

# HOUSE BILL 788

E1  
HB 143/25 – JUD

6lr3191

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By: **Delegate Conaway**  
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026  
Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Theft – Mail and Packages**  
3 **(Porch Piracy Act of 2026)**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the theft of mail or packages; authorizing the court to order  
5 a person convicted of a certain crime to stay away from certain locations; and  
6 generally relating to theft of mail and packages.

7 BY adding to  
8 Article – Criminal Law  
9 Section 7–106.1  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Criminal Law**

15 **7–106.1.**

16 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “MAIL OR PACKAGE” MEANS AN ITEM DELIVERED OR**  
17 **LEFT TO BE COLLECTED BY THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OR A DELIVERY**  
18 **SERVICE COMPANY THAT DELIVERS TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY.**

19 **(B) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY OR WILLFULLY AND WITHOUT**  
20 **PERMISSION OF THE INTENDED RECIPIENT OF THE MAIL OR PACKAGE OBTAIN OR**  
21 **EXERT CONTROL OVER MAIL OR A PACKAGE DELIVERED TO ANOTHER WITH THE**  
22 **INTENT TO DEPRIVE THE OWNER OF THE MAIL OR PACKAGE.**

23 **(C) (1) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS.

2 (2) AS A CONDITION OF SENTENCING, THE COURT MAY ORDER THE  
3 DEFENDANT TO STAY AWAY FROM:

4 (I) THE LOCATION WHERE THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION  
5 OCCURRED;

6 (II) ALL REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE VICTIM;

7 (III) THE VICTIM'S PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT; AND

8 (IV) ANY LOCATION THAT THE STATE'S ATTORNEY PROVED AT  
9 TRIAL THAT THE DEFENDANT TARGETED IN THE COURSE OF VIOLATING THIS  
10 SECTION.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 October 1, 2026.