

SENATE BILL 660

Unofficial Copy
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HB 1297/01 - JUD

2002 Regular Session
2lr2574

By: **Senators Kittleman and Schrader**
Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2002
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law - Housing Assistance - Fraud**
3 **Ho. Co. 11-02**

4 FOR the purpose of making it a misdemeanor to knowingly make a misstatement of a
5 material fact for the purpose of influencing a housing agency regarding certain
6 housing assistance; establishing a certain penalty; defining certain terms; and
7 generally relating to housing assistance and fraud.

8 BY adding to
9 Article - Criminal Law
10 Section 8-523
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (As enacted by Chapter ____ (H.B. 11) of the Acts of the General Assembly of
13 2002)

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

16 **Article - Criminal Law**

17 8-523.

18 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
19 INDICATED.

20 (2) "HOUSING AGENCY" MEANS AN AGENCY ESTABLISHED TO
21 ADMINISTER A HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UNDER ARTICLE 44A OR ARTICLE
22 83B OF THE CODE.

23 (3) "HOUSING ASSISTANCE" MEANS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, AS
24 DEFINED IN ARTICLE 83B, § 1-101(E) OF THE CODE, OFFERED FOR THE PURPOSE OF
25 OBTAINING HOUSING BASED ON NEED UNDER A PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY A
26 HOUSING AGENCY AND FINANCED WHOLLY OR PARTIALLY BY FEDERAL, STATE, OR
27 LOCAL FUNDS.

1 (B) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY MAKE A MISSTATEMENT OF A MATERIAL
2 FACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING A HOUSING AGENCY REGARDING:

3 (1) AN APPLICATION FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE; OR

4 (2) AN ACTION AFFECTING HOUSING ASSISTANCE ALREADY PROVIDED.

5 (C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR
6 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR
7 IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 3 YEARS OR BOTH.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2002.