

SENATE BILL 463

L3

6lr2799
CF HB 432

By: **Senator Muse**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 25, 2026

Returned to second reading: February 25, 2026

Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: February 25, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Municipalities – Vagrancy – Repeal of Authority to Prohibit**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the authority of a municipality to prohibit vagrancy; and
4 generally relating to vagrancy.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Local Government
7 Section 5–207
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2013 Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Local Government**

13 5–207.

14 (a) A municipality may establish and maintain:

15 (1) a fire department; and

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 (2) a police force.

2 (b) A municipality may:

3 (1) provide for the removal of fire hazards;

4 (2) control the use and handling of dangerous and explosive materials; and

5 (3) prevent the discharge of firearms or other explosive instruments.

6 (c) A municipality may:

7 (1) pay rewards for information relating to crime committed in the
8 municipality;

9 (2) prohibit [vagrancy,] vice, gambling, and houses of prostitution in the
10 municipality;

11 (3) enforce all ordinances relating to disorderly conduct and nuisances
12 equally:

13 (i) within the municipality; and

14 (ii) up to one-half mile outside the municipal limits, except where
15 there is a conflict with the powers of another municipality; and

16 (4) prohibit minors from being on the streets and in public places at certain
17 hours of the night.

18 **(D) THIS SECTION DOES NOT LIMIT A MUNICIPALITY'S AUTHORITY TO**
19 **ENFORCE OR ADOPT AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO DISORDERLY CONDUCT,**
20 **DISTURBING THE PEACE, OR TRESPASS.**

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2026.