

Chapter 612

**(House Bill 121)**

AN ACT concerning

**Criminal Law – False Statement Concerning Destructive Device or Toxic Material – Venue**

FOR the purpose of adding an additional venue in which a person may be prosecuted for a false statement concerning a destructive device or toxic material; making certain stylistic changes; and generally relating to false statements concerning a destructive device or toxic material.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Criminal Law  
Section 9–504(b)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Criminal Law  
Section 9–504(d)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

**Article – Criminal Law**

9–504.

(b) A person may not circulate or transmit to another, with intent that it be acted on, a statement or rumor that the person knows to be false about the location or possible detonation of a destructive device or the location or possible release of toxic material, as those terms are defined in § 4–501 of this article.

(d) A crime under this section committed using a telephone or other electronic means may be prosecuted **IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH:**

- (1) [in the county in which] the communication originated; [or]
- (2) [in the county in which] the communication was received; **OR**

**(3) THE DESTRUCTIVE DEVICE OR TOXIC MATERIAL WAS STATED OR WAS RUMORED TO BE LOCATED.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2016.

**Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2016.**