

# HOUSE BILL 315

P1, G2

0lr1220  
CF SB 202

---

By: **Delegates Stewart, Attar, Barron, Boyce, Carr, Charkoudian, Ebersole, Feldmark, Fraser-Hidalgo, Guyton, Hettleman, Kerr, Lehman, R. Lewis, Lierman, Love, Moon, Palakovich Carr, Shetty, Solomon, Terrasa, Wells, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2020

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Ethics – Executive Branch – Lobbying by Former Secretaries of Principal**  
3 **Departments**  
4 **(Shut the Revolving Door Act of 2020)**

5 FOR the purpose of prohibiting, subject to a certain exception, a former secretary of a  
6 principal department of the Executive Branch from assisting or representing another  
7 party for compensation, for a certain period of time, in a certain matter that is the  
8 subject of legislative action; and generally relating to public ethics and former public  
9 officials of the Executive Branch.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – General Provisions  
12 Section 5–504(d)  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2019 Replacement Volume)

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

17 **Article – General Provisions**

18 5–504.

19 (d) (1) Except for a former member of the General Assembly, who shall be  
20 subject to the restrictions provided under paragraph (2) of this subsection, a former official  
21 or employee may not assist or represent a party, other than the State, in a case, a contract,  
22 or any other specific matter for compensation if:

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(i) the matter involves State government; and

(ii) the former official or employee participated significantly in the matter as an official or employee.

(2) (i) In this paragraph, “legislative action” does not include testimony or other advocacy in an official capacity as a member of the General Assembly before a unit of State or local government.

(ii) Except as provided in subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph:

1. a former member of the General Assembly may not assist or represent another party for compensation in a matter that is the subject of legislative action for one calendar year from the date the member leaves office; and

2. a former Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, [or] State Treasurer, **OR SECRETARY OF A PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH** may not assist or represent another party for compensation in a matter that is the subject of legislative action for one calendar year from the date the official leaves State office.

(iii) The limitation under subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph on representation by a former member of the General Assembly [or by a former], Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, [or] State Treasurer, **OR SECRETARY OF A PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH** does not apply to representation of a municipal corporation, county, or State governmental entity.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.