

# SENATE BILL 19

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(PRE-FILED)

3lr0622  
CF HB 12

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By: **Senator Jennings**

Requested: October 24, 2012

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2013

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 19, 2013

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes – Aiming Laser Pointer at Aircraft**

3 FOR the purpose of making it a misdemeanor to knowingly and willfully shine, point,  
4 or focus the beam of a laser pointer on an individual operating an aircraft;  
5 exempting certain individuals from this Act under certain circumstances;  
6 specifying a penalty; ~~specifying that a sentence imposed under this Act is in~~  
7 ~~addition to a certain other sentence;~~ defining a certain term; and generally  
8 relating to the criminal use of a laser pointer.

9 BY adding to  
10 Article – Criminal Law  
11 Section 3–807  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2002 Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Criminal Law**

17 **3–807.**

18 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “LASER POINTER” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §  
19 **3–806 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1           **(B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE USE OF A LASER POINTER:**

2                   **(1) BY AN INDIVIDUAL CONDUCTING RESEARCH AND**  
3 **DEVELOPMENT OR FLIGHT TESTING FOR AN AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURER OR THE**  
4 **FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION;**

5                   **(2) BY A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF**  
6 **DEFENSE OR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**  
7 **ACTING IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY DURING AN ACTIVITY RELATED TO RESEARCH**  
8 **AND DEVELOPMENT, FLIGHT TESTING, OR TRAINING;**

9                   **(3) BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, AS DEFINED IN § 3-101 OF**  
10 **THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE, ACTING IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY;**

11                   **(4) BY AN INDIVIDUAL ATTEMPTING TO MAKE THE INDIVIDUAL'S**  
12 **LOCATION KNOWN; OR**

13                   **(5) BY AN INDIVIDUAL ATTEMPTING TO GIVE A WARNING SIGNAL.**

14           **(C) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY SHINE, POINT, OR**  
15 **FOCUS THE BEAM OF A LASER POINTER ON AN INDIVIDUAL OPERATING AN**  
16 **AIRCRAFT.**

17           **(D) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A**  
18 **MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT**  
19 **EXCEEDING 3 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$2,500 OR BOTH.**

20           ~~**(E) A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE IN ADDITION**~~  
21 ~~**TO ANY OTHER SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR A CONVICTION ARISING FROM THE**~~  
22 ~~**SAME FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES.**~~

23           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 2013.