By: **Senators Brochin, Cassilly, Hough, Muse, and Norman** Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2015 Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

Crimes – Use of a Firearm in the Commission of a Crime – Diminution Credits and Sentencing

- 4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the earning of diminution credits to reduce the term of $\mathbf{5}$ confinement of an inmate committed to the custody of the Commissioner of 6 Correction or sentenced to a term of imprisonment in a local correctional facility who 7 is serving a sentence for the use of certain firearms in the commission of certain 8 crimes; clarifying that a court may not impose less than a certain mandatory 9 minimum sentence for the use of certain firearms in the commission of certain crimes; prohibiting a court from suspending any part of a certain mandatory 1011 minimum sentence; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating 12to the use of a firearm in the commission of a crime.
- 13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 14 Article Correctional Services
- 15 Section 3–702 and 11–502
- 16 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 17 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)
- 18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 19 Article Criminal Law
- 20 Section 4–204
- 21 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 22 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)
- 23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, 24 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 24 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 25

Article – Correctional Services

 $26 \quad 3-702.$

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



1 (a) Subject to subsections (b) [and], (c), AND (D) of this section, § 3–711 of this 2 subtitle, and Title 7, Subtitle 5 of this article, an inmate committed to the custody of the 3 Commissioner is entitled to a diminution of the inmate's term of confinement as provided 4 under this subtitle.

5 (b) An inmate who is serving a sentence for a violation of § 3–303, § 3–304, § 6 3–305, or § 3–306 of the Criminal Law Article involving a victim who is a child under the 7 age of 16 years is not entitled to a diminution of the inmate's term of confinement as 8 provided under this subtitle.

9 (c) An inmate who is serving a sentence for a violation of § 3–307 of the Criminal 10 Law Article involving a victim who is a child under the age of 16 years is not entitled to a 11 diminution of the inmate's term of confinement as provided under this subtitle, if the 12 inmate was previously convicted of a violation of § 3–307 of the Criminal Law Article 13 involving a victim who is a child under the age of 16 years.

14 (D) AN INMATE WHO IS SERVING A SENTENCE FOR A VIOLATION OF § 15 4–204 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE IS NOT ENTITLED TO A DIMINUTION OF THE 16 INMATE'S TERM OF CONFINEMENT AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

17 11-502.

18 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) [and], (c), AND (D) of this section, an 19 inmate who has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment shall be allowed deductions from 20 the inmate's term of confinement as provided under this subtitle for any period of 21 presentence or postsentence confinement in a local correctional facility.

(b) (1) An inmate who is serving a sentence for a violation of § 3–303, § 3–304, § 3–305, or § 3–306 of the Criminal Law Article involving a victim who is a child under the age of 16 years may not be allowed deductions from the inmate's term of confinement as provided under this subtitle for any period of presentence or postsentence confinement in a local correctional facility.

(2) This subsection may not be construed to require an inmate to serve a
longer sentence of confinement than is authorized by the statute under which the inmate
was convicted.

30 (c) (1) An inmate who is serving a sentence for a violation of § 3–307 of the 31 Criminal Law Article involving a victim who is a child under the age of 16 years, who has 32 previously been convicted of violating § 3–307 of the Criminal Law Article involving a 33 victim who is a child under the age of 16 years, may not be allowed deductions from the 34 inmate's term of confinement as provided under this subtitle for any period of presentence 35 or postsentence confinement in a local correctional facility.

1 (2) This subsection may not be construed to require an inmate to serve a 2 longer sentence of confinement than is authorized by the statute under which the inmate 3 was convicted.

4 (D) AN INMATE WHO IS SERVING A SENTENCE FOR A VIOLATION OF § 5 4-204 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE MAY NOT BE ALLOWED DEDUCTIONS FROM 6 THE INMATE'S TERM OF CONFINEMENT AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR 7 ANY PERIOD OF PRESENTENCE OR POSTSENTENCE CONFINEMENT IN A LOCAL 8 CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

9

Article – Criminal Law

 $10 \quad 4-204.$

11 (a) (1) In this section, "firearm" means:

12 (i) a weapon that expels, is designed to expel, or may readily be 13 converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; or

14

(ii) the frame or receiver of such a weapon.

15 (2) "Firearm" includes an antique firearm, handgun, rifle, shotgun, 16 short–barreled rifle, short–barreled shotgun, starter gun, or any other firearm, whether 17 loaded or unloaded.

18 (b) A person may not use a firearm in the commission of a crime of violence, as 19 defined in § 5–101 of the Public Safety Article, or any felony, whether the firearm is 20 operable or inoperable at the time of the crime.

21 (c) (1) (i) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor 22 and, in addition to any other penalty imposed for the crime of violence or felony, shall be 23 sentenced to imprisonment for not less than 5 years and not exceeding 20 years.

(ii) [The] NOTWITHSTANDING § 14–102 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE
 court may not impose less than the MANDATORY minimum sentence of 5 years [and, except
 as otherwise provided in § 4–305 of the Correctional Services Article, the person is not
 eligible for parole in less than 5 years].

28 (III) THE COURT MAY NOT SUSPEND ANY PART OF THE 29 MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCE OF 5 YEARS.

30 (2) For each subsequent violation, the sentence shall be consecutive to and 31 not concurrent with any other sentence imposed for the crime of violence or felony.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to 2 apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or 3 application to any offense committed before the effective date of this Act.

4 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 5 October 1, 2015.