

the provisions of the foregoing sections herein declared to constitute a felony shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not less than one year nor more than five years, or by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars nor more than five thousand dollars or by both such fine and imprisonment.

284. COMMITMENT IN DEFAULT OF PAYMENT OF FINE. In default of the payment of any fines imposed for violations of any of the provisions of this Article, the offender shall be committed to jail in accordance with the provisions of Section 4 of Article 38 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition); provided that any offender who shall have been found guilty of the violation of any provision of this Article and made to pay a fine or suffer imprisonment therefor, and who shall be convicted at any time thereafter of a second or additional offense under the same provision, may for each second or additional offense be fined in double the amount herein prescribed for the first offense, or may be sentenced to imprisonment for the period prescribed for the first offense.

This section is not to apply to those cases as to which penalties in excess of the above have been specially provided for in this Article.

285. DISPOSITION OF FINES AND OTHER RECEIPTS OF THE DEPARTMENT. (a) All fines, penalties, and forfeitures of bonds, or any kind of authorized security, imposed or collected under any of the provisions of this Article shall be paid over within five days after receipt thereof to the Department with a statement accompanying the same, setting forth, the action or proceedings in which such monies were collected, the name and residence of the defendant, the nature of the offense, and the fine, penalty, forfeiture or sentence, if any imposed.

(b) This section shall not be considered as repealed by the passage hereafter of any law providing for a different disposition of fines and penalties in any county or other municipal division of this State unless the same contains a repeal of this section by express references thereto.

(c) The Department is hereby empowered in the name of the State of Maryland to take all steps necessary to enforce the collection and prompt return of all such fines, penalties and forfeitures of bonds.

(d) Any Justice of the Peace, Committing Magistrate, Trial Magistrate or Police Justice accepting checks, drafts or any other unsecured evidences of debt in payment of fines, or in lieu of bail, shall do so at his own risk, provided that nothing herein shall be taken to prohibit the release of offenders on their own recognizance in proper cases.