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**By: Delegates Ports, Redmer, Fulton, Hammen, Mohorovic, Dypski, W. Baker, DeCarlo, Leopold, Schade, Rawlings, Klima, Jacobs, McClenahan, Klausmeier, M. Burns, and Stup**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 1997

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Controlled Dangerous Substances - Use of Minors - Life Without Parole**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a mandatory sentence of life without the possibility of  
4 parole for a person convicted of using a minor to commit certain controlled  
5 dangerous substance offenses; making a certain stylistic change; and generally  
6 relating to the penalties for using a minor to commit certain controlled dangerous  
7 substance offenses.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments  
10 Section 286C  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1996 Replacement Volume)

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

15 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

16 286C.

17 (a) A person may not hire, solicit, engage, or use a minor, in any manner, for the  
18 purpose of manufacturing, distributing, or delivering, on behalf of that person, any  
19 controlled dangerous substance in sufficient quantity to reasonably indicate under all the  
20 circumstances an intent to distribute, unless the manufacturing, delivery, or distribution  
21 has a lawful purpose.

22 (b) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a felony and[, upon] ON  
23 conviction[, shall be sentenced to imprisonment for up to 20 years, or fined up to \$20,000,  
24 or both] SHALL BE SENTENCED TO A TERM OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT WITHOUT THE  
25 POSSIBILITY OF PAROLE.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 October 1, 1997.