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By: **Delegate Preis**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 1998

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harford County - Work Release Program - Sex Offenders**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting prisoners convicted of certain sexual offenses from  
4 participating in the Harford County work release program, and generally  
5 relating to the Harford County work release program.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments  
8 Section 645U(b)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

13 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

14 645U.

15 (b) (1) The Harford County government shall cooperate in and provide fiscal  
16 support for a "work release" program pursuant to subsection (a) under which persons  
17 sentenced to imprisonment in the jail, County detention center, or other such similar  
18 institution under the jurisdiction of the County, by a judge, may be granted the  
19 privilege of leaving actual confinement during necessary and reasonable hours for the  
20 purpose of working at gainful private employment. This program may also include,  
21 under appropriate conditions, release for the purpose of seeking such employment.  
22 Whenever the prisoner is not employed, or otherwise participating in his work release  
23 program, he shall be confined in the detention center unless the committing court  
24 shall direct otherwise.

25 (2) A PRISONER IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HARFORD  
26 COUNTY WORK RELEASE PROGRAM IF THE PRISONER HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF  
27 FIRST DEGREE RAPE, SECOND DEGREE RAPE, FIRST DEGREE SEXUAL OFFENSE,  
28 SECOND DEGREE SEXUAL OFFENSE, THIRD DEGREE SEXUAL OFFENSE, FOURTH  
29 DEGREE SEXUAL OFFENSE, OR CHILD ABUSE.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 October 1, 1998.