

House of Correction all persons sentenced to the Maryland Penitentiary.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 654 and Section 655 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, title "Crimes and Punishments," sub-title "III. Places of Reformation and Punishment," sub-head "The State Board of Prison Control," as enacted by Chapter 556 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1916, be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments so as to read as follows:

654. When any person is convicted, before any Circuit Court of any County, or the Criminal Court of Baltimore, of any crime, committed after this Act takes effect, and punishable by any imprisonment whatsoever or by fine and imprisonment (other than imprisonment in default of fine), said Court may, in its discretion, sentence such person to imprisonment in jail or in the Maryland House of Correction or in the Maryland Penitentiary. The term of such-imprisonment in any of said institutions shall be in the discretion of the Court, unless a maximum term of imprisonment is prescribed by law, in which event the imprisonment imposed shall not exceed the maximum so fixed. Provided, however, that no sentence to the Penitentiary or House of Correction shall be for less than three months; except that any sentence under section 414 of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "Railroads—Obstructing" may be imposed in accordance with the provisions of said section 414. Wherever the State Board of Prison Control shall determine that prison discipline will be furthered by transferring from the Maryland House of Correction to the Maryland Penitentiary or from the Maryland Penitentiary to Maryland House of Correction any person sentenced to either of said institutions for a crime committed after this Act takes effect and shall issue its warrant to the Wardens of said Institution directing such transfer then the said sentence of the Court shall operate to authorize such transfer by virtue hereof. All persons now confined in the Maryland Penitentiary may be transferred to the Maryland House of Correction by the State Board of Prison Control upon the issuance of its warrant as above provided.

It is expressly provided, however, that nothing in this Section shall be construed to add to, alter or change the class of crimes, as they existed before this Act takes effect, with respect to the right of challenge or with respect to the fees in criminal