

SENATE BILL 568

Unofficial Copy  
E1

1999 Regular Session  
(9r1217)

**ENROLLED BILL**  
-- Judicial Proceedings/Judiciary --

Introduced by ~~Senator Green~~ **Senators Green and Forehand**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this  
\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes - Laser Pointers - Prohibited**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~prohibiting a person from selling, giving, or offering to sell or give~~  
4 ~~a laser pointer to a minor~~; prohibiting the use of laser pointers under certain  
5 circumstances; providing exceptions to the prohibition on the use of laser  
6 pointers; providing a penalty for violating certain provisions; defining a certain  
7 ~~terms~~ term; and generally relating to the use of laser pointers.

8 BY adding to  
9 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments  
10 Section 353 to be under the new subheading "Laser Pointers"  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

1 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

## 2 LASER POINTERS

3 353.

4 (A) ~~(1)~~ IN THIS SECTION ~~THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS~~  
5 ~~INDICATED.~~6 ~~(2)~~ "LASER POINTER" MEANS ANY DEVICE THAT EMITS LIGHT  
7 AMPLIFIED BY THE STIMULATED EMISSION OF RADIATION THAT IS VISIBLE TO THE  
8 HUMAN EYE.9 ~~(B)~~ A PERSON MAY NOT SELL, GIVE, OR OFFER TO SELL OR GIVE A LASER  
10 POINTER TO AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.11 ~~(C)~~ EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, AN  
12 INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT USE A LASER POINTER IN A PUBLIC PLACE OR TO WILLFULLY  
13 ILLUMINATE A MOTOR VEHICLE OR INDIVIDUAL.14 ~~(B)~~ A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY USE A LASER POINTER TO ILLUMINATE  
15 IN A PUBLIC PLACE ANOTHER PERSON IN A MANNER THAT HARASSES OR  
16 ENDANGERS THE OTHER PERSON.17 ~~(D)~~ ~~(C)~~ THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO APPLY TO THE USE OF A  
18 LASER POINTER;19 ~~(1)~~ FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES BY INDIVIDUALS ENGAGED IN AN  
20 ORGANIZED MEETING OR TRAINING CLASS; OR21 ~~(2)~~ DURING THE NORMAL COURSE OF WORK OR TRADE ACTIVITIES.22 ~~(E)~~ ~~(D)~~ A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A  
23 MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000  
24 \$500.25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 1999.