

HOUSE BILL 357

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4r1115
CF SB 190

By: **Delegate Afzali**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2014

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of altering the penalties for offenses relating to voting; and generally
4 relating to the penalties for offenses relating to voting.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Election Law
7 Section 16–201
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Election Law**

13 16–201.

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

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

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

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

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

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

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

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

11 (b) Except as provided in § 16–1002 of this title, a person who violates this
12 section is guilty of [a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine of not more
13 than \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than 5 years or both] **A FELONY AND ON
14 CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$10,000 AND
15 IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 5 YEARS.**

16 (c) A person who violates this section is subject to § 5–106(b) of the Courts
17 Article.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 June 1, 2014.