

555.

Any person who engages and accepts transportation in a public taxicab or other vehicle operated as a common carrier, under any conditions whereby the charge therefor is not paid in advance, and who wilfully refuses to pay the proper charges at the conclusion of such transportation, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be subject to a fine of not more than fifty dollars for each such offense. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the owner or operator of any such common carrier from making a special agreement with the person who engaged and accepted transportation, for the subsequent payment of the charges due. This section shall be effective only in Baltimore, Harford, Frederick, Washington, *Somerset*, and Talbot counties.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1972.

Approved April 26, 1972.

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## CHAPTER 170

(House Bill 1105)

AN ACT to add new Section 557B to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Crimes and Punishments," subtitle "Telegraphs and Telephones," to follow immediately after Section 557A thereof, making it unlawful with a certain intent to publish or cause to be published the number or code of existing, cancelled, revoked, expired, or non-existent telephone credit cards or the numbering or coding system employed in the issuance of telephone credit cards, and providing a penalty thereof.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That new Section 557B be and it is hereby added to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Crimes and Punishments," subtitle "Telegraphs and Telephones," to follow immediately after Section 577A thereof, and to read as follows:

557B.

*Any person who publishes or causes to be published the number or code of an existing, cancelled, revoked, expired, or non-existent telephone credit card, or the numbering or coding system which is employed in the issuance of telephone credit cards, with the intent that it be used or with knowledge or reason to believe that it will MAY be used to FRAUDULENTLY avoid the payment of any lawful toll charge, is guilty of a misdemeanor. Upon conviction thereof, he shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding twelve months, or by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by both imprisonment and fine in the discretion of the court. As used in this section, "publishes" means the communication of information to any one or more persons, either orally, in person, or by telephone, radio, or*