

# SENATE BILL 99

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(PRE-FILED)

3lr0328  
CF HB 66

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By: **Senator Beidle**

Requested: August 16, 2022

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2023

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Circuit Courts and District Court – Dishonored Checks – Service Charges**

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

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
8 Section 7–208 and 7–301(d)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

14 7–208.

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

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

21 7–301.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

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

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