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

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2004

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law - Disrupting or Interfering with a Commercial Athletic**
3 **Contest**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from attempting to disrupt or interfere with
5 a commercial athletic contest by throwing or projecting an object; repealing an
6 element of the offense that limits the location of the disruption or interference to
7 a playing field or seating area; modifying a certain defined term; clarifying
8 certain penalties; and generally relating to disrupting or interfering with a
9 commercial athletic contest.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article - Criminal Law
12 Section 10-203
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2002 Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - Criminal Law**

18 10-203.

19 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

20 (2) "Commercial athletic contest" means an athletic or sporting event
21 [held in a public arena, field, hall, or stadium for admission] to which the general
22 public must pay an admission charge.

23 (3) "Object" means an item that may cause injury to a participant in or
24 observer of the commercial athletic contest.

25 (b) A person may not ATTEMPT TO disrupt or interfere with a commercial
26 athletic contest by throwing or projecting an object [on the playing field or seating
27 area].

1 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on
2 conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding [3 months] 90 DAYS or a fine not
3 exceeding \$250 or both.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2004.