

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2001.

Approved April 10, 2001.

CHAPTER 44

(House Bill 86)

AN ACT concerning

Certified Public Accountancy - Permits - Firm Ownership by Nonlicensees

FOR the purpose of allowing certain individuals who are not licensed to practice certified public accountancy to have an ownership interest in a firm issued a permit to operate by the State Board of Public Accountancy under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the practice of certified public accountancy.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Business Occupations and Professions

Section 2-402, 2-402.1, and 2-403

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 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 - Business Occupations and Professions

2-402.

(a) To qualify for a permit, a partnership shall meet the requirements of this section.

(b) The partnership shall:

(1) have a permanent office in the State from which an individual is to practice certified public accountancy; or

(2) submit proof, satisfactory to the Board, of the intent of the partnership to establish immediately a permanent office.

(c) Each permanent office required under subsection (b) of this section shall be managed by a partner of the partnership who resides in the State.

(d) (1) **[Each partner shall be] AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT LICENSED TO PRACTICE CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY IN THIS STATE OR ANOTHER STATE MAY HAVE AN OWNERSHIP INTEREST IN THE PARTNERSHIP IF:**