

2-1509. PRESENTMENT TO GOVERNOR.

(A) SEAL; PRESENTMENT.

AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE AFTER A BILL IS RETURNED TO THE HOUSE OF ORIGIN, THE PRESIDING OFFICER SHALL HAVE THE STATE SEAL AFFIXED TO THE BILL AND SHALL PRESENT THE BILL TO THE GOVERNOR OR A DESIGNEE OF THE GOVERNOR.

(B) RECORD OF PRESENTMENT.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER WHO PRESENTS THE BILL OR THE CLERK DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER SHALL:

(1) IN THE PRESENCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM THE BILL IS PRESENTED, MAKE AND SIGN, ON THE BACK OF THE BILL, A WRITTEN MEMORANDUM OF THE DAY AND HOUR OF PRESENTMENT; AND

(2) HAVE A CORRESPONDING ENTRY MADE IN THE SENATE JOURNAL OR THE HOUSE JOURNAL.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from the seventh and eighth clauses and, as it related to affixing the seal, the sixth clause of former Art. 41, § 45.

In subsection (a) of this section, the reference to "a designee of the Governor" is added to reflect § 2-1510 of this subtitle.

Also in subsection (a) of this section, the reference to presentment of bills by "the presiding officer" is substituted for the former, ambiguous phrase "presented to the Governor", which, with the former reference to "such clerical officer having custody of the same", seemed to mean that the Secretary of the Senate or the Chief Clerk of the House presented the bill. This substitution reflects Md. Constitution, Art. III, § 30, which, as amended in 1974, expressly requires presentment "by the presiding officer of the house in which [the bill] originated".

The Commission to Revise the Annotated Code believes, however, that this presentment may be accomplished by the Secretary of the Senate or the Chief Clerk of the House, acting as the agent of the President or the Speaker, and notes that, in practice, these clerical officers do deliver the bills, for purposes of presentment. Therefore, in subsection (b) of this section, the reference to the "presiding officer who presents the bill or the clerk designated by the presiding officer" is substituted for the former reference to "such clerical officer having custody of the" bill, to accommodate custody either by a presiding officer or a clerk.