

Chapter 367

(House Bill 917)

AN ACT concerning

**Criminal Law – Hate Crimes – Basis
(2nd Lieutenant Richard Collins, III’s Law)**

FOR the purpose of altering the basis on which a person is prohibited from taking certain actions against a certain person or group; and generally relating to hate crimes.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Criminal Law
Section 10–304
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

Article – Criminal Law

10–304.

[Because of] **MOTIVATED EITHER IN WHOLE OR IN SUBSTANTIAL PART BY** another person’s or group’s race, color, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, gender, disability, or national origin, or because another person or group is homeless, a person may not:

- (1) (i) commit a crime or attempt or threaten to commit a crime against that person or group;
- (ii) deface, damage, or destroy, or attempt or threaten to deface, damage, or destroy the real or personal property of that person or group; or
- (iii) burn or attempt or threaten to burn an object on the real or personal property of that person or group; or
- (2) commit a violation of item (1) of this section that:
 - (i) except as provided in item (ii) of this item, involves a separate crime that is a felony; or
 - (ii) results in the death of a victim.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 8, 2020.