

Chapter 665

(Senate Bill 99)

AN ACT concerning

Circuit Courts and District Court – Dishonored Checks – Service Charges

FOR the purpose of increasing the amount of the service charge that may be imposed by a circuit court or the District Court for a dishonored check; and generally relating to service charges for dishonored checks.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
 Section 7–208 and 7–301(d)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

7–208.

(A) If any person gives a check to the clerk to pay for any charge or for any other purpose and the check is not honored by the [bank] **FINANCIAL INSTITUTION** on which it is drawn, the clerk may impose a service charge of [\$10] **\$30** against the party drawing the check.

(B) [This] **THE SERVICE** charge **UNDER THIS SECTION** shall be in addition to any other penalty prescribed by law.

7–301.

(d) (1) [When] **IF** a person pays court costs or a fine with a check in any motor vehicle, criminal, or civil case in the District Court, and the check is returned to the court by the financial institution on which it is drawn because of insufficient funds in the account, or because the account has been closed or never existed, [then] the court may impose [additional costs] **A SERVICE CHARGE** of [\$10] **\$30** against the party issuing the check.

(2) [These costs] **THE SERVICE CHARGE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION** shall be in addition to any other penalty [now] prescribed by law.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2023.