

Approved April 10, 2001.

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**CHAPTER 19**  
**(Senate Bill 67)**

AN ACT concerning

**Election Law - Campaign Accounts - Administrative Closure**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Board of Elections to close a campaign account based on a finding that good cause and certain other criteria exist; providing that closing a campaign account does not affect certain legal liabilities of individuals associated with a campaign account; and generally relating to closing campaign accounts.

BY adding to

Article 33 - Election Code

Section 13-401(a-2)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article 33 - Election Code**

13-401.

(A-2) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (A-1) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE BOARD MAY CLOSE A CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT UPON A DETERMINATION THAT GOOD CAUSE EXISTS AND THAT:

(I) AN OFFICER AFFILIATED WITH THE CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT WOULD BE ABLE TO CLOSE THE CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT EXCEPT FOR OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS THAT ARE MORE THAN 5 YEARS OLD;

(II) THERE ARE NO CURRENT OFFICERS APPOINTED AND SERVING IN CONNECTION WITH THE CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT; OR

(III) OTHER EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST TO JUSTIFY CLOSING THE ACCOUNT.

(2) THE CLOSING OF A CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT BY ACTION OF THE STATE BOARD DOES NOT LIMIT THE RIGHT OF:

(I) THE STATE BOARD OR THE STATE PROSECUTOR TO PURSUE ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST FORMER OFFICERS OR THE CANDIDATE AFFILIATED WITH THE CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT; OR