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By: **Delegate Dewberry**  
Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2000  
Assigned to: Judiciary

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: February 24, 2000

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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 MEANS:

- 17 (1) THE UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION;
- 18 (2) THE UNITED STATES PARK POLICE;
- 19 (3) THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION;

1 (4) THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION; ~~AND~~ OR

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

6 (B) It shall be unlawful for any person falsely to represent himself as being a  
7 member of [the] A police force of THE UNITED STATES OR OF this State or another  
8 state, of Baltimore City or of any county or municipal corporation of the State or of  
9 another state, or to represent himself as a special policeman, or to represent himself  
10 as a sheriff, deputy sheriff or constable, with fraudulent design upon person or  
11 property, or to have, use, wear or display, without the authority of the Secretary of  
12 State Police or the appropriate authority of [the] A police force of THE UNITED  
13 STATES OR another state, the commissioner of police of Baltimore City or the chief of  
14 police of any county or municipal corporation of this State or of another state, or of a  
15 sheriff, deputy sheriff or constable, any uniform, shield, button, ornament, badge,  
16 identification, shoulder patch adopted by the Department of State Police to be worn  
17 by the members of said Department, insignia or emblem of office, such as are worn by  
18 the members of the respective police forces or sheriff or constable, or to have any  
19 simulation or imitation of such articles for the purpose of deception. Any person  
20 violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon  
21 conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine of not more than one hundred dollars  
22 (\$100.00) or to imprisonment for not more than six months, or to both such fine and  
23 imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

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