

SENATE BILL 273

E1, E2, E4

0lr0158
CF HB 356

By: **The President (By Request – Administration) and Senators Bailey, Beidle, Carozza, Cassilly, Eckardt, Edwards, Gallion, Hershey, Jennings, Ready, Reilly, Salling, Serafini, Simonaire, and West**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2020

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes – Firearms – Penalties and Procedures**
3 **(Violent Firearms Offender Act of 2020)**

4 FOR the purpose of expanding the types of cases in which the State may appeal from a
5 decision of a trial court under certain circumstances; authorizing a court to release
6 a defendant charged with a certain crime on certain terms or conditions or to order
7 the defendant remanded to custody pending a certain appeal; establishing and
8 altering certain penalties; prohibiting a District Court commissioner from
9 authorizing the pretrial release of a certain defendant charged with a certain
10 firearm–related crime under certain circumstances; expanding the predicate crimes
11 applicable to a certain prohibition against possessing a regulated firearm by a person
12 who was previously convicted of a certain crime; prohibiting a dealer or other person
13 from selling, renting, loaning, or transferring a regulated firearm to a purchaser,
14 lessee, borrower, or transferee if the dealer or other person has actual knowledge
15 that the purchaser, lessee, borrower, or transferee was previously convicted of a
16 certain crime or intends to use the regulated firearm for a certain purpose; altering
17 a certain definition; and generally relating to firearms.

18 BY renumbering

19 Article – Criminal Law
20 Section 7–104(h) through (j), respectively
21 to be 7–104(i) through (k), respectively
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

24 BY renumbering

25 Article – Public Safety
26 Section 5–134(c) and (d), respectively
27 to be 5–134(d) and (e), respectively

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
- 3 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
4 Article – Correctional Services
5 Section 6–101(a)
6 Annotated Code of Maryland
7 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
- 8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Correctional Services
10 Section 6–101(m)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
- 13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
15 Section 12–302(c)(4)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
- 18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – Criminal Law
20 Section 4–204, 4–306(b), 4–404, and 7–104(g)
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
- 23 BY adding to
24 Article – Criminal Law
25 Section 7–104(h)
26 Annotated Code of Maryland
27 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
- 28 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
29 Article – Criminal Law
30 Section 7–104(j)
31 Annotated Code of Maryland
32 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
33 (As enacted by Section 1 of this Act)
- 34 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
35 Article – Criminal Procedure
36 Section 5–202(c)(1) and (d)(1)
37 Annotated Code of Maryland
38 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
- 39 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

1 Article – Criminal Procedure
2 Section 5–202(f)
3 Annotated Code of Maryland
4 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Public Safety
7 Section 5–133(b) and (c), 5–138, 5–141, 5–142, and 5–144
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Public Safety
12 Section 5–134(b)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Public Safety
17 Section 5–134(c)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
21 That Section(s) 7–104(h) through (j), respectively, of Article – Criminal Law of the
22 Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7–104(i) through (k),
23 respectively.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section(s) 5–134(c) and (d),
25 respectively, of Article – Public Safety of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered
26 to be Section(s) 5–134(d) and (e), respectively.

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
28 as follows:

29 **Article – Correctional Services**

30 6–101.

31 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

32 (m) “Technical violation” means a violation of a condition of probation, parole, or
33 mandatory supervision that does not involve:

34 (1) an arrest or a summons issued by a commissioner on a statement of
35 charges filed by a law enforcement officer;

- 1 (2) a violation of a criminal prohibition other than a minor traffic offense;
- 2 (3) a violation of a no-contact or stay-away order; [or]
- 3 (4) absconding; OR
- 4 (5) USE OR POSSESSION OF A FIREARM.

5 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

6 12-302.

7 (c) (4) (i) [In a case] **THIS PARAGRAPH APPLIES IN A CASE:**

8 1. involving a crime of violence as defined in § 14-101 of the
9 Criminal Law Article[, and in cases];

10 2. under §§ 5-602 through 5-609 and §§ 5-612 through
11 5-614 of the Criminal Law Article[.];

12 3. **UNDER §§ 5-621 AND 5-622 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW**
13 **ARTICLE; OR**

14 4. **UNDER §§ 5-133, 5-133.1, 5-134, 5-136, 5-138,**
15 **5-140, 5-141, 5-142, 5-205, AND 5-206 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE.**

16 **(II) FOR CASES LISTED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS**
17 **PARAGRAPH,** the State may appeal from a decision of a trial court that excludes evidence
18 offered by the State or requires the return of property alleged to have been seized in
19 violation of the Constitution of the United States, the Maryland Constitution, or the
20 Maryland Declaration of Rights.

21 **[(ii)] (III)** The appeal shall be made before jeopardy attaches to the
22 defendant. However, in all cases the appeal shall be taken no more than 15 days after the
23 decision has been rendered and shall be diligently prosecuted.

24 **[(iii)] (IV)** Before taking the appeal, the State shall certify to the
25 court that the appeal is not taken for purposes of delay and that the evidence excluded or
26 the property required to be returned is substantial proof of a material fact in the proceeding.
27 The appeal shall be heard and the decision rendered within 120 days of the time that the
28 record on appeal is filed in the appellate court. Otherwise, the decision of the trial court
29 shall be final.

30 **[(iv)] (V)** Except in a homicide case, if the State appeals on the basis
31 of this paragraph, and if on final appeal the decision of the trial court is affirmed, the
32 charges against the defendant shall be dismissed in the case from which the appeal was

1 taken. In that case, the State may not prosecute the defendant on those specific charges or
2 on any other related charges arising out of the same incident.

3 ~~[(v)]~~ **(VI)** 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2 of this
4 subparagraph, pending the prosecution and determination of an appeal taken under this
5 paragraph or paragraph (2) of this subsection, the defendant shall be released on personal
6 recognizance bail. If the defendant fails to appear as required by the terms of the
7 recognizance bail, the trial court shall subject the defendant to the penalties provided in §
8 5–211 of the Criminal Procedure Article.

9 2. A. Pending the prosecution and determination of an
10 appeal taken under this paragraph or paragraph (2) of this subsection, in a case in which
11 the defendant is charged with a crime of violence, as defined in § 14–101 of the Criminal
12 Law Article, **OR A FIREARM–RELATED CRIME LISTED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I)3 OR 4 OF**
13 **THIS PARAGRAPH**, the court may release the defendant on any terms and conditions that
14 the court considers appropriate or may order the defendant remanded to custody pending
15 the outcome of the appeal.

16 B. The determination and enforcement of any terms and
17 conditions of release shall be in accordance with the provisions of Title 5 of the Criminal
18 Procedure Article.

19 ~~[(vi)]~~ **(VII)** If the State loses the appeal, the jurisdiction shall pay all
20 the costs related to the appeal, including reasonable attorney’s fees incurred by the
21 defendant as a result of the appeal.

22 Article – Criminal Law

23 4–204.

24 (a) (1) In this section, “firearm” means:

25 (i) a weapon that expels, is designed to expel, or may readily be
26 converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; or

27 (ii) the frame or receiver of such a weapon.

28 (2) “Firearm” includes an antique firearm, handgun, rifle, shotgun,
29 short–barreled rifle, short–barreled shotgun, starter gun, or any other firearm, whether
30 loaded or unloaded.

31 (b) A person may not use a firearm in the commission of a crime of violence, as
32 defined in § 5–101 of the Public Safety Article, or any felony, whether the firearm is
33 operable or inoperable at the time of the crime.

34 (c) (1) (i) A person who violates this section is guilty of a [misdemeanor]

1 **FELONY** and, in addition to any other penalty imposed for the crime of violence or felony,
2 shall be sentenced:

3 1. **FOR A FIRST OFFENSE**, to imprisonment for not less than
4 5 years and not exceeding 20 years; **AND**

5 2. **FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, TO**
6 **IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN 10 YEARS AND NOT EXCEEDING 20 YEARS.**

7 (ii) **[The] NOTWITHSTANDING § 14–102 OF THIS ARTICLE:**

8 1. **THE** court may not impose less than the **MANDATORY**
9 minimum sentence of 5 years **[and, except] FOR A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER**
10 **SUBPARAGRAPH (I)1 OF THIS PARAGRAPH; AND**

11 2. **THE COURT MAY NOT IMPOSE LESS THAN THE**
12 **MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE OF 10 YEARS FOR A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER**
13 **SUBPARAGRAPH (I)2 OF THIS PARAGRAPH.**

14 **(III) THE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE REQUIRED UNDER**
15 **SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT BE SUSPENDED.**

16 **(IV) EXCEPT** as otherwise provided in § 4–305 of the Correctional
17 Services Article, the person is not eligible for parole in less than **[5 years] THE**
18 **MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE.**

19 (2) **[For each subsequent violation, the] THE** sentence shall be consecutive
20 to and not concurrent with any other sentence imposed for the crime of violence or felony.

