

Approved May 26, 1994.

CHAPTER 509

(Senate Bill 710)

AN ACT concerning

Commission on White Collar Dealers of Illegal Drugs

FOR the purpose of creating a Commission on White Collar Dealers of Illegal Drugs; establishing that the Commission shall consist of a certain number of representatives; requiring the Governor to appoint certain representatives to serve on the Commission and to designate the chairman of the Commission; providing the compensation and staff for the Commission; requiring the Commission to submit certain findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly by a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; providing for the effective date of this Act; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Commission on White Collar Dealers of Illegal Drugs.

BY adding to

Article 41 – Governor – Executive and Administrative Departments

Section 18-306

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1993 Replacement Volume)

Preamble

~~WHEREAS, A successful war on illegal drugs requires fighting simultaneously on two fronts: the importer-wholesaler supply side, and the demand side; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The importation and wholesale distribution of illegal drugs involve the willing participation or assistance of a wide variety of businessmen such as accountants, bankers, and other "white collar" dealers who supply vehicles, weapons, and other equipment for illegal drug dealers, "launder" money, and otherwise provide the necessary expertise to keep the enormous flow of illegal drug money hidden from public scrutiny; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The white collar dealers who participate in the importation and wholesale distribution of illegal drugs earn tens of thousands of dollars a week and are responsible for crimes of institutional destabilization, such as bribery and corruption; and~~

~~WHEREAS, White collar dealers who participate in the importation and wholesale distribution of illegal drugs are not being pursued and prosecuted at the rate they need to be, as evidenced by the fact that in Baltimore City, during a recent 10-month period in the Felony Arraignment Court, 85% of all the felony related cases (7,352) were drug related cases, but not one involved a dealer at the import or wholesale level; and~~