

SENATE BILL 650

E4

2lr2679
CF HB 631

By: **Senators Ramirez, Colburn, Forehand, Garagiola, Manno, Montgomery, Robey, and Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2012

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2012

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Impersonating a Police Officer – WMATA Metro Transit**
3 **Police**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from falsely representing that the person is a
5 member of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)
6 Metro Transit Police under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from
7 having, using, wearing, or displaying a certain identification or simulation or
8 imitation of a certain identification of a member of the WMATA Metro Transit
9 Police except under certain circumstances; authorizing a person to have a
10 certain identification with the appropriate authority of the WMATA Metro
11 Transit Police; altering a certain definition; and generally relating to
12 impersonating a member of the WMATA Metro Transit Police.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Public Safety
15 Section 3–502
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2011 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article – Public Safety**

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 3-502.

2 (a) In this section, “police officer” means a member of:

3 (1) a police force of this State or another state;

4 (2) a police force of a county or municipal corporation of this State or
5 another state;

6 (3) the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division;

7 (4) the United States Park Police;

8 **(5) THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT**
9 **AUTHORITY (WMATA) METRO TRANSIT POLICE;**

10 **[(5)] (6)** the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

11 **[(6)] (7)** the Drug Enforcement Administration; or

12 **[(7)] (8)** a division of a federal agency the primary duties of which
13 are the investigation, apprehension, or detention of individuals suspected or convicted
14 of federal crimes.

15 (b) A person may not, with fraudulent design on person or property, falsely
16 represent that the person is a police officer, special police officer, sheriff, deputy
17 sheriff, or constable.

18 (c) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, a person may not
19 have, use, wear, or display a uniform, shield, button, ornament, badge, identification,
20 or shoulder patch adopted by the Department of State Police to be worn by its
21 members, insignia, or emblem of office, as is worn by a police officer, sheriff, deputy
22 sheriff, or constable.

23 (d) A person may not, for the purpose of deception, have a simulation or
24 imitation of an article described in subsection (c) of this section as is worn by a police
25 officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, or constable.

26 (e) A person may have, use, wear, or display an article described in
27 subsection (c) of this section with the appropriate authority of:

28 (1) the Secretary of State Police;

29 (2) a police force of another state;

30 (3) the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City;

1 (4) the chief of police of a county or municipal corporation of this State
2 or another state;

3 (5) a sheriff or deputy sheriff;

4 (6) a constable;

5 (7) the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division;

6 (8) the United States Park Police;

7 (9) THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT
8 AUTHORITY (WMATA) METRO TRANSIT POLICE;

9 [(9)] (10) the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

10 [(10)] (11) the Drug Enforcement Administration; or

11 [(11)] (12) a division of a federal agency the primary duties of which
12 are the investigation, apprehension, or detention of individuals suspected or convicted
13 of federal crimes.

14 (f) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on
15 conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 2 years or a fine not exceeding
16 \$2,000 or both.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2012.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.