

HOUSE BILL 734

L3
HB 564/23 – JUD

4lr0411

By: **Delegates Mireku–North, Bouchat, Conaway, Embry, Grossman, Roberson,
and Simpson**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2024

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 16, 2024

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 2023 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

16 (2) a police force.

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 (b) A municipality may:
 - 2 (1) provide for the removal of fire hazards;
 - 3 (2) control the use and handling of dangerous and explosive materials; and
 - 4 (3) prevent the discharge of firearms or other explosive instruments.
- 5 (c) A municipality may:
 - 6 (1) pay rewards for information relating to crime committed in the
 - 7 municipality;
 - 8 (2) prohibit [vagrancy,] vice, gambling, and houses of prostitution in the
 - 9 municipality;
 - 10 (3) enforce all ordinances relating to disorderly conduct and nuisances
 - 11 equally:
 - 12 (i) within the municipality; and
 - 13 (ii) up to one-half mile outside the municipal limits, except where
 - 14 there is a conflict with the powers of another municipality; and
 - 15 (4) prohibit minors from being on the streets and in public places at certain
 - 16 hours of the night.

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

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.