A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Crimes – Firearms – Straw Purchase Participant Penalty

FOR the purpose of altering from a misdemeanor to a felony the crime of knowingly being a participant in a straw purchase of a regulated firearm under certain circumstances; and generally relating to firearms.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Public Safety
Section 5–141
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

Article – Public Safety

5–141.

(a) A dealer or other person may not be a knowing participant in a straw purchase of a regulated firearm to a minor or to a person prohibited by law from possessing a regulated firearm.

(b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a [misdemeanor] FELONY and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine not exceeding $25,000 or both.

(c) Each violation of this section is a separate crime.
SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.