

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed Senate Bill 25.

This bill requires lawyers and their agents who directly solicit accident victims, or criminal defendants or their relatives to meet specified requirements with regard to each communication sent (letter, telephone call, e-mail, etc.) and to file a copy of each communication with the Bar Counsel. Also, the bill provides that the sending of a communication that does not meet the requirements is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000, imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both.

House Bill 468, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 12, 1998, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 25.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Senate Bill No. 25

AN ACT concerning

Lawyers - Solicitation of Clients - Requirements

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a lawyer, or a lawyer's agent or employee, from sending specified forms of communication to certain persons unless the communication meets certain requirements; requiring a person who sends certain communications to file a copy of the communication and certain information with the Bar Counsel under certain circumstances; providing for certain penalties; making provisions of this Act severable; and generally relating to solicitation of concerning lawyer services under certain circumstances.

BY adding to

Article - Business Occupations and Professions
Section 10-605.2
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1995 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - Business Occupations and Professions
Section 10-606(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1995 Replacement 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