

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 306B be and it is hereby added to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title "Crimes and Punishments," subtitle "Crimes and Punishments," subheading "Health—Narcotic Drugs," to follow immediately after Section 306A thereof, and to read as follows:

*306B.*

*Notwithstanding the provisions of this subheading, a court in lieu of AFTER CONVICTION MAY SUSPEND THE sentencing OF any narcotic addict found guilty of violating the provisions of this subheading to a penal or correctional institution of this State or one of the several counties, may have him admitted AND COMMIT to any appropriate institution, hospital or any other facility in the State for the treatment of narcotic addicts. The addict shall remain in the institution or hospital until the Director of the facility is satisfied he is no longer addicted to narcotic drugs DETERMINES THAT HE IS MEDICALLY ELIGIBLE TO BE RELEASED IN THE COMMUNITY TO AN AUTHORIZED AFTER CARE PROGRAM. If the released addict reverts to the use of narcotic drugs, this shall constitute a violation of his terms of release, and he shall be returned to the facility, where he was originally admitted or shall serve the remainder of his term in the appropriate penal or correctional institution, at the court's discretion. In any event the length of involuntary stay in the institution or hospital shall not exceed the length of the appropriate sentence for the crime, if the addict had been sentenced to a penal or correctional institution. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE SENTENCING OF ANYONE CONVICTED OF THREE PREVIOUS FELONIES, ANYONE CONVICTED OF THE SALE OF NARCOTICS, EXCEPT WHERE SUCH SALE IS INCIDENTAL TO HIS OWN ADDICTION, AND ANYONE PRESENTLY ON PAROLE, EXCEPT WHEN HIS PAROLE BOARD DECLARES THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION MAY BE APPLIED BY THE COURT.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1966.

Approved April 29, 1966.

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CHAPTER 377

(House Bill 328)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Sections 285 and 289 of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Replacement Volume), title "Health," subtitle "Barbital and Other Hypnotic Drugs;" to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 313B of Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title and subtitle "Crimes and Punishments," subheading "Health—Amphetamines;" and to add new Section 313C to said Article and subtitle of the Code, to follow immediately after Section 313B thereof and to be under the new subheading "Health—Possession of Amphetamines and Barbiturates," to change certain penalties for certain drug violations.