

JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED  
by the  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE  
and the  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

**Joint Resolution No. 1**

**(Senate Joint Resolution No. 1)**

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

**Rules of Legislative Ethics**

FOR the purpose of repealing obsolete Rules of Legislative Ethics; adopting a standard for the waiver of confidentiality in certain matters before the Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics; and generally relating to the Rules of Legislative Ethics.

WHEREAS, The General Assembly adopted significant substantive changes to the Maryland Public Ethics Law in Chapters 129 and 130 of the Acts of 1999; and

WHEREAS, The Rules of Legislative Ethics previously in effect were a mere repetition of the previous statutory provisions and therefore are now obsolete; and

WHEREAS, Section 15-516(a)(3) of the State Government Article, as enacted under the new Ethics Law, specifically requires the General Assembly to establish, by Rule, criteria for the Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics to follow when considering whether to waive the general requirement of confidentiality in investigatory proceedings of the Joint Committee; and

WHEREAS, Further additions to the Rules of Legislative Ethics are not currently proposed; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Rules of Legislative Ethics, published as Rules 118 through 130 of the Rules of the Senate of Maryland and Rules 118 through 130 of the Rules of the House of Delegates of Maryland, are hereby repealed; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the following Rule of Legislative Ethics is adopted:

1. Waiver of confidentiality.

The Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics, in its exercise of the authority granted under § 15-516(b)(3)(ii) of the State Government Article and upon a vote of three-fourths of the membership of the Joint Committee, may allow public access to and inspection of information relating to a complaint, proceeding, or record if disclosure is necessary to uphold the integrity of the ethics investigation process.

Signed May 18, 2000.