

ately after Section 557 thereof, providing that it is unlawful under certain circumstances to make sale, offer or advertise for sale, possess or otherwise transfer to another, certain apparatus or device for obtaining telephone or telegraph service without payment of charges or for concealing the existence or place of origin or of destination of certain telephone or telegraph messages, and relating generally to the procedures, requirements and penalties for this prohibition.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Section 557A be and it is hereby added to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Crimes and Punishments", sub-title "Telegraphs and Telephones", to follow immediately after Section 557 thereof, and to read as follows:*

*557A. It is unlawful for any person knowingly to make, sell, offer or advertise for sale, possess, or give or otherwise transfer to another any instrument, apparatus, equipment, or device or plans or instructions for making or assembling any instrument, apparatus, equipment, or device which has been designed, adapted, used, or employed with the intent or for the purpose of (1) obtaining telephone or telegraph service or the transmission of a message, signal, or other communication by telephone or telegraph, or over telephone or telegraph facilities, without the payment of charges therefor; or (2) concealing or assisting another to conceal from any supplier of telephone or telegraph service or from any person charged with the responsibility of enforcing this section, the existence or place of origin or of destination of any message, signal, or other communication by telephone or telegraph, or over telephone or telegraph facilities.*

*Any person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding twelve months, or by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court. Any such instrument, apparatus, equipment, or device, or plans or instructions therefor, may be seized by court order or under a warrant; and, upon a conviction, which has become final, of any person owning the seized materials, or having any ownership interest therein, for a violation of any provision of this section, the instrument, apparatus, equipment, device, or plans or instructions shall be destroyed as contraband by the court in which the person is convicted.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act applies to or affects any case pending on June 1, 1965, and nothing in this Act applies to or affects any happening or circumstances occurring prior to June 1, 1965.*

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1965.*

Approved April 8, 1965.