
By: **Delegate Doory (Committee to Revise Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments)**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2003

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law - False Imprisonment - Penalty**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a maximum penalty for the common law crime of
4 false imprisonment; and generally relating to false imprisonment.

5 BY adding to

6 Article - Criminal Law

7 Section 3-504

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2002 Volume)

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

12 **Article - Criminal Law**

13 3-504.

14 A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF FALSE IMPRISONMENT IS GUILTY OF A
15 MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT
16 EXCEEDING 5 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR BOTH.

17 COMMITTEE NOTE (COMMITTEE TO REVISE ARTICLE 27): A 5-year
18 maximum sentence is recommended for the common law crime of false imprisonment
19 because the Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy has classified false
20 imprisonment as a Seriousness Category V offense and other offenses in this category
21 carry a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment, including the offenses of reckless
22 endangerment and stalking.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Committee Note
24 contained in this Act is not law.

25 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2003.