

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Senate Bill No. 603

AN ACT concerning

**Tobacco Product Manufacturers - Nonparticipating Manufacturers -
Escrow Requirements**

FOR the purpose of requiring tobacco product manufacturers whose cigarettes are sold in the State to periodically submit certain certifications, reports, and notices to ~~the Comptroller and to~~ the Attorney General; requiring the ~~Comptroller~~ Attorney General to maintain a directory of cigarettes approved for stamping and sale; prohibiting the stamping or selling or importing of cigarettes not in the directory for sale in the State; requiring manufacturers to appoint an agent for the service of process; requiring reporting of information by licensed wholesalers; ~~prescribing~~ establishing certain penalties, remedies, and enforcement procedures; authorizing the ~~Comptroller~~ Attorney General to adopt regulations requiring certain escrow payments; requiring the Governor to make a certain appropriation from the Cigarette Restitution Fund each year under certain circumstances; providing for construction of this Act; providing that a certain act controls one of the provisions of this Act under certain circumstances; making the provisions of this Act severable; requiring a certain report to be filed by a certain date; requiring a certain certification to be filed by a certain date; requiring a certain directory to be made available by a certain date; defining certain terms; providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to tobacco product manufacturers, the sale of tobacco products, and the enforcement of the provisions of Chapter 169 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1999, as amended by Chapter 141 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2001.

BY adding to

Article - Business Regulation

Section 16-501 through 16-508 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 5. Escrow Requirements for Nonparticipating Tobacco Product Manufacturers"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1998 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - State Finance and Procurement

Section 7-317(g)

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: