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**By: Delegates Harkins, Hubbard, and Hutchins**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes and Punishments - Code Grabbing Devices - Prohibited**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from possessing a code grabbing device with the  
4 intent of using it in the commission of a crime; establishing a certain penalty;  
5 defining certain terms; and generally relating to the possession of code grabbing  
6 devices.

7 BY adding to

8 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments  
9 Section 40B to be under the new subheading "Code Grabbing"  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

14 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

15 **CODE GRABBING**

16 40B.

17 (A) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
18 INDICATED.

19 (1) "CODE GRABBING DEVICE" MEANS A DEVICE THAT IS CAPABLE OF  
20 RECEIVING AND RECORDING THE CODED SIGNAL SENT BY THE TRANSMITTER OF  
21 AN ELECTRONIC SECURITY SYSTEM AND PLAYING BACK THE SIGNAL TO DISARM  
22 THE ELECTRONIC SECURITY SYSTEM.

23 (2) "ELECTRONIC SECURITY SYSTEM" INCLUDES:

24 (I) AN ELECTRONIC HOME SECURITY SYSTEM;

25 (II) A MOTOR VEHICLE SECURITY ALARM SYSTEM; AND

26 (III) AN AUTOMATIC GARAGE DOOR OPENER.

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1 (B) A PERSON MAY NOT POSSESS A CODE GRABBING DEVICE WITH THE  
2 INTENT TO USE IT IN THE COMMISSION OF A CRIME.

3 (C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR  
4 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 OR A TERM OF  
5 IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 3 YEARS OR BOTH.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
7 October 1, 1996.