(1)(i) of this section
18 shall require that a statement filed under subparagraph (i)1 of this paragraph be filed
19 sufficiently in advance of the public action to provide adequate disclosure to the public.

20 (2) The regulations adopted under subsection (a)(1)(ii) of this section shall
21 require that a statement filed by a member of a school board be filed on or before April 30
22 of each year.

23 (3) THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY A SCHOOL BOARD UNDER THIS
24 SECTION SHALL REQUIRE THAT A FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BE FILED IN
25 AN ELECTRONIC FORMAT.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 October 1, 2021.