

HOUSE BILL 324

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3lr1189

By: **Delegates Afzali, Eckardt, Frank, George, Ivey, McComas, Ready, Schuh, and Schulz**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2013

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 17, 2013

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Elections – Offenses Relating to Voting – Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the ~~penalties for~~ maximum fine that may be imposed for
4 certain offenses relating to voting; and generally relating to the penalties for
5 offenses relating to voting.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Election Law
8 Section 16–201
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Election Law**

14 16–201.

15 (a) A person may not willfully and knowingly:

16 (1) (i) impersonate another person in order to vote or attempt to
17 vote; or

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 (ii) vote or attempt to vote under a false name;

2 (2) vote more than once for a candidate for the same office or for the
3 same ballot question;

4 (3) vote or attempt to vote more than once in the same election, or vote
5 in more than one election district or precinct;

6 (4) vote in an election district or precinct without the legal authority
7 to vote in that election district or precinct;

8 (5) influence or attempt to influence a voter's voting decision through
9 the use of force, threat, menace, intimidation, bribery, reward, or offer of reward;

10 (6) influence or attempt to influence a voter's decision whether to go to
11 the polls to cast a vote through the use of force, fraud, threat, menace, intimidation,
12 bribery, reward, or offer of reward; or

13 (7) engage in conduct that results or has the intent to result in the
14 denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on
15 account of race, color, or disability.

16 (b) Except as provided in § 16-1002 of this title, a person who violates this
17 section is guilty of ~~¶~~a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine of not more
18 than ~~\$2,500~~ **\$10,000** or imprisonment for not more than 5 years or both; ~~A FELONY~~
19 ~~AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$100,000 AND~~
20 ~~IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 5 YEARS.~~

21 (c) A person who violates this section is subject to § 5-106(b) of the Courts
22 Article.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2013.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.