21 4–306.

22 (b) (1) A person who uses an assault weapon, a rapid fire trigger activator, or
23 a magazine that has a capacity of more than 10 rounds of ammunition, in the commission
24 of a felony or a crime of violence as defined in § 5–101 of the Public Safety Article is guilty
25 of a **[misdemeanor] FELONY** and on conviction, in addition to any other sentence imposed
26 for the felony or crime of violence, shall be sentenced under this subsection.

27 (2) (i) For a first violation, the person shall be sentenced to
28 imprisonment for not less than 5 years and not exceeding 20 years.

29 (ii) **[The] NOTWITHSTANDING § 14–102 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE**
30 court may not impose less than the minimum sentence of 5 years.

31 (iii) The mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years may not be
32 suspended.

1 (iv) Except as otherwise provided in § 4–305 of the Correctional
2 Services Article, the person is not eligible for parole in less than 5 years.

3 (3) (i) For each subsequent violation, the person shall be sentenced to
4 imprisonment for not less than 10 years and not exceeding 20 years.

5 (ii) **[The] NOTWITHSTANDING § 14–102 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE**
6 **court may not impose less than the minimum sentence of 10 years.**

7 **(III) THE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE OF 10 YEARS MAY**
8 **NOT BE SUSPENDED.**

9 **(IV) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN § 4–305 OF THE**
10 **CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE, THE PERSON IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE IN**
11 **LESS THAN 10 YEARS.**

12 **[(iii)] (4)** A sentence imposed under this [paragraph] **SUBSECTION**
13 **shall be consecutive to and not concurrent with any other sentence imposed for the felony**
14 **or crime of violence.**

15 4–404.

16 (a) A person may not use or possess a machine gun in the commission or
17 attempted commission of a **FELONY OR** crime of violence.

18 (b) **(1)** A person who violates this section is guilty of a felony and on conviction,
19 **IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTY IMPOSED FOR THE CRIME OF VIOLENCE OR**
20 **FELONY, is subject to [imprisonment not exceeding 20 years]:**

21 **(I) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN**
22 **5 YEARS AND NOT EXCEEDING 20 YEARS; AND**

23 **(II) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT**
24 **FOR NOT LESS THAN 10 YEARS AND NOT EXCEEDING 20 YEARS.**

25 **(2) (I) NOTWITHSTANDING § 14–102 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE COURT**
26 **MAY NOT IMPOSE LESS THAN THE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE OF 5 YEARS FOR**
27 **A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

28 **(II) NOTWITHSTANDING § 14–102 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE COURT**
29 **MAY NOT IMPOSE LESS THAN THE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE OF 10 YEARS**
30 **FOR A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

31 **(3) A MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF**

1 THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE SUSPENDED.

2 (4) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN § 4-305 OF THE
3 CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE, THE PERSON IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE IN
4 LESS THAN THE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE.

5 (5) THE SENTENCE SHALL BE CONSECUTIVE TO AND NOT
6 CONCURRENT WITH ANY OTHER SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR THE CRIME OF VIOLENCE
7 OR FELONY.

8 7-104.

9 (g) (1) THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THEFT OF A FIREARM.

10 (2) A person convicted of theft of property or services with a value of:

11 (i) at least \$1,500 but less than \$25,000 is guilty of a felony and:

12 1. is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine
13 not exceeding \$10,000 or both; and

14 2. shall restore the property taken to the owner or pay the
15 owner the value of the property or services;

16 (ii) at least \$25,000 but less than \$100,000 is guilty of a felony and:

17 1. is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine
18 not exceeding \$15,000 or both; and

19 2. shall restore the property taken to the owner or pay the
20 owner the value of the property or services; or

21 (iii) \$100,000 or more is guilty of a felony and:

22 1. is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 20 years or a fine
23 not exceeding \$25,000 or both; and

24 2. shall restore the property taken to the owner or pay the
25 owner the value of the property or services.

