

HOUSE BILL 500

E2

1lr1221

By: **Delegate Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2021

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Police Procedures – Requiring a Person to Lie Prone**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a police officer to require a person to lie prone on the ground
4 only under certain circumstances; requiring a police officer to consider certain factors
5 in deciding whether to require a person to lie prone on the ground; and generally
6 relating to police procedures.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Criminal Procedure

9 Section 2–109

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

15 **2–109.**

16 (A) A POLICE OFFICER MAY REQUIRE A PERSON TO LIE PRONE ON THE
17 GROUND ONLY WHEN IT IS OBJECTIVELY REASONABLE, NECESSARY, AND
18 PROPORTIONAL TO OBTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH LAWFUL COMMANDS OR TO RESOLVE
19 A CONFLICT.

20 (B) IN DECIDING WHETHER TO REQUIRE A PERSON TO LIE PRONE ON THE
21 GROUND, A POLICE OFFICER MUST CONSIDER ANY KNOWLEDGE OR LACK OF
22 KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE PERSON’S MENTAL OR PHYSICAL CONDITIONS.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 October 1, 2021.