

HOUSE BILL 148

D4, E2

01r0312

By: **Delegates Henson, Bagnall, Bartlett, Boyce, Brooks, Charles, Crutchfield, D.M. Davis, Dumais, Ebersole, Ivey, Moon, Patterson, Shetty, Smith, Stewart, Terrasa, Washington, Wells, and Williams**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2020

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law – Nonpayment of Child Support – Sentencing**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a sentence for a conviction under a provision of law
4 prohibiting a parent from willfully failing to provide for the support of his or her
5 minor child to run concurrently with a sentence for any other conviction under the
6 same provision of law imposed against the parent; and generally relating to penalties
7 for the willful failure of a parent to provide support for a minor child.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Family Law

10 Section 10–203

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2019 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 – Family Law**

16 10–203.

17 (a) A parent may not willfully fail to provide for the support of his or her minor
18 child.

19 (b) A parent may not desert his or her minor child.

20 (c) An individual who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on
21 conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$100 or imprisonment not exceeding 3 years or
22 both.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(D) A SENTENCE FOR A CONVICTION UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS**
2 **SECTION IMPOSED AGAINST AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL RUN CONCURRENTLY WITH A**
3 **SENTENCE FOR ANY OTHER CONVICTION UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION**
4 **IMPOSED AGAINST THE INDIVIDUAL.**

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2020.