26 [(2)] (3) Except as provided in paragraph [(3)] (4) of this subsection, a
27 person convicted of theft of property or services with a value of at least \$100 but less than
28 \$1,500, is guilty of a misdemeanor and:

29 (i) is subject to:

1 1. for a first conviction, imprisonment not exceeding 6
2 months or a fine not exceeding \$500 or both; and

3 2. for a second or subsequent conviction, imprisonment not
4 exceeding 1 year or a fine not exceeding \$500 or both; and

5 (ii) shall restore the property taken to the owner or pay the owner
6 the value of the property or services.

7 [(3)] (4) A person convicted of theft of property or services with a value of
8 less than \$100 is guilty of a misdemeanor and:

9 (i) is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 90 days or a fine not
10 exceeding \$500 or both; and

11 (ii) shall restore the property taken to the owner or pay the owner
12 the value of the property or services.

13 [(4)] (5) Subject to paragraph [(5)] (6) of this subsection, a person who
14 has four or more prior convictions under this subtitle and who is convicted of theft of
15 property or services with a value of less than \$1,500 under paragraph [(2)] (3) of this
16 subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and:

17 (i) is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine not
18 exceeding \$5,000 or both; and

19 (ii) shall restore the property taken to the owner or pay the owner
20 the value of the property or services.

21 [(5)] (6) The court may not impose the penalties under paragraph [(4)]
22 (5) of this subsection unless the State's Attorney serves notice on the defendant or the
23 defendant's counsel before the acceptance of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or at least
24 15 days before trial that:

25 (i) the State will seek the penalties under paragraph [(4)] (5) of this
26 subsection; and

27 (ii) lists the alleged prior convictions.

28 **(H) (1) A PERSON CONVICTED OF THEFT OF A FIREARM, INCLUDING AN**
29 **ANTIQUÉ FIREARM OR A REPLICÁ OF AN ANTIQUÉ FIREARM, IS GUILTY OF A FELONY**
30 **AND:**

31 **(I) 1. FOR A FIRST CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO**
32 **IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN 2 YEARS AND NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS AND A**
33 **FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$2,500; AND**

1 **2. FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION, IS**
 2 **SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN 5 YEARS AND NOT EXCEEDING 15**
 3 **YEARS AND A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000; AND**

4 **(II) SHALL RESTORE THE FIREARM TO THE OWNER OR PAY THE**
 5 **OWNER THE VALUE OF THE FIREARM.**

6 **(2) NOTWITHSTANDING § 14–102 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE COURT MAY**
 7 **NOT IMPOSE LESS THAN THE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE OF:**

8 **(I) FOR A FIRST CONVICTION, 2 YEARS; AND**

9 **(II) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION, 5 YEARS.**

10 **(3) THE COURT MAY NOT SUSPEND ANY PART OF THE MANDATORY**
 11 **MINIMUM SENTENCE OF:**

12 **(I) FOR A FIRST CONVICTION, 2 YEARS; AND**

13 **(II) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION, 5 YEARS.**

14 **(4) A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
 15 **SUBSECTION SHALL BE SEPARATE FROM AND CONSECUTIVE TO A SENTENCE FOR**
 16 **ANY OTHER OFFENSE.**

17 (j) An action or prosecution for a violation of subsection [(g)(2) or (3)] **(G)(3) OR**
 18 **(4)** of this section shall be commenced within 2 years after the commission of the crime.

19 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

20 5–202.

21 (c) (1) A District Court commissioner may not authorize the pretrial release of
 22 a defendant charged with a crime of violence if the defendant has been previously convicted:

23 (i) in this State of a crime of violence;

24 (ii) in any other jurisdiction of a crime that would be a crime of
 25 violence if committed in this State; or

26 (iii) of an offense listed in subsection (f)(1) of this section.

