

# SENATE BILL 53

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SB 244/08 – JPR

(PRE-FILED)

9lr1017  
CF HB 210

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By: **Senator Haines**

Requested: November 17, 2008

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2009

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 27, 2009

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Use of Firearm in the Commission of a Crime of Violence or a**  
3 **Felony**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the use of certain firearms in the commission of  
5 certain crimes of violence or felonies; defining a certain term; and generally  
6 relating to the use of certain firearms in the commission of certain crimes of  
7 violence or felonies.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Criminal Law  
10 Section 4–204  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2002 Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Criminal Law**

16 4–204.

17 (a) (1) **IN THIS SECTION, “FIREARM” MEANS:**

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**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (I) A WEAPON THAT EXPELS, IS DESIGNED TO EXPEL, OR  
 2 MAY READILY BE CONVERTED TO EXPEL A PROJECTILE BY THE ACTION OF AN  
 3 EXPLOSIVE; OR

4 (II) THE FRAME OR RECEIVER OF SUCH A WEAPON.

5 (2) "FIREARM" INCLUDES AN ANTIQUE FIREARM, HANDGUN,  
 6 RIFLE, SHOTGUN, SHORT-BARRELED RIFLE, SHORT-BARRELED SHOTGUN,  
 7 STARTER GUN, OR ANY OTHER FIREARM, WHETHER LOADED OR UNLOADED.

8 (B) A person may not use [an antique firearm capable of being concealed on  
 9 the person or any handgun] A FIREARM in the commission of a crime of violence, as  
 10 defined in § 5-101 of the Public Safety Article, or any felony, whether the [antique  
 11 firearm or handgun] FIREARM is operable or inoperable at the time of the crime.

12 [(b)] (C) (1) (i) A person who violates this section is guilty of a  
 13 misdemeanor and, in addition to any other penalty imposed for the crime of violence or  
 14 felony, shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not less than 5 years and not exceeding  
 15 20 years.

16 (ii) The court may not impose less than the minimum sentence  
 17 of 5 years and, except as otherwise provided in § 4-305 of the Correctional Services  
 18 Article, the person is not eligible for parole in less than 5 years.

19 (2) For each subsequent violation, the sentence shall be consecutive to  
 20 and not concurrent with any other sentence imposed for the crime of violence or felony.

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

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.