

SENATE BILL 582

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6lr2591

By: **Senators Jennings, Salling, and Bailey**
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026
Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 1, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Consumer Protection – Unsolicited Loans**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a ~~creditor~~ person from sending a check or other negotiable
4 instrument to an individual under certain circumstances; establishing that an
5 individual who receives a check or other negotiable instrument is not liable for the
6 amount of the check or negotiable instrument under certain circumstances; and
7 generally relating to extensions of consumer credit.

8 BY adding to
9 Article – Commercial Law
10 Section 14–1330
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2025 Replacement Volume)

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

15 **Article – Commercial Law**

16 **14–1330.**

17 (A) ~~IN THIS SECTION, “CREDITOR” MEANS A PERSON THAT ENGAGES IN~~
18 ~~WHOLE OR IN PART IN THE BUSINESS OF MAKING LOANS OR OTHER EXTENSIONS OF~~
19 ~~CREDIT FOR PERSONAL, FAMILY, OR HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES~~ THIS SECTION DOES

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 NOT APPLY TO A PERSON THAT SENDS A CONVENIENCE CHECK TO AN INDIVIDUAL
 2 FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF ACCESSING AN EXISTING CREDIT LINE OF THE
 3 INDIVIDUAL.

4 (B) A ~~CREDITOR~~ PERSON MAY NOT SEND A CHECK OR OTHER NEGOTIABLE
 5 INSTRUMENT TO AN INDIVIDUAL IF:

6 (1) (I) THE CHECK OR OTHER NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT IS SENT
 7 IN CONNECTION WITH AN OFFER TO EXTEND CREDIT TO THE INDIVIDUAL; AND

8 ~~(2)~~ (II) THE INDIVIDUAL HAS NOT SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION
 9 FOR OR OTHERWISE REQUESTED THE EXTENSION OF CREDIT BEFORE RECEIVING
 10 THE CHECK OR OTHER NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT; OR

11 (2) THE CHECK OR OTHER NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT IS SENT AS
 12 PART OF AN UNSOLICITED OFFER TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY.

13 (C) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SENT A CHECK OR OTHER NEGOTIABLE
 14 INSTRUMENT IN VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION IS NOT LIABLE
 15 FOR THE AMOUNT OF THE CHECK OR OTHER NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT UNLESS THE
 16 INDIVIDUAL ACTUALLY RECEIVES AND NEGOTIATES THE CHECK OR OTHER
 17 NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT.

18 (D) A ~~CREDITOR~~ PERSON THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A
 19 MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$500.

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

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.