

invalid only when clearly outside the requirements of the Constitution. Everstine, "Titles of Legislative Acts," IX Md. L. Rev. 197, 201-202 (1948).

In our view, the title of House Bill 948 is not constitutionally misleading with respect to the exclusions. The title alleges exclusions with respect to certain departments and branches from the provisions of the Act, but does not specify which departments or which provisions. Consequently, the title necessarily directs one to the body of the Act for a determination of which branches and which departments are excluded from which provisions. Thus, the title does not encourage reliance on a particular exclusion, i.e., does not mislead.

2. Article 15A, §23B.

Code, Article 15A, §23B, vests the following duties and authority in the Secretary of Budget and Fiscal Planning:

"The Secretary, after consultation with the State Comptroller, shall be responsible for planning and controlling data processing in the several departments and agencies of the State government. The Secretary shall continuously study the data processing function within the State in order to improve its efficiency and economy. All changes effected by any department or agency pertaining to data processing shall first be reviewed and approved by the Secretary for compatibility with existing procedures and equipment. The purchase, lease, or rental of mechanical or electronic data processing equipment for all State departments and agencies shall be reviewed and approved by the Secretary prior to the purchase, lease, or rental."

We have previously concluded that, by expressly including the "several departments and agencies of the State government within its reach," Article 15A, §23B gives the Secretary of Budget and Fiscal Planning certain authority with respect to data processing in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services. See, 63 Opinions of the Attorney General (1978), (No. 78-2, Rules Service Ed.).¹ In creating a new data processing subtitle under Article 48 and in vesting authority thereunder in the Secretary of Budget and Fiscal Planning, Section 1 of House Bill 948 (at lines 148-150) expressly provides that such authority and responsibility is "in addition to the responsibilities and duties set forth in Article 15A, §23B ..." Thus, we construe Section 1 of the Act to give the Secretary additional authority only, to exclude the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services from this additional authority only, and to in no way lessen the authority which the Secretary presently has under Article 15A, §23B.