27 (d) (1) A District Court commissioner may not authorize the pretrial release of
 28 a defendant charged with committing one of the following crimes while the defendant was

1 released on bail or personal recognizance for a pending prior charge of committing one of
2 the following crimes:

3 (i) aiding, counseling, or procuring arson in the first degree under §
4 6–102 of the Criminal Law Article;

5 (ii) arson in the second degree or attempting, aiding, counseling, or
6 procuring arson in the second degree under § 6–103 of the Criminal Law Article;

7 (iii) burglary in the first degree under § 6–202 of the Criminal Law
8 Article;

9 (iv) burglary in the second degree under § 6–203 of the Criminal Law
10 Article;

11 (v) burglary in the third degree under § 6–204 of the Criminal Law
12 Article;

13 (vi) causing abuse to a child under § 3–601 or § 3–602 of the Criminal
14 Law Article;

15 (vii) a crime that relates to a destructive device under § 4–503 of the
16 Criminal Law Article;

17 (viii) a crime that relates to a controlled dangerous substance under
18 §§ 5–602 through 5–609 or § 5–612 or § 5–613 of the Criminal Law Article;

19 (ix) manslaughter by vehicle or vessel under § 2–209 of the Criminal
20 Law Article; and

21 (x) a crime of violence.

22 (f) (1) **(I)** A District Court commissioner may not authorize the pretrial
23 release of a defendant charged with [one of the following crimes] **A CRIME LISTED IN**
24 **SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH** if the defendant:

25 **1.** has previously been convicted of a crime of violence or [one
26 of the following crimes:] **A CRIME LISTED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH;**
27 **OR**

28 **2. IS ON PRETRIAL RELEASE FOR A CRIME OF VIOLENCE**
29 **OR A CRIME LISTED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.**

30 **(II) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO THE FOLLOWING CRIMES:**

31 **[(i)] 1.** wearing, carrying, or transporting a handgun under §

- 1 4–203 of the Criminal Law Article;
- 2 [(ii)] 2. use of a handgun or an antique firearm in commission of a
3 crime under § 4–204 of the Criminal Law Article;
- 4 [(iii)] 3. violating prohibitions relating to assault weapons under §
5 4–303 of the Criminal Law Article;
- 6 [(iv)] 4. use of a machine gun in a crime of violence under § 4–404
7 of the Criminal Law Article;
- 8 [(v)] 5. use of a machine gun for an aggressive purpose under §
9 4–405 of the Criminal Law Article;
- 10 [(vi)] 6. use of a weapon as a separate crime under § 5–621 of the
11 Criminal Law Article;
- 12 7. **POSSESSING, USING, OWNING, CARRYING, OR**
13 **TRANSPORTING A FIREARM BY PERSONS WITH PRIOR DRUG CONVICTIONS UNDER §**
14 **5–621 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE;**
- 15 [(vii)] 8. possession of a regulated firearm under § 5–133 of the
16 Public Safety Article;
- 17 9. **SALE, RENTAL, OR TRANSFER OF A REGULATED**
18 **FIREARM UNDER § 5–134 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE;**
- 19 10. **STRAW PURCHASE OF A REGULATED FIREARM UNDER**
20 **§ 5–136 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE;**
- 21 11. **SALE, TRANSFER, OR DISPOSAL OF A STOLEN**
22 **REGULATED FIREARM UNDER § 5–138 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE;**
- 23 [(viii)] 12. transporting a regulated firearm for unlawful sale
24 or trafficking under § 5–140 of the Public Safety Article; [or]
- 25 13. **KNOWING PARTICIPATION IN A STRAW PURCHASE OF**
26 **A REGULATED FIREARM UNDER § 5–141 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE;**
- 27 14. **REMOVAL OR ALTERATION OF THE MANUFACTURER’S**
28 **IDENTIFICATION MARK OR NUMBER ON A FIREARM UNDER § 5–142 OF THE PUBLIC**
29 **SAFETY ARTICLE;**
- 30 [(ix)] 15. possession of a rifle or shotgun by a person with a mental
31 disorder under § 5–205 of the Public Safety Article;

1 **16. POSSESSION OF A RIFLE OR SHOTGUN BY A PERSON**
2 **WITH A PRIOR CONVICTION UNDER § 5–206 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE; OR**

3 **17. A CRIME IN ANY OTHER JURISDICTION THAT WOULD**
4 **BE A CRIME UNDER ITEMS 1 THROUGH 16 OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH IF COMMITTED**
5 **IN THIS STATE.**

6 (2) (i) A judge may authorize the pretrial release of a defendant
7 described in paragraph (1) of this subsection on:

8 1. suitable bail;

9 2. any other conditions that will reasonably ensure that the
10 defendant will not flee or pose a danger to another person or the community; or

11 3. both bail and other conditions described under item 2 of
12 this subparagraph.

