

SENATE BILL 68

E2
SB 375/09 – JPR

11r0637

By: **Senator Middleton**
Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2011
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Reports to Crime Stoppers Organization –**
3 **Inadmissibility and Confidentiality**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing that evidence of a communication or information
5 contained in the communication between an individual reporting alleged
6 criminal activity to a certain Crime Stoppers organization and the individual
7 who accepts the report on behalf of the organization is not admissible in a court
8 proceeding; establishing that a law enforcement agency that receives
9 information concerning alleged criminal activity from a certain Crime Stoppers
10 organization may not disclose the identity of an individual providing
11 information about the criminal activity under a promise of anonymity; defining
12 a certain term; and generally relating to crime reporting.

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Criminal Procedure
15 Section 11–1101 through 11–1103 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 11.
16 Anonymous Crime Reporting”
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

22 **SUBTITLE 11. ANONYMOUS CRIME REPORTING.**

23 **11–1101.**

24 **IN THIS SUBTITLE, “CRIME STOPPERS ORGANIZATION” MEANS A**
25 **PRIVATE, NONPROFIT MARYLAND CORPORATION GOVERNED BY A CIVILIAN**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPERATED ON A LOCAL OR STATEWIDE
2 LEVEL THAT:

3 (1) OFFERS ANONYMITY TO AN INDIVIDUAL PROVIDING
4 INFORMATION TO THE CORPORATION;

5 (2) ACCEPTS AND EXPENDS DONATIONS FOR CASH REWARDS TO
6 INDIVIDUALS WHO REPORT TO THE CORPORATION INFORMATION ABOUT
7 ALLEGED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY THAT THE CORPORATION FORWARDS TO
8 APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES; AND

9 (3) IS ESTABLISHED AS PART OF A COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE
10 BETWEEN THE NEWS MEDIA, THE COMMUNITY, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT
11 OFFICIALS.

12 11-1102.

13 EVIDENCE OF A COMMUNICATION OR INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE
14 COMMUNICATION BETWEEN AN INDIVIDUAL REPORTING ALLEGED CRIMINAL
15 ACTIVITY TO A CRIME STOPPERS ORGANIZATION AND THE INDIVIDUAL WHO
16 ACCEPTS THE REPORT ON BEHALF OF THE CRIME STOPPERS ORGANIZATION IS
17 NOT ADMISSIBLE IN A COURT PROCEEDING.

18 11-1103.

19 A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT RECEIVES INFORMATION
20 CONCERNING ALLEGED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY FROM A CRIME STOPPERS
21 ORGANIZATION MAY NOT DISCLOSE THE IDENTITY OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO
22 PROVIDED TO THE CRIME STOPPERS ORGANIZATION INFORMATION ABOUT THE
23 CRIMINAL ACTIVITY UNDER A PROMISE OF ANONYMITY.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2011.