

WHEREAS, Because the misinterpretation of existing statutes has discouraged attorneys from volunteering their time to perform limited, yet important, services to reform the law through legislative and executive branch action, it is necessary to clarify that these activities taken on behalf of the organized bar do not fall within the purview of the State Ethics Commission; now, therefore,

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

### Article 33 - Election Code

14-102.

(b) Every person who has done business with the State, a county, municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State during a reporting period specified under subsection (a) of this section shall file the statement required by this title if during the reporting period he made or caused to be made a contribution to a candidate for an elective office of the State or for an elective office of a county or municipal corporation of the State in any primary or general election.

14-103.

(b) Each OFFICER, DIRECTOR, OR PARTNER WHO MAKES OR CAUSES TO BE MADE A CONTRIBUTION, AND EACH OFFICER, DIRECTOR, PARTNER, employee, agent, or other person who makes or causes to be made a [contribution] GIFT, DONATION, OR PAYMENT OF MONEY, REGARDLESS OF AMOUNT, at the suggestion or direction of a business entity shall report the ~~{contribution}~~ OR THE GIFT, DONATION, OR PAYMENT OF MONEY to the chief executive officer of the business entity so that it may be included in the statement filed by the business entity.

(c) For the purposes of this title, and except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, a ~~{contribution} GIFT, DONATION, OR PAYMENT OF MONEY, REGARDLESS OF AMOUNT,~~ made by an officer, director, or partner of a business entity, and a [contribution] GIFT, DONATION, OR PAYMENT OF MONEY, REGARDLESS OF AMOUNT, made by an OFFICER, DIRECTOR, PARTNER, employee, agent, or other person at the suggestion or direction of a business entity, shall be attributed to the business entity and shall be included in the statement filed by the business entity as though made directly by it.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

### Article - State Government

~~15-505.~~

~~(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, an official or employee may not knowingly accept a gift, directly or indirectly, from an entity that the official or employee knows or has reason to know:~~

~~(1) does or seeks to do any business of any kind, regardless of amount, with the official's or employee's governmental unit;~~