
By: **Delegates Perry, Bissett, M. Burns, Jacobs, Preis, Conroy, Frank,
Cadden, Turner, Love, and Pitkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes - Assault on Sports Officials**

3 FOR the purpose of allowing the imposition of certain additional criminal penalties on
4 a person convicted of assault on a sports official; requiring a court to consider
5 whether to order a person convicted of assault on a sports official not to attend
6 or participate for a certain period in certain sports events; defining a certain
7 term; and generally relating to assault on sports officials.

8 BY adding to
9 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
10 Section 12A-8
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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 12A-8.

17 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, "SPORTS OFFICIAL" MEANS A PERSON:

18 (I) AT A SPORTS EVENT WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING
19 THE RULES OF THE EVENT; AND

20 (II) WHO IS REGISTERED BY OR A MEMBER OF A LOCAL, STATE,
21 REGIONAL, OR NATIONAL ORGANIZATION WHICH PROVIDES TRAINING OR
22 EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPORTS OFFICIALS.

23 (2) "SPORTS OFFICIAL" INCLUDES AN UMPIRE, REFEREE, OR LINESMAN.

24 (B) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTIES ALLOWED UNDER THIS
25 SUBHEADING, A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF ASSAULT ON A SPORTS OFFICIAL,
26 WHO WAS EITHER ACTING AS A SPORTS OFFICIAL OR IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING OR

1 FOLLOWING A SPORTS EVENT IN WHICH THE SPORTS OFFICIAL PARTICIPATED, IS
2 SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$10,000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE
3 THAN 3 YEARS OR BOTH.

4 (C) IF A PERSON IS CONVICTED OF ASSAULT ON A SPORTS OFFICIAL, THE
5 COURT SHALL CONSIDER WHETHER TO ORDER THE PERSON NOT TO ATTEND OR
6 PARTICIPATE, FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 3 YEARS, IN ANY SPORTS EVENTS
7 WHICH WILL BE OFFICIATED BY A SPORTS OFFICIAL.

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