

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 3-17(a) of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1971 Supplement), title "Election Code," subtitle "Registration of Voters—How and by Whom Conducted," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

3-17.

(a) (1) When the board shall learn that a registered voter has removed from the ward, election district or precinct in which he is registered and within ~~six months~~ *thirty days* from the date of such removal has not applied to the board to have his address changed on his registration records, the board shall notify the voter by United States first class mail sent to his address as it appears on the board's registration records that if he does not advise the board by a signed writing of his correct address within two weeks of the date appearing on the notice, his name will be removed from the registration records and he will have to reregister before he can vote in future elections.

(2) Any board, upon receipt of a signed authorization from a voter to cancel his registration, shall remove that registration from the registration records.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved February 23, 1972.

CHAPTER 5
(Senate Bill 14)

AN ACT to add new Sections 89, 90 and 91 to Article 40 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume) (1971 Supplement), title "General Assembly," to follow immediately after Section 88 thereof and to be under the new subtitle "Ethics," to establish a joint committee on ethics with the power to promulgate rules of ethics for the members of the General Assembly subject to adoption by both Houses.

It is essential to the proper operation of a democratic government that its Legislators be independent and impartial, that public office not be used for private gain other than compensation provided by law, and that there be public confidence in the integrity of the members of the General Assembly. The attainment of these ends is impaired if there exists a conflict between the private interests of the Legislator and his public duties. To allow the members of the General Assembly to promote the public interest and enjoy the public confidence, appropriate ethical standards must be established with respect to situations in which such conflicts may exist.