13 (ii) When a defendant described in paragraph (1) of this subsection
14 is presented to the court under Maryland Rule 4–216(f), the judge shall order the continued
15 detention of the defendant if the judge determines that neither suitable bail nor any
16 condition or combination of conditions will reasonably ensure that the defendant will not
17 flee or pose a danger to another person or the community before the trial.

18 (3) There is a rebuttable presumption that a defendant described in
19 paragraph (1) of this subsection will flee and pose a danger to another person or the
20 community.

21 **Article – Public Safety**

22 5–133.

23 (b) **(1)** Subject to § 5–133.3 of this subtitle, a person may not possess a
24 regulated firearm if the person:

25 **[(1)] (I)** has been convicted of a disqualifying crime;

26 **[(2)] (II)** has been convicted of a violation classified as a common law
27 crime and received a term of imprisonment of more than 2 years;

28 **[(3)] (III)** is a fugitive from justice;

29 **[(4)] (IV)** is a habitual drunkard;

30 **[(5)] (V)** is addicted to a controlled dangerous substance or is a habitual

1 user;

2 [(6)] (VI) suffers from a mental disorder as defined in § 10–101(i)(2) of the
3 Health – General Article and has a history of violent behavior against the person or
4 another;

5 [(7)] (VII) has been found incompetent to stand trial under § 3–106 of the
6 Criminal Procedure Article;

7 [(8)] (VIII) has been found not criminally responsible under § 3–110 of the
8 Criminal Procedure Article;

9 [(9)] (IX) has been voluntarily admitted for more than 30 consecutive days
10 to a facility as defined in § 10–101 of the Health – General Article;

11 [(10)] (X) has been involuntarily committed to a facility as defined in §
12 10–101 of the Health – General Article;

13 [(11)] (XI) is under the protection of a guardian appointed by a court under
14 § 13–201(c) or § 13–705 of the Estates and Trusts Article, except for cases in which the
15 appointment of a guardian is solely a result of a physical disability;

16 [(12)] (XII) except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, is a
17 respondent against whom:

18 [(i)] 1. a current non ex parte civil protective order has been
19 entered under § 4–506 of the Family Law Article; or

20 [(ii)] 2. an order for protection, as defined in § 4–508.1 of the
21 Family Law Article, has been issued by a court of another state or a Native American tribe
22 and is in effect; or

23 [(13)] (XIII) if under the age of 30 years at the time of possession, has been
24 adjudicated delinquent by a juvenile court for an act that would be a disqualifying crime if
25 committed by an adult.

26 **(2) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION,**
27 **A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SUBSECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON**
28 **CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO:**

29 **1. FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, IMPRISONMENT NOT**
30 **EXCEEDING 5 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 OR BOTH; AND**

31 **2. FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE,**
32 **IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 OR**

1 BOTH.

2 (II) EACH VIOLATION OF THIS SUBSECTION IS A SEPARATE
3 CRIME.

4 (III) A PERSON CONVICTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS NOT
5 PROHIBITED FROM PARTICIPATING IN A DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM UNDER §
6 8-507 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE BECAUSE OF THE LENGTH OF THE
7 SENTENCE.

8 (c) (1) A person may not possess a regulated firearm if the person was
9 previously convicted of:

10 (i) a crime of violence;

11 (ii) a violation of § 5-602, § 5-603, § 5-604, § 5-605, § 5-612, §
12 5-613, § 5-614, § 5-621, [or] § 5-622, § 9-803, § 9-804, OR § 9-805 of the Criminal Law
13 Article; or

14 (iii) an offense under the laws of another state or the United States
15 that would constitute one of the crimes listed in item (i) or (ii) of this paragraph if committed
16 in this State.

17 (2) (i) Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, a person who violates
18 this subsection is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to imprisonment for not less
19 than 5 years and not exceeding 15 years.

20 (ii) The court may not suspend any part of the mandatory minimum
21 sentence of 5 years.

22 (iii) Except as otherwise provided in § 4-305 of the Correctional
23 Services Article, the person is not eligible for parole during the mandatory minimum
24 sentence.

