

SENATE BILL 660

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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

Committee Report: Favorable
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 13, 2002

CHAPTER _____

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.

1 (2) "HOUSING AGENCY" MEANS AN AGENCY ESTABLISHED TO
2 ADMINISTER A HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UNDER ARTICLE 44A OR ARTICLE
3 83B OF THE CODE.

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

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

11 (1) AN APPLICATION FOR HOUSING ASSISTANCE; OR

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

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

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