

HOUSE BILL 280

E2
HB 323/18 – JUD

9lr0648
CF SB 341

By: **Delegate Dumais**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2019

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2019

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Charging Procedures and Documents – Citation**

3 FOR the purpose of modifying the circumstances under which a police officer is required to
4 charge by citation; modifying the categories of offenses for which a police officer is
5 authorized to charge by citation; modifying the circumstances under which a police
6 officer may charge a defendant by citation; and generally relating to charging
7 procedures and documents.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Criminal Procedure

10 Section 4–101(a)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2018 Replacement Volume)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Criminal Procedure

15 Section 4–101(c)

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2018 Replacement Volume)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

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 4–101.

2 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

3 (2) (i) “Citation” means a written charging document that a police
4 officer or fire marshal issues to a defendant, alleging the defendant has committed a crime.

5 (ii) “Citation” does not include an indictment, information, or
6 statement of charges.

7 (3) “Fire marshal” means:

8 (i) the State Fire Marshal;

9 (ii) a deputy State fire marshal; or

10 (iii) as designated under § 6–304 of the Public Safety Article:

11 1. an assistant State fire marshal; or

12 2. a special assistant State fire marshal.

13 (4) “Police officer” has the meaning stated in § 2–101 of this article.

14 (c) (1) (i) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, in addition to any
15 other law allowing a crime to be charged by citation, a police officer shall charge by citation
16 for:

17 1. any misdemeanor or local ordinance violation that does
18 not carry a penalty of imprisonment;

19 2. any **OTHER** misdemeanor or local ordinance violation **NOT**
20 **INVOLVING SERIOUS INJURY OR AN IMMEDIATE HEALTH RISK** for which the maximum
21 penalty of imprisonment is 90 days or less, except:

22 A. failure to comply with a peace order under § 3–1508 of the
23 Courts Article;

24 B. failure to comply with a protective order under §
25 4–509 of the Family Law Article;

26 C. violation of a condition of pretrial or posttrial release while
27 charged with a sexual crime against a minor under § 5–213.1 of this article;

28 D. possession of an electronic control device after conviction
29 of a drug felony or crime of violence under § 4–109(b) of the Criminal Law Article;

1 E. violation of an out-of-state domestic violence order under
2 § 4-508.1 of the Family Law Article; or

3 F. abuse or neglect of an animal under § 10-604 of the
4 Criminal Law Article; or

5 3. possession of marijuana under § 5-601 of the Criminal
6 Law Article.

7 (ii) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, in addition to any
8 other law allowing a crime to be charged by citation, a police officer may charge by citation
9 for:

10 1. sale of an alcoholic beverage to an underage drinker or
11 intoxicated person under § 6-304, § 6-307, § 6-308, or § 6-309 of the Alcoholic Beverages
12 Article;

13 2. malicious destruction of property under § 6-301 of the
14 Criminal Law Article, if the amount of damage to the property is less than \$500; [or]

15 3. misdemeanor theft under § 7-104(g)(2) of the Criminal
16 Law Article; OR

17 **4. POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED DANGEROUS**
18 **SUBSTANCE OTHER THAN MARIJUANA UNDER § 5-601 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW**
19 **ARTICLE.**

20 (2) A police officer may charge a defendant by citation only if:

21 (i) the officer is satisfied with the defendant's evidence of identity;

22 (ii) the officer reasonably believes that the defendant will comply
23 with the citation;

24 (iii) the officer reasonably believes that the failure to charge on a
25 statement of charges will not pose a threat to public safety;

26 (iv) the defendant is not subject to arrest for another [criminal
27 charge] **ALLEGED MISDEMEANOR INVOLVING SERIOUS INJURY OR IMMEDIATE**
28 **HEALTH RISK, AN ALLEGED FELONY** arising out of the same incident, **OR AN OPEN**
29 **WARRANT**; and

30 (v) the defendant complies with all lawful orders by the officer.

31 (3) A police officer who has grounds to make a warrantless arrest for an
32 offense that may be charged by citation under this subsection may:

1 (i) issue a citation in lieu of making the arrest; or

2 (ii) make the arrest and subsequently issue a citation in lieu of
3 continued custody.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2019.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.