

# HOUSE BILL 260

E1  
HB 1209/24 – JUD

(PRE-FILED)

5lr1548  
CF SB 1009

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By: ~~Delegate Cardin~~ Delegates Cardin, Simmons, Stinnett, Conaway, and Kaufman

Requested: October 31, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Judiciary

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 27, 2025

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Drug Paraphernalia – Prohibitions and Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the penalties for a person using or possessing with intent to  
4 use, delivering or selling under certain circumstances, or manufacturing or  
5 possessing with intent to deliver or sell under certain circumstances drug  
6 paraphernalia to inject, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce into the human body  
7 a controlled dangerous substance; ~~repealing the prohibition on possessing controlled~~  
8 ~~paraphernalia under certain circumstances~~; removing intent to administer a  
9 controlled dangerous substance from a certain list of intents; altering the penalties  
10 for a person possessing or distributing controlled paraphernalia under circumstances  
11 that reasonably indicate an intention to use the controlled paraphernalia for certain  
12 purposes; and generally relating to drug paraphernalia.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Criminal Law  
15 Section 5–619(c) and (d) and ~~5–620(a), (b)~~, 5–620(b) and (d)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
19 Article – Criminal Law  
20 Section 5–620(a)  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

4 **Article – Criminal Law**

5 5–619.

6 (c) (1) Unless authorized under this title, a person may not use or possess with  
7 intent to use drug paraphernalia to:

8 (i) plant, propagate, cultivate, grow, harvest, manufacture,  
9 compound, convert, produce, process, prepare, pack, repack, store, contain, or conceal a  
10 controlled dangerous substance; or

11 (ii) inject, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce into the human body  
12 a controlled dangerous substance.

13 (2) A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and  
14 on conviction is subject to:

15 (i) for a first violation, a fine not exceeding \$500; and

16 (ii) for each subsequent violation, imprisonment not exceeding  
17 [2 years] **1 YEAR** or a fine not exceeding [\$2,000] **\$1,000** or both.

18 (3) A person who is convicted of violating this subsection for the first time  
19 and who previously has been convicted of violating subsection (d)(4) of this section is subject  
20 to the penalty specified under paragraph (2)(ii) of this subsection.

21 (d) (1) Unless authorized under this title, a person may not deliver or sell, or  
22 manufacture or possess with intent to deliver or sell, drug paraphernalia, knowing, or  
23 under circumstances where one reasonably should know, that the drug paraphernalia will  
24 be used to:

25 (i) plant, propagate, cultivate, grow, harvest, manufacture,  
26 compound, convert, produce, process, prepare, pack, repack, store, contain, or conceal a  
27 controlled dangerous substance; or

28 (ii) inject, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce into the human body  
29 a controlled dangerous substance.

30 (2) A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and  
31 on conviction is subject to:

32 (i) for a first violation, a fine not exceeding \$500; and

1 (ii) for each subsequent violation, imprisonment not exceeding  
2 [2 years] **1 YEAR** or a fine not exceeding [\$2,000] **\$1,000** or both.

3 (3) A person who is convicted of violating this subsection for the first time  
4 and who previously has been convicted of violating paragraph (4) of this subsection is  
5 subject to imprisonment not exceeding 2 years or a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or both.

6 (4) If a person who is at least 18 years old violates paragraph (1) of this  
7 subsection by delivering drug paraphernalia to a minor who is at least 3 years younger than  
8 the person, the person is guilty of a separate misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to  
9 imprisonment not exceeding 8 years or a fine not exceeding \$15,000 or both.

10 5-620.

11 (a) Unless authorized under this title, a person may not:

12 (1) obtain or attempt to obtain controlled paraphernalia by:

13 (i) fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge;

14 (ii) counterfeiting a prescription or a written order;

15 (iii) concealing a material fact or the use of a false name or address;

16 (iv) falsely assuming the title of or representing to be a  
17 manufacturer, distributor, or authorized provider; or

18 (v) making or issuing a false or counterfeit prescription or written  
19 order; or

20 (2) ~~possess or~~ distribute controlled paraphernalia under circumstances  
21 which reasonably indicate an intention to use the controlled paraphernalia for purposes of  
22 illegally administering a controlled dangerous substance.

23 (b) Evidence of circumstances that reasonably indicate an intent to use controlled  
24 paraphernalia to manufacture, [administer,] distribute, or dispense a controlled dangerous  
25 substance unlawfully include the close proximity of the controlled paraphernalia to an  
26 adulterant, diluent, or equipment commonly used to illegally manufacture, [administer,]  
27 distribute, or dispense controlled dangerous substances, including:

28 (1) a scale;

29 (2) a sieve;

30 (3) a strainer;

- 1 (4) a measuring spoon;
- 2 (5) staples;
- 3 (6) a stapler;
- 4 (7) a glassine envelope;
- 5 (8) a gelatin capsule;
- 6 (9) procaine hydrochloride;
- 7 (10) mannitol;
- 8 (11) lactose;
- 9 (12) quinine; and
- 10 (13) a controlled dangerous substance.

11 (d) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction  
 12 is subject to:

13 (1) FOR A FIRST VIOLATION, A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$500; AND

14 (2) FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION, imprisonment not exceeding  
 15 [4 years] 1 YEAR or a fine not exceeding [\$25,000] \$1,000 or both.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
 17 October 1, 2025.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.