

SENATE BILL 132

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1999 Regular Session
9lr0186
CF 9lr0231

By: **The President (Administration) and Senators Baker, Green, Forehand,
Stone, Jimeno, Astle, Currie, DeGrange, Frosh, Haines, and Munson**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 1999

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes - Stalking - Increased Penalty**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the penalty for stalking when the victim is a law
4 enforcement officer or a member of a law enforcement officer's family; and
5 generally relating to stalking.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
8 Section 124
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 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**

14 124.

15 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

16 (2) "Course of conduct" means a persistent pattern of conduct, composed
17 of a series of acts over a period of time, that evidences a continuity of purpose.

18 (3) "Stalking" means a malicious course of conduct that includes
19 approaching or pursuing another person with intent to place that person in
20 reasonable fear:

21 (i) Of serious bodily injury or death; or

22 (ii) That a third person likely will suffer serious bodily injury or
23 death.

24 (b) A person may not engage in stalking.

1 (c) (1) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on
2 conviction is subject to a fine of not more than \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more
3 than 5 years or both.

4 (2) IF THE VICTIM IS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR A MEMBER OF A
5 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S FAMILY, A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS
6 GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OR NOT MORE
7 THAN \$10,000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 10 YEARS OR BOTH.

8 (d) A sentence imposed under this section may be imposed separate from and
9 consecutive to or concurrent with a sentence for any other offense based upon the act
10 or acts establishing a violation of this section.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
12 effect October 1, 1999.