

HOUSE BILL 863

E1

5lr1775

By: **Delegates McComas, Chang, Jones, McDonough, B. Robinson, and West**
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2015
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Hazing – Elements and Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that a person may not recklessly or intentionally do an act
4 or create a situation that subjects a student to the risk of mental or emotional
5 distress; providing that certain penalties apply to a certain offense; altering certain
6 penalties; and generally relating to hazing.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Criminal Law
9 Section 3–607
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Criminal Law**

15 3–607.

16 (a) A person may not recklessly or intentionally do an act or create a situation
17 that subjects a student to the risk of serious bodily injury **OR MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL**
18 **DISTRESS** for the purpose of an initiation into a student organization of a school, college,
19 or university.

20 (b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction
21 is subject to imprisonment not exceeding [6] **9** months or a fine not exceeding [**\$500**]
22 **\$2,500** or both.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) The implied or express consent of a student to hazing is not a defense under
2 this section.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2015.