

FOR the purpose of extending the crime of abduction to include victims of either sex; changing the age of the victim of the crime; changing the penalty for the crime; and clarifying certain language.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments  
Section 1  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1976 Replacement Volume and 1977 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

1.

Any person who shall, for purposes of prostitution, fornication or concubinage, forcibly abduct from HIS OR her home or usual place of abode or from the custody and control of HIS OR her parent or parents or guardian any [female] INDIVIDUAL under the age of [eighteen years] 16, or be accessory thereto, or who shall for said purpose persuade or entice from HIS OR her usual place of abode, or from the custody and control of HIS OR her parent or parents or guardian, any such [female] INDIVIDUAL, or be accessory thereto, or shall knowingly secrete or harbor any such [female] INDIVIDUAL so abducted, persuaded or enticed as aforesaid, against the consent of HIS OR her parent or parents or guardian, or the person or persons who may have the temporary care, custody or control of such [female] INDIVIDUAL, or be accessory thereto, [shall,] upon conviction, [be deemed] IS guilty of a [felony] MISDEMEANOR and shall undergo imprisonment [in the penitentiary], in the discretion of the court, not exceeding the term of eight years[; provided, that nothing]. NOTHING contained in this section shall apply to cases pending nor to violations of the law which have heretofore occurred, but all such cases and violations shall be prosecuted as if the law hereby repealed were still in force.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1978.

Approved July 6, 1978.

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