

# SENATE BILL 988

E1

3lr3257  
CF HB 1250

---

By: **Senator Muse**

Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2013

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Judicial Proceedings, February 21, 2013

---

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 30, 2013

---

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes – Threat of Mass Violence**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from threatening to commit, or causing to be  
4 committed, a certain crime of violence that would place others at substantial  
5 risk of death or serious physical injury if there are certain probable  
6 consequences of the threat; establishing that this Act applies to a threat made  
7 by oral or written communication or electronic mail; establishing that a person  
8 who violates this Act is guilty of the ~~felony~~ misdemeanor of making a threat of  
9 mass violence; establishing a penalty for a violation of this Act; requiring a  
10 court to order a person convicted under this Act to reimburse certain persons;  
11 providing for the venue for a prosecution under this Act; defining certain terms;  
12 and generally relating to the ~~felony~~ misdemeanor of making a threat of mass  
13 violence.

14 BY adding to

15 Article – Criminal Law

16 Section 3–1001 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 10. Threat of Mass  
17 Violence”

18 Annotated Code of Maryland

19 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

---

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

## Article – Criminal Law

2

## SUBTITLE 10. THREAT OF MASS VIOLENCE.

3

**3-1001.**

4 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE  
5 MEANINGS INDICATED.

6 (2) “DWELLING” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 6-201 OF THIS  
7 ARTICLE.

8 (3) “PUBLIC PLACE” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 10-201 OF  
9 THIS ARTICLE.

10 (4) “STOREHOUSE” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 6-201 OF  
11 THIS ARTICLE.

12 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A THREAT MADE BY ORAL OR WRITTEN  
13 COMMUNICATION OR ELECTRONIC MAIL, AS DEFINED IN § 3-805(A) OF THIS  
14 TITLE.

15 (C) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR CAUSE  
16 TO BE COMMITTED, A CRIME OF VIOLENCE, AS DEFINED IN § 14-101 OF THIS  
17 ARTICLE, THAT WOULD PLACE OTHERS AT SUBSTANTIAL RISK OF DEATH OR  
18 SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY, AS DEFINED IN § 3-201 OF THIS TITLE, IF THE  
19 NATURAL AND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCE OF THE THREAT, REGARDLESS OF  
20 WHETHER THE CONSEQUENCE OCCURS, IS THAT FIVE OR MORE PEOPLE ARE:

21 (1) PLACED IN REASONABLE FEAR THAT THE CRIME WILL BE  
22 COMMITTED; OR

23 (2) EVACUATED FROM A DWELLING, STOREHOUSE, OR PUBLIC  
24 PLACE; OR

25 ~~(3) MOVED TO A DESIGNATED AREA WITHIN A DWELLING,  
26 STOREHOUSE, OR PUBLIC PLACE; OR~~

27 ~~(4) REQUIRED TO REMAIN IN A DESIGNATED SAFE AREA WITHIN A  
28 DWELLING, STOREHOUSE, OR PUBLIC PLACE.~~

29 (D) (1) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF THE  
30 ~~FELONY~~ MISDEMEANOR OF MAKING A THREAT OF MASS VIOLENCE AND ON

1 CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS OR A  
2 FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 OR BOTH.

3 (2) IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTIES PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH  
4 (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A COURT SHALL ORDER A PERSON CONVICTED UNDER  
5 THIS SECTION TO REIMBURSE THE APPROPRIATE UNIT OF FEDERAL, STATE, OR  
6 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR OTHER PERSON FOR EXPENSES AND LOSSES  
7 INCURRED IN RESPONDING TO THE UNLAWFUL THREAT UNLESS THE COURT  
8 STATES ON THE RECORD THE REASONS WHY REIMBURSEMENT WOULD BE  
9 INAPPROPRIATE.

10 (E) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION MAY BE INDICTED,  
11 PROSECUTED, TRIED, AND CONVICTED IN ANY COUNTY WHERE:

12 (1) THE THREAT WAS RECEIVED;

13 (2) THE THREAT WAS MADE; OR

14 (3) THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE THREAT OCCURRED.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
16 October 1, 2013.

Approved:

---

Governor.

---

President of the Senate.

---

Speaker of the House of Delegates.