

SENATE BILL 292

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11r0056

By: **Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee (By Request – Departmental – Higher Education Commission)**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2011

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Institutions of Postsecondary Education – Falsified Transcripts, Diplomas,**
3 **and Grade Reports – Penalties**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from falsely altering, causing or procuring to
5 be falsely altered, or willingly aiding or assisting in falsely altering a transcript,
6 diploma, or grade report of an institution of postsecondary education;
7 prohibiting a person from knowingly buying, selling, or distributing a false,
8 forged, counterfeited, or altered transcript, diploma, or grade report of an
9 institution of postsecondary education; establishing certain penalties; and
10 generally relating to falsified transcripts, diplomas, and grade reports of
11 institutions of postsecondary education.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Education
14 Section 26–301
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Education**

20 26–301.

21 (a) (1) A person may not falsely make, **FALSELY ALTER**, forge, [or]
22 counterfeit, or cause or procure to be falsely made, **FALSELY ALTERED**, forged, or
23 counterfeited, or willingly aid or assist in falsely making, **FALSELY ALTERING**,
24 forging, or counterfeiting a transcript, diploma, or grade report of [a postsecondary
25 educational] **AN institution OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) A person may not **KNOWINGLY BUY, SELL, DISTRIBUTE**, use,
2 offer, or present as genuine a false, forged, counterfeited, or altered transcript,
3 diploma, or grade report of [a postsecondary educational] **AN institution OF**
4 **POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**.

5 (3) A person may not use, offer or present a transcript, diploma, or
6 grade report of [a postsecondary educational] **AN institution OF POSTSECONDARY**
7 **EDUCATION** in a fraudulent manner.

8 (b) A person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a
9 misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or
10 imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or both.

11 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED**, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2011.