

Punishments", sub-title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-heading "Telegraphs and Telephones", said new section to be known as Section 629A, to follow immediately after Section 629 thereof, and to read as follows:

629A. (a) *Any person who shall wilfully refuse to immediately relinquish a party line when informed that such line is needed for an emergency call to a fire department or police department or for medical aid or ambulance service, or any person who shall secure the use of a party line by falsely stating that such line is needed for an emergency call, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.*

(b) *"Party line" as used in this section means a subscriber's line telephone circuit, consisting of two or more main telephone stations connected therewith, each station with a distinctive ring or telephone number. "Emergency" as used in this section means a situation in which property or human life are in jeopardy, and the prompt summoning of aid is essential.*

(c) *Every telephone directory hereafter distributed to the members of the general public in this State or in any portion thereof which lists the calling numbers of telephones of any telephone exchange located in this State shall contain a notice which explains the offense provided for in this section, such notice to be printed in type which is ~~not smaller than any~~ AT LEAST AS LARGE AS other type on the same page and to be preceded by the word "warning" printed in type at least as large as the largest type on the same page; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to those directories distributed solely for business advertising purposes, commonly known as the classified directories, nor to any telephone directory heretofore distributed to the general public. Any person, firm or corporation providing telephone service which distributes or causes to be distributed in this State copies of a telephone directory which is subject to the provisions of this section and which do not contain the notice herein provided for shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.*

(D) ANY PERSON CONVICTED OF A VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00), OR TO IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT EXCEEDING THIRTY (30) DAYS OR TO BOTH SUCH FINE AND IMPRISONMENT, IN THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1957.*

Approved February 13, 1957.

CHAPTER 59

(House Bill 82)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 287 of Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title

EXPLANATION: *Italics indicate new matter added to existing law.*

[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

CAPITALS indicate amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken out of bill.