determination by clear and convincing evidence that the convictions of the individuals are in error and that the individuals are innocent of did not commit the crime; defining certain terms; prohibiting the Board of Public Works from paying any part of a certain grant to any individuals other than certain individuals eligible to receive the grant under certain circumstances; altering a certain statement in a pardon required to rebut a certain presumption authorizing the Board of Public Works to grant a reasonable amount for any financial or other appropriate counseling for an individual who is erroneously convicted, sentenced, and imprisoned under State law for a crime the individual did not commit if the individual received a certain pardon from the Governor; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to damages for certain individuals erroneously convicted, sentenced, and confined under State law.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article Correctional Services

Section 7 601(e)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - State Finance and Procurement

Section 10-501

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

Article - Correctional Services

7 601.

(e) There is a presumption that the grantee of a pardon was lawfully and properly convicted of a crime against the State unless the order granting the pardon states that the grantee has been shown [conclusively] BY CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE to have been convicted in error.

Article - State Finance and Procurement

10-501.

- (a) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING TERMS WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
- (2) (I) "ECONOMIC DAMACES" MEANS LOSS OF EARNINGS AND MEDICAL EXPENSES.
- (II) "ECONOMIC DAMAGES" DOES NOT INCLUDE PUNITIVE DAMAGES.