

HOUSE BILL 946

E1

4lr2650

By: **Delegate Toles**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2024

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Theft – Mail and Packages**
3 **(Porch Piracy Act of 2024)**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the theft of mail or packages from intended recipients; and
5 generally relating to theft of mail and packages.

6 BY adding to
7 Article – Criminal Law
8 Section 7–106.1
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Criminal Law**

14 **7–106.1.**

15 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “MAIL OR PACKAGE” MEANS AN ITEM DELIVERED OR**
16 **LEFT TO BE COLLECTED BY THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OR A DELIVERY**
17 **SERVICE COMPANY THAT DELIVERS TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY.**

18 **(B) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY OR WILLFULLY AND WITHOUT**
19 **PERMISSION OF THE INTENDED RECIPIENT OF THE MAIL OR PACKAGE OBTAIN OR**
20 **EXERT CONTROL OVER MAIL OR A PACKAGE DELIVERED TO ANOTHER WITH THE**
21 **INTENT TO DEPRIVE THE OWNER OF THE MAIL OR PACKAGE.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND**
2 **ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS.**

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2024.