
By: **Delegate Dewberry**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2000

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes - Impersonating a Federal Police Officer**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding a prohibition against impersonating a police officer to
4 make it applicable to impersonating a federal police officer; defining a certain
5 term; and generally relating to impersonation of a police officer.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
8 Section 440
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1999 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**

14 440.

15 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "POLICE FORCE OF THE UNITED STATES" INCLUDES:

16 (1) THE UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION;

17 (2) THE UNITED STATES PARK POLICE;

18 (3) THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION;

19 (4) THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION; AND

20 (5) ANY DIVISION OF A FEDERAL AGENCY THE PRIMARY DUTIES OF
21 WHICH ARE THE INVESTIGATION, APPREHENSION, OR DETENTION OF INDIVIDUALS
22 SUSPECTED OR CONVICTED OF OFFENSES AGAINST THE CRIMINAL LAWS OF THE
23 UNITED STATES.

24 (B) It shall be unlawful for any person falsely to represent himself as being a
25 member of [the] A police force of THE UNITED STATES OR OF this State or another

1 state, of Baltimore City or of any county or municipal corporation of the State or of
2 another state, or to represent himself as a special policeman, or to represent himself
3 as a sheriff, deputy sheriff or constable, with fraudulent design upon person or
4 property, or to have, use, wear or display, without the authority of the Secretary of
5 State Police or the appropriate authority of [the] A police force of THE UNITED
6 STATES OR another state, the commissioner of police of Baltimore City or the chief of
7 police of any county or municipal corporation of this State or of another state, or of a
8 sheriff, deputy sheriff or constable, any uniform, shield, button, ornament, badge,
9 identification, shoulder patch adopted by the Department of State Police to be worn
10 by the members of said Department, insignia or emblem of office, such as are worn by
11 the members of the respective police forces or sheriff or constable, or to have any
12 simulation or imitation of such articles for the purpose of deception. Any person
13 violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon
14 conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine of not more than one hundred dollars
15 (\$100.00) or to imprisonment for not more than six months, or to both such fine and
16 imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2000.