to be used in connection with the preparation of the United States or any of the States for the defense or for war, or for the prosecution of war by the United States, or by any country with which the United States shall then maintain friendly relations, or that such article or thing is one of the number of similar articles or things, some of which are intended so to be used, shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not more than ten (10) years, or a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both: Provided, if such person so acts or so fails to act with the intent to hinder, delay or interfere with the preparation of the United States or of any of the States for defense or for war, or with the prosecution of war, by the United States, or by any country with which the United States shall then maintain friendly relations, the minimum punishment, upon conviction, shall be imprisonment in the penitentiary for not less than one (1) year and the maximum punishment shall be as above provided.

576D. Attempts. Whoever attempts to commit any of the crimes defined by this Act shall, upon conviction, be liable to one-half the punishment prescribed for the completed crime. In addition to the acts which constitute an attempt to commit a crime under the law of this State, the solicitation or incitement of another to commit any of the crimes defined by this Act not followed by the commission of the crime, the collection or assemblage of any materials with the intent that the same are to be used then or at a later time in the commission of such crime, or the entry, with or without permission, of a building, enclosure or other premises of another with the intent to commit any such crime therein or thereon shall constitute an attempt to commit such crime.

576E. Conspirators. If two or more persons conspire to commit any crime defined by this Act, each of such persons is guilty of conspiracy and subject to the same punishment as if he had committed the crime which he conspired to commit, whether or not any act be done in furtherance of the conspiracy. It shall not constitute any defense or ground of suspension of judgment, sentence or punishment on behalf of any person prosecuted under this Section, that any of his fellow conspirators has been acquitted, has not been arrested or convicted, is not amenable to justice or has been pardoned or otherwise discharged before or after conviction.