25 (3) At the time of the commission of the offense, if a period of more than 5
26 years has elapsed since the person completed serving the sentence for the most recent
27 conviction under paragraph (1)(i) or (ii) of this subsection, including all imprisonment,
28 mandatory supervision, probation, and parole:

29 (i) the imposition of the mandatory minimum sentence is within the
30 discretion of the court; and

31 (ii) the mandatory minimum sentence may not be imposed unless
32 the State's Attorney notifies the person in writing at least 30 days before trial of the State's
33 intention to seek the mandatory minimum sentence.

1 (4) Each violation of this subsection is a separate crime.

2 (5) A person convicted under this subsection is not prohibited from
3 participating in a drug treatment program under § 8–507 of the Health – General Article
4 because of the length of the sentence.

5 5–134.

6 (b) A dealer or other person may not sell, rent, loan, or transfer a regulated
7 firearm to a purchaser, lessee, borrower, or transferee who the dealer or other person knows
8 or has reasonable cause to believe:

9 (1) is under the age of 21 years, unless the regulated firearm is loaned to a
10 borrower who may possess the regulated firearm under § 5–133(d) of this subtitle;

11 (2) has been convicted of a disqualifying crime;

12 (3) has been convicted of a conspiracy to commit a felony;

13 (4) has been convicted of a violation classified as a common law crime and
14 received a term of imprisonment of more than 2 years;

15 (5) is a fugitive from justice;

16 (6) is a habitual drunkard;

17 (7) is addicted to a controlled dangerous substance or is a habitual user;

18 (8) suffers from a mental disorder as defined in § 10–101(i)(2) of the Health
19 – General Article, and has a history of violent behavior against the purchaser, lessee,
20 borrower, or transferee or another, unless the purchaser, lessee, borrower, or transferee
21 possesses a physician’s certificate that the recipient is capable of possessing a regulated
22 firearm without undue danger to the purchaser, lessee, borrower, or transferee or to
23 another;

24 (9) has been confined for more than 30 consecutive days to a facility as
25 defined in § 10–101 of the Health – General Article, unless the purchaser, lessee, borrower,
26 or transferee possesses a physician’s certificate that the recipient is capable of possessing
27 a regulated firearm without undue danger to the purchaser, lessee, borrower, or transferee
28 or to another;

29 (10) is a respondent against whom a current non ex parte civil protective
30 order has been entered under § 4–506 of the Family Law Article;

31 (11) if under the age of 30 years at the time of the transaction, has been
32 adjudicated delinquent by a juvenile court for an act that would be a disqualifying crime if
33 committed by an adult;

1 (12) is visibly under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

2 (13) is a participant in a straw purchase;

3 (14) subject to subsection (c) of this section for a transaction under this
4 subsection that is made on or after January 1, 2002, has not completed a certified firearms
5 safety training course conducted free of charge by the Police Training and Standards
6 Commission or that meets standards established by the Police Training and Standards
7 Commission under § 3-207 of this article; or

8 (15) intends to use the regulated firearm to:

9 (i) commit a crime; or

10 (ii) cause harm to the purchaser, lessee, transferee, or recipient or
11 another person.

12 **(C) (1) A DEALER OR OTHER PERSON MAY NOT SELL, RENT, LOAN, OR**
13 **TRANSFER A REGULATED FIREARM TO A PURCHASER, LESSEE, BORROWER, OR**
14 **TRANSFEEE IF THE DEALER OR OTHER PERSON HAS ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE THAT**
15 **THE PURCHASER, LESSEE, BORROWER, OR TRANSFEEE:**

16 **(I) WAS PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED OF:**

17 **1. A CRIME OF VIOLENCE;**

18 **2. A VIOLATION OF § 5-602, § 5-603, § 5-604, § 5-605, §**
19 **5-612, § 5-613, § 5-614, § 5-621, § 5-622, § 9-803, § 9-804, OR § 9-805 OF THE**
20 **CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE; OR**

21 **3. AN OFFENSE UNDER THE LAWS OF ANOTHER STATE**
22 **OR THE UNITED STATES THAT WOULD CONSTITUTE ONE OF THE CRIMES LISTED IN**
23 **ITEM 1 OR 2 OF THIS ITEM IF COMMITTED IN THIS STATE; OR**

