

SENATE BILL 730

D5
HB 618/08 – ENV

9lr0741
CF HB 690

By: **Senator Raskin**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2009

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Human Relations – Discrimination in Housing – Reasonable Accommodations**
3 **for Religious Practices**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain persons from refusing to make certain
5 reasonable accommodations for religious practices when the accommodations
6 may be necessary to afford an individual certain use and enjoyment of a covered
7 multifamily dwelling; providing that certain persons are not required to make
8 certain accommodations for religious practices if the accommodations would
9 pose a certain undue hardship; altering the application of a certain definition;
10 making technical corrections; and generally relating to discrimination in
11 housing.

12 BY repealing
13 Article – State Government
14 Section 20–706(a)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (As enacted by Chapter ____ (H.B. 51) of the Acts of the General Assembly of
17 2009)

18 BY renumbering
19 Article – State Government
20 Section 20–701(b) through (i), 20–706(b) and (c), and 20–707 through 20–710,
21 respectively
22 to be Section 20–701(c) through (j), 20–706(a) and (b), and 20–708 through
23 20–711, respectively
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)
26 (As enacted by Chapter ____ (H.B. 51) of the Acts of the General Assembly of
27 2009)

28 BY adding to

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – State Government

Section 20–701(b) and 20–707

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2004 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

(As enacted by Chapter ____ (H.B. 51) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2009)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 20–706(a) of Article – State Government of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as enacted by Chapter ____ (H.B. 51) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2009) be repealed.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section(s) 20–701(b) through (i), 20–706(b) and (c), and 20–707 through 20–710, respectively, of Article – State Government of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as enacted by Chapter ____ (H.B. 51) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2009) be renumbered to be Section(s) 20–701(c) through (j), 20–706(a) and (b), and 20–708 through 20–711, respectively.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – State Government

20–701.

(B) (1) “COVERED MULTIFAMILY DWELLING” MEANS:

(I) A BUILDING CONSISTING OF FOUR OR MORE UNITS, IF THE BUILDING HAS ONE OR MORE ELEVATORS; OR

(II) A GROUND FLOOR UNIT IN A BUILDING CONSISTING OF FOUR OR MORE UNITS, IF THE BUILDING HAS NO ELEVATOR.

(2) “COVERED MULTIFAMILY DWELLING” INCLUDES AN APARTMENT BUILDING OR CONDOMINIUM.

20–707.

(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN §§ 20–703 AND 20–704 OF THIS SUBTITLE, A PERSON MAY NOT REFUSE TO MAKE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RELIGIOUS PRACTICES IN RULES, POLICIES, PRACTICES, OR SERVICES WHEN THE ACCOMMODATIONS MAY BE NECESSARY TO AFFORD AN INDIVIDUAL EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO USE AND ENJOY A COVERED MULTIFAMILY DWELLING.

1 **(B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE A PERSON TO MAKE**
2 **ACCOMMODATIONS THAT WOULD POSE AN UNDUE HARDSHIP ON THE**
3 **OPERATION OF A COVERED MULTIFAMILY DWELLING.**

4 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2009.