licenses, certificates, registrations, and permits; requiring certain facts to be considered under certain circumstances in the reprimand of certain licensees, certificate holders, permit holders, and registrants; and generally relating to the denial, suspension, or revocation of certain licenses*, certificates, registrations, and permits and the reprimand of certain licensees, certificate holders, registrants, or permit holders*.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Business Occupations and Professions
Section 2–315, 3–311, *4–314, 5–314,* 6–316, 7–309, 8–310, 9–310, 11–409, 12–312, 14–317, 15–318, 16–701, and 17–322
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1995 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Business Regulation
Section 5–310, 8–311, 9A–310, and 12–209
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1992 Volume and 1997 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

2–315.

(a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 2–317 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members, may deny a license to any applicant, reprimand any licensee, or suspend or revoke a license if the applicant or licensee:

(1) fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant or licensee or for another;

(2) fraudulently or deceptively uses a license;

(3) under the laws of the United States or of any state, ~~pleads guilty or nolo contendere with respect to, receives probation before judgment with respect to, or~~ is convicted of:

(i) a felony; [or]

(ii) ~~a crime involving an element of fraud or other dishonesty; OR~~

~~(III) A CRIME OF MORAL TURPITUDE~~ *A MISDEMEANOR THAT IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE FITNESS AND QUALIFICATION OF THE APPLICANT OR LICENSEE TO PRACTICE CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY*;

(4) is guilty of fraud or other dishonesty in the practice of accountancy;

(5) is guilty of gross negligence in the practice of accountancy;