

vetoed House Bill 666 – Criminal Law – Conversion of Leased or Rented Goods.

This bill repeals the requirement that a person be a bona fide resident of the State to qualify for: (1) a prohibition against prosecution for conversion of a leased or rented good or thing of value if the good or thing of value is returned or accounted for within ten days of a written demand for its return, sent via certified mail to the person's last known address; and (2) a ten-day delay in prosecution for conversion of a leased or rented good or thing of value (to provide the person with time to return or account for it) where the person has received such a written demand for return of the good or thing of value.

Senate Bill 460, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 666.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

House Bill No. 666

AN ACT concerning

Criminal Law – Conversion of Leased or Rented Goods

FOR the purpose of repealing a limitation on granting immunity against prosecution for the conversion of a certain good or thing of value only to a bona fide resident of the State who returns the good or thing of value within a certain period of time; ~~altering a certain penalty~~; and generally relating to immunity from prosecution for the conversion of a certain good or thing of value under certain circumstances.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Criminal Law

Section 8-407

Annotated Code of Maryland

(As enacted by Chapter ___ (H.B. 11) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2002)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Criminal Law

8-407.

(a) This section applies to a written lease notwithstanding that the lease contains an option to purchase the good or thing of value if the lease:

- (1) does not exceed a period of 6 months; and
- (2) is not for nominal consideration.