

HOUSE BILL 344

P5, P2

0lr1287
CF 0lr1850

By: Delegates Mizeur, Lafferty, Anderson, Aumann, Barkley, Barnes, Barve, Benson, Bobo, Bohanan, Bromwell, Bronrott, Carr, G. Clagett, Costa, DeBoy, Donoghue, Doory, Dumais, Feldman, Frick, Frush, Gaines, Glenn, Griffith, Gutierrez, Guzzone, Hammen, Haynes, Healey, Hecht, Heller, Hixson, Howard, Hubbard, Hucker, Impallaria, Ivey, Kach, Kaiser, Kipke, Krebs, Kullen, Lee, Levi, Love, Manno, Mathias, McDonough, McHale, Minnick, Montgomery, Morhaim, Murphy, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Olszewski, Pena-Melnyk, Pendergrass, Ramirez, Reznik, Rice, Riley, Robinson, Rosenberg, Ross, Schuler, Smigiel, Stein, Stukes, Tarrant, Taylor, F. Turner, V. Turner, Valderrama, and Waldstreicher

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2010

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Open Government Act**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the order of bills to be heard at a certain bill hearing to
4 be made available on the General Assembly website at a certain time under
5 certain circumstances; requiring that certain individuals be allowed to sign up
6 on the General Assembly website during a certain time period to present
7 testimony on a bill; requiring certain bill hearings to be broadcast on the
8 General Assembly website under certain circumstances; requiring the result of
9 certain votes taken on a bill in a standing committee, and the actions of each
10 member of the committee on the bill, to be made available on the General
11 Assembly website at a certain time; prohibiting a fee from being charged to
12 access information or services provided on the General Assembly website;
13 altering the lobbyist registration fee; requiring a meeting of the Board of Public
14 Works to be broadcast on the Board's website under certain circumstances;
15 requiring certain broadcasts of Board meetings to be archived on the Board's
16 website; requiring the Board to publish a list of certain proposed actions to be
17 considered by the Board on the Board's website a certain time period before it
18 meets; requiring the Board to accept public comment on certain proposed
19 actions for a certain time period before a Board meeting; and generally relating
20 to public access to information concerning the General Assembly and the Board
21 of Public Works.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY renumbering

2 Article – State Government

3 Section 2–1506

4 to be Section 2–1506.3

5 Annotated Code of Maryland

6 (2009 Replacement Volume)

7 BY adding to

8 Article – State Government

9 Section 2–1506, 2–1506.1, 2–1506.2, and 2–1804

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2009 Replacement Volume)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

13 Article – State Government

14 Section 15–703(a)(1)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2009 Replacement Volume)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

18 Article – State Government

19 Section 15–703(e)

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2009 Replacement Volume)

22 BY adding to

23 Article – State Finance and Procurement

24 Section 10–601 and 10–602 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 6. Public
25 Access”

26 Annotated Code of Maryland

27 (2009 Replacement Volume)

28 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
29 MARYLAND, That Section(s) 2–1506 of Article – State Government of the Annotated
30 Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 2–1506.3.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland
32 read as follows:

33 **Article – State Government**

34 **2–1506.**

35 **(A) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE ORDER OF BILLS TO BE HEARD**
36 **AT A BILL HEARING OF A STANDING COMMITTEE SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON**
37 **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEBSITE 24 HOURS BEFORE THE BILL HEARING.**

1 **(B) INDIVIDUALS SHALL BE ALLOWED TO SIGN UP ON THE GENERAL**
2 **ASSEMBLY WEBSITE TO PRESENT TESTIMONY ON A BILL FROM THE TIME THE**
3 **BILL HAS BEEN ASSIGNED A HEARING DATE UNTIL 2 HOURS BEFORE THE TIME**
4 **THE BILL IS SCHEDULED FOR HEARING.**

5 **2-1506.1.**

6 **A BILL HEARING OF A STANDING COMMITTEE SHALL BE BROADCAST**
7 **SIMULTANEOUSLY ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEBSITE.**

8 **2-1506.2.**

9 **(A) THE RESULT OF A ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN ON A BILL, AN**
10 **AMENDMENT TO A BILL, OR ANY OTHER MOTION RELATING TO A BILL IN A**
11 **STANDING COMMITTEE SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON THE GENERAL**
12 **ASSEMBLY WEBSITE AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE REPORT OF THE STANDING**
13 **COMMITTEE ON THE BILL IS MADE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE.**

14 **(B) THE RESULT OF THE ROLL CALL VOTE POSTED UNDER SUBSECTION**
15 **(A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INDICATE:**

16 **(1) HOW EACH MEMBER OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE VOTED ON**
17 **A BILL, AN AMENDMENT TO A BILL, OR ANY OTHER MOTION RELATING TO A**
18 **BILL; AND**

19 **(2) WHICH MEMBERS MADE THE MOTION AND SECONDED THE**
20 **MOTION.**

21 **2-1804.**

22 **A PERSON MAY NOT BE CHARGED A FEE TO ACCESS INFORMATION OR**
23 **SERVICES PROVIDED ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEBSITE.**

24 **15-703.**

25 **(a) (1) At the times specified in subsection (d) of this section, each**
26 **regulated lobbyist shall register with the Ethics Commission on a form provided by the**
27 **Ethics Commission.**

28 **(e) (1) Each registration form shall be accompanied by a fee of [\$100]**
29 **\$145.**

30 **(2) The fee shall be credited to the Lobbyist Registration Fund**
31 **established under § 15-210 of this title.**

1 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

2 **SUBTITLE 6. PUBLIC ACCESS.**

3 **10–601.**

4 **(A) A MEETING OF THE BOARD SHALL BE BROADCAST**
5 **SIMULTANEOUSLY ON THE BOARD’S WEBSITE.**

6 **(B) THE BOARD MEETINGS BROADCAST UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE**
7 **ARCHIVED ON THE BOARD’S WEBSITE.**

8 **10–602.**

9 **THE BOARD SHALL:**

10 **(1) PUBLISH A LIST OF PROPOSED BUDGET ACTIONS TO BE**
11 **CONSIDERED AT A BOARD MEETING ON THE BOARD’S WEBSITE AT LEAST 2**
12 **WEEKS BEFORE THE MEETING; AND**

13 **(2) DURING THE 2–WEEK INTERVAL REQUIRED UNDER ITEM (1)**
14 **OF THIS SECTION, ACCEPT PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE LIST OF PROPOSED**
15 **BUDGET ACTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD AT THE MEETING.**

16 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2010.