24 **(II) INTENDS TO USE THE REGULATED FIREARM TO:**

25 **1. COMMIT A CRIME; OR**

26 **2. CAUSE HARM TO THE PURCHASER, LESSEE,**
27 **TRANSFEEE, OR RECIPIENT OR ANOTHER PERSON.**

28 **(2) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SUBSECTION IS GUILTY OF A**
29 **FELONY AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 15**
30 **YEARS.**

1 **(3) EACH VIOLATION OF THIS SUBSECTION IS A SEPARATE CRIME.**

2 **(4) A PERSON CONVICTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS NOT**
3 **PROHIBITED FROM PARTICIPATING IN A DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM UNDER §**
4 **8-507 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE BECAUSE OF THE LENGTH OF THE**
5 **SENTENCE.**

6 **(5) A DEFENDANT CHARGED WITH VIOLATING THIS SUBSECTION**
7 **SHALL ALSO BE CHARGED WITH VIOLATING SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

8 5-138.

9 **(A) A person may not possess, sell, transfer, or otherwise dispose of a stolen**
10 **regulated firearm if the person knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the regulated**
11 **firearm has been stolen.**

12 **(B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND:**

13 **(1) (I) FOR A FIRST CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT**
14 **FOR NOT LESS THAN 2 YEARS AND NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS AND A FINE NOT**
15 **EXCEEDING \$2,500; AND**

16 **(II) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT**
17 **TO IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN 5 YEARS AND NOT EXCEEDING 15 YEARS**
18 **AND A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000; AND**

19 **(2) SHALL RESTORE THE FIREARM TO THE OWNER OR PAY THE**
20 **OWNER THE VALUE OF THE FIREARM.**

21 **(C) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING § 14-102 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE,**
22 **THE COURT MAY NOT IMPOSE LESS THAN THE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE OF:**

23 **(I) FOR A FIRST CONVICTION, 2 YEARS; AND**

24 **(II) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION, 5 YEARS.**

25 **(2) THE COURT MAY NOT SUSPEND ANY PART OF THE MANDATORY**
26 **MINIMUM SENTENCE OF:**

27 **(I) FOR A FIRST CONVICTION, 2 YEARS; AND**

28 **(II) FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION, 5 YEARS.**

1 **(3) A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE SEPARATE**
2 **FROM AND CONSECUTIVE TO A SENTENCE FOR ANY OTHER OFFENSE.**

3 5–141.

4 (a) A dealer or other person may not be a knowing participant in a straw purchase
5 of a regulated firearm to a minor or to a person prohibited by law from possessing a
6 regulated firearm.

7 (b) **(1)** A person who violates this section is guilty of a [misdemeanor] **FELONY**
8 and on conviction is subject to imprisonment **FOR NOT LESS THAN 5 YEARS AND** not
9 exceeding [10] **15** years [or] **AND** a fine not exceeding \$25,000 [or both].

10 **(2) NOTWITHSTANDING § 14–102 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE,**
11 **THE COURT MAY NOT IMPOSE LESS THAN THE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE**
12 **UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

13 **(3) THE COURT MAY NOT SUSPEND ANY PART OF THE MANDATORY**
14 **MINIMUM SENTENCE REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

15 **(4) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN § 4–305 OF THE**
16 **CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE, THE PERSON IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE**
17 **DURING THE MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE.**

18 (c) Each violation of this section is a separate crime.

19 5–142.

20 (a) A person may not obliterate, remove, change, or alter the manufacturer's
21 identification mark or number on a firearm.

22 (b) If on trial for a violation of this section possession of the firearm by the
23 defendant is established, the defendant is presumed to have obliterated, removed, changed,
24 or altered the manufacturer's identification mark or number on the firearm.

25 **(C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR**
26 **AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS OR**
27 **A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 OR BOTH.**

28 5–144.

29 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a dealer or other person may
30 not[:

31 (1)] knowingly participate in the illegal sale, rental, transfer, purchase,

1 possession, or receipt of a regulated firearm in violation of this subtitle[; or

2 (2) knowingly violate § 5-142 of this subtitle].

3 (b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction
4 is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or both.

5 (c) Each violation of this section is a separate crime.

6 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2020.