

HOUSE BILL 130

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2lr0996

By: **Delegates Arora, Conaway, McComas, McDermott, McMillan, Mitchell,
and Washington**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2012

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Laser Safety Act**

3 FOR the purpose of making it a misdemeanor to knowingly and willfully cause or
4 attempt to cause bodily injury by shining, pointing, or focusing the beam of a
5 laser pointer on an individual operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft;
6 exempting certain individuals from this Act under certain circumstances;
7 specifying a penalty; specifying that a sentence imposed under this Act is in
8 addition to a certain other sentence; defining a certain term; and generally
9 relating to the criminal use of a laser pointer.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Criminal Law
12 Section 3–807
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2002 Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Criminal Law**

18 **3–807.**

19 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “LASER POINTER” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §**
20 **3–806 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

21 **(B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE USE OF A LASER POINTER:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(1) BY AN INDIVIDUAL CONDUCTING RESEARCH AND**
2 **DEVELOPMENT OR FLIGHT TESTING FOR AN AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURER OR THE**
3 **FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION; OR**

4 **(2) BY A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT**
5 **OF DEFENSE OR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**
6 **ACTING IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY DURING AN ACTIVITY RELATED TO RESEARCH**
7 **AND DEVELOPMENT, FLIGHT TESTING, OR TRAINING.**

8 **(C) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY CAUSE OR**
9 **ATTEMPT TO CAUSE BODILY INJURY BY SHINING, POINTING, OR FOCUSING THE**
10 **BEAM OF A LASER POINTER ON AN INDIVIDUAL OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE,**
11 **VESSEL, OR AIRCRAFT.**

12 **(D) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A**
13 **MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT**
14 **EXCEEDING 10 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$2,500 OR BOTH.**

15 **(E) A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE IN ADDITION**
16 **TO ANY OTHER SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR A CONVICTION ARISING FROM THE**
17 **SAME FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES.**

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 2012.