

HOUSE BILL 35

E1

(PRE-FILED)

9lr0811

CF 9lr0538

By: **Delegate Serafini**

Requested: October 20, 2008

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2009

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Buying of Minors – Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from buying or offering to buy a minor for
4 money, property, or anything else of value; establishing that certain penalties
5 apply to a violation of this Act; establishing that a person who violates this Act
6 is subject to a provision of law that authorizes the State to institute a
7 prosecution for the offense at any time and, for purposes of the Maryland
8 Constitution, that deems the person to have committed an offense the
9 punishment for which is confinement in the penitentiary, and who may reserve
10 a point or question for a certain in banc review; and generally relating to the
11 crime of buying a minor.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – Criminal Law

14 Section 3–603

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Criminal Law**

20 3–603.

21 (a) A person may not sell, barter, **BUY**, or trade, or offer to sell, barter, **BUY**,
22 or trade, a minor for money, property, or anything else of value.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on
2 conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine not exceeding
3 \$10,000 or both for each violation.

4 (c) A person who violates this section is subject to § 5-106(b) of the Courts
5 Article.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2009.