

CHAPTER 377

(Senate Bill 689)

AN ACT concerning

Crimes - Use of Cameras and Visual Surveillance

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from placing or procuring another to place a camera on real property for purposes of conducting deliberate surreptitious observation of persons inside a private residence on the property under certain circumstances; prohibiting certain persons from conducting or procuring another to conduct visual surveillance with a certain intent in certain private places; providing that ownership is not a defense under certain circumstances; providing a certain defense; providing certain penalties; providing for a civil cause of action; providing certain exceptions; providing that this Act does not abrogate or limit certain other remedies; providing for the application of this Act; defining certain terms; and generally relating to use of cameras and visual surveillance.

BY renumbering

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 579C, respectively
to be Section 579, respectively
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments
Section 579A and 579B
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 579C of Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 579.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

579A.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "CAMERA" INCLUDES ANY ELECTRONIC DEVICE THAT CAN BE USED TO OBSERVE SURREPTITIOUSLY A PERSON.

(B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO:

(1) AN ADULT RESIDENT OF A PRIVATE RESIDENCE;