

HOUSE BILL 940

E1
HB 1049/20 – JUD

2lr2028

By: **Delegates Shoemaker, Adams, Arikan, Beitzel, Buckel, Chisholm, M. Fisher, Hartman, Krebs, Mangione, Mautz, McComas, McKay, Parrott, Reilly, Rose, Szeliga, and Thiam**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2022

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from knowingly or willfully obtaining or exerting
5 control that is unauthorized over a package delivered to another with the intent to
6 deprive the owner of the package; and generally relating to theft and package
7 deliveries.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Criminal Law

10 Section 7–106.1

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Criminal Law**

16 **7–106.1.**

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

20 **(B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND**
21 **ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS OR A FINE**
22 **NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR BOTH.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2022.