provisions of law that allow certain individuals who are licensed or certified to practice certain health occupations in the State to provide auricular detoxification under certain circumstances; requiring the State Acupuncture Board to adopt certain regulations; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the regulation of acupuncture.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
    Article – Health Occupations
    Section 1A–101 and 1A–316
    Annotated Code of Maryland
    (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
    Chapter 317 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2001
    Section 2

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

Article – Health Occupations

1A–101.

(a)   In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b)   "Acupuncture" means a form of health care, based on a theory of energetic physiology, that describes the interrelationship of the body organs or functions with an associated point or combination of points.

(c)   "Auricular detoxification" means an acupuncture technique involving the needling of the external auricle of the human ear for the purpose of assisting a person who is undergoing detoxification to remove addictive substances from the body and restoring health.

(d)   "Board" means the State Acupuncture Board.

(e)   ["Direct supervision" means the responsibility of an acupuncturist licensed by the Board to exercise continuous on–site observation and direction for an individual performing auricular detoxification.

(f)]   "License" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a license issued by the Board to practice acupuncture.

[(g)] (F)   (1)   "Practice acupuncture" means the use of oriental medical therapies for the purpose of normalizing energetic physiological functions including pain control, and for the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of health.

(2)   "Practice acupuncture" includes:

(i)   Stimulation of points of the body by the insertion of acupuncture needles;