SENATE BILL 221

D1 HB 686/21 – JUD CF HB 536

By: Senator Smith (By Request - Maryland Judicial Conference)

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2023

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 12, 2023

CHAPTER

1 AN ACT concerning

2

Court Government Officials - Public Disclosure of Personal Information

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a certain court government official or an immediate family 4 member of the court government official to make a written request to a person who 5 discloses on the Internet or through certain other means of publication certain 6 personal information about the court government official or the immediate family 7 member to remove the information; requiring a person who receives a request under 8 this Act to remove the information within a certain period of time and prohibiting 9 the person from subsequently disclosing certain personal information; requiring that 10 a custodian of records deny the inspection of a part of a public record that contains 11 the home address or telephone number of certain current and former iudges and 12 prosecutors government officials unless certain permission has been given; and 13 generally relating to the public disclosure of personal information about iudges and prosecutors government officials and their immediate family members. 14

15 BY adding to

18

16 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 3–2301 and 3–2302 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 23. Court

Government Officials – Protected Information"

19 Annotated Code of Maryland

20 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

21 BY adding to

22 Article – General Provisions

23 Section 4–357

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



- 1 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 2 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)
- 3 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 4 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 5 Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings
- 6 SUBTITLE 23. COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PROTECTED INFORMATION.
- 7 **3–2301.**
- 8 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
- 9 INDICATED.
- 10 (B) "COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL" MEANS:
- 11 (1) THE CURRENT OR A FORMER GOVERNOR OR LIEUTENANT
- 12 **GOVERNOR**;
- 13 (2) A CURRENT OR FORMER STATE OR FEDERAL JUDGE; OR
- 14 (2) (3) A CURRENT OR FORMER STATE OR FEDERAL PROSECUTOR.
- 15 (C) "IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER" MEANS A PARENT, SPOUSE, OR CHILD.
- 16 (D) "PERSONAL INFORMATION" MEANS A HOME ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE
- 17 NUMBER.
- 18 **3–2302.**
- 19 (A) (1) A COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY
- 20 MEMBER OF A COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHOSE PERSONAL INFORMATION IS
- 21 DISCLOSED ON THE INTERNET, OR OTHERWISE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
- 22 THROUGH OTHER MEANS OF PUBLICATION OR POSTING, MAY REQUEST IN WRITING
- 23 THAT THE PERSON WHO MADE THE DISCLOSURE REMOVE THE PERSONAL
- 24 INFORMATION AND REFRAIN FROM ANY FUTURE DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL
- 24 INFORMATION AND REPRAIN FROM ANT FOTORE DISCLOSURE OF TERSONAL
- 25 INFORMATION ABOUT THE COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR AN IMMEDIATE
- 26 FAMILY MEMBER OF THE COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL.
- 27 (2) A REQUEST UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY BE MADE ON BEHALF
- 28 OF A MINOR BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF THE MINOR.
- 29 (B) ON RECEIPT OF A WRITTEN REQUEST UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS
- 30 SECTION, THE PERSON WHO MADE THE DISCLOSURE:

1 2	(1) SHALL REMOVE THE PERSONAL INFORMATION WITHIN 72 HOURS; AND
3 4 5	(2) MAY NOT SUBSEQUENTLY DISCLOSE PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR AN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER OF THE COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL.
6 7 8	(C) (1) A COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR AN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER OF A COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL MAY BRING AN ACTION FOR AN INJUNCTION AGAINST A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION.
9 10 11 12	(2) A COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR AN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER OF A COURT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHO IS INJURED BY A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION MAY BRING AN ACTION FOR DAMAGES AGAINST THE PERSON WHO COMMITTED THE VIOLATION.
13	Article – General Provisions
14	4–357.
15 16 17	UNLESS THE INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM A PUBLIC RECORD PERTAINS GIVES PERMISSION FOR THE INSPECTION, A CUSTODIAN SHALL DENY INSPECTION OF THE PART OF A PUBLIC RECORD THAT CONTAINS THE HOME ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBER OF:
19 20	(1) THE CURRENT OR A FORMER GOVERNOR OR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR;
21	(2) A CURRENT OR FORMER STATE OR FEDERAL JUDGE; OR
22	(2) (3) A CURRENT OR FORMER STATE OR FEDERAL PROSECUTOR.
23 24	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2023 .