A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Criminal Law – Package Theft
(Defense Against Porch Pirates Act)

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from knowingly or willfully obtaining or exerting control that is unauthorized over a package delivered to another with the intent to deprive the owner of the package; establishing certain penalties for a violation of this Act; and generally relating to theft and package deliveries.

BY adding to

Article – Criminal Law
Section 7–106.1
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

7–106.1.

(A) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY OR WILLFULLY OBTAIN OR EXERT CONTROL THAT IS UNAUTHORIZED OVER A PACKAGE DELIVERED TO ANOTHER WITH THE INTENT TO DEPRIVE THE OWNER OF THE PACKAGE.

(B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING $5,000 OR BOTH.
SELECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.