

# SENATE BILL 211

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CF 2r1427

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By: **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2012

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Courts – Sentence Review – Review Panel**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the number of judges on a criminal sentence review panel;  
4 altering a certain definition to require review panel judges to be of a certain  
5 judicial circuit; clarifying who is entitled to a sentence review by a review panel;  
6 clarifying that a sentence includes any suspended portion for the purposes of a  
7 sentence review; repealing a provision of law authorizing a certain sentencing  
8 judge to sit with a review panel in an advisory capacity; establishing that a  
9 review panel has jurisdiction over a defendant's case once a sentence has been  
10 changed; clarifying who may be heard at a criminal sentence review hearing;  
11 and generally relating to criminal sentence reviews and review panels.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Criminal Procedure  
14 Section 8–101, 8–102, 8–105, and 8–106  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

20 8–101.

21 (a) In this subtitle the following terms have the meanings indicated.

22 (b) “Review panel” means a group of three [or more] circuit court judges OF  
23 THE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN WHICH THE SENTENCING COURT IS LOCATED who

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 conduct a review proceeding in connection with an application for a review of a  
2 sentence under this subtitle.

3 (c) “Sentencing court” means the court in which the sentencing judge  
4 imposed the sentence or required that a sentence that was wholly or partly suspended  
5 be served.

6 (d) “Sentencing judge” means the judge who imposed a sentence or who  
7 required that a sentence that was wholly or partly suspended be served.

8 8–102.

9 (a) [Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a] A person  
10 convicted of a crime **OR FOUND IN VIOLATION OF PROBATION** by a circuit court and  
11 sentenced to serve a sentence that exceeds 2 years in a correctional facility is entitled  
12 to a single sentence review [by a review panel] **OF THE SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR**  
13 **THE CRIMINAL CONVICTION OR THE VIOLATION OF PROBATION, BUT NOT BOTH,**  
14 **IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE.**

15 (b) [A person is not entitled:

16 (1) to a sentence review if the sentence was imposed by more than one  
17 circuit court judge; or

18 (2) to a review of an order requiring a suspended part of a sentence to  
19 be served if:

20 (i) the sentence originally was wholly or partly suspended;

21 (ii) the sentence was reviewed; and

22 (iii) the suspended sentence or suspended part of that sentence  
23 later was required to be served.

24 (c) For purposes of this subtitle, a sentence that exceeds 2 years is a  
25 sentence in which the total period of the sentence [and any unserved time of a prior or  
26 simultaneous sentence], **INCLUDING ANY SUSPENDED PORTION,** exceeds 2 years[,  
27 including:

28 (1) a sentence imposed by a circuit court;

29 (2) a requirement by a circuit court that all or part of a suspended  
30 sentence be served; and

1           (3) a prior or simultaneous sentence, suspended or not suspended,  
2 that has been imposed by a court or other authority of the State or of another  
3 jurisdiction].

4 8–105.

5           (a) **(1)** A review panel consists of three [or more] circuit court judges of  
6 the judicial circuit in which the sentencing court is located.

7                   **(2) THE SENTENCING JUDGE MAY NOT BE A MEMBER OF THE**  
8 **REVIEW PANEL.**

9           (b) [Notwithstanding any Maryland Rule, the sentencing judge may not be a  
10 member of the review panel, but on request of the sentencing judge, the sentencing  
11 judge may sit with the review panel only in an advisory capacity.

12           (c) **(1)** A review panel shall consider each application for review of a  
13 sentence.

14                   (2) A review panel may require the Division of Parole and Probation to  
15 make investigations, reports, and recommendations.

16                   (3) A review panel:

17                           (i) with or without a hearing, may decide that the sentence  
18 under review should remain unchanged; or

19                           (ii) after a hearing, may order a different sentence to be imposed  
20 or served, including:

21                                   1. an increased sentence;

22                                   2. subject to § 8–107(c) of this subtitle, a decreased  
23 sentence;

24                                   3. a suspended sentence to be served wholly or partly; or

25                                   4. a sentence to be suspended with or without probation.

26           (4) In deciding to order a different sentence, the review panel may  
27 impose **ANY LAWFUL** conditions that the review panel considers just [and that could  
28 have been imposed lawfully by the sentencing court when the sentence was imposed].

29           **[(d)] (C)** If the review panel orders a different sentence, the review panel  
30 shall resentence and notify the defendant in accordance with the order of the panel.

1           **(D) (1) IF THE REVIEW PANEL ORDERS A DIFFERENT SENTENCE, THE**  
2 **SENTENCING JUDGE MAY NOT TAKE ANY FURTHER ACTION REGARDING THE**  
3 **CASE OF THE DEFENDANT.**

4           **(2) AFTER RESENTENCING BY A REVIEW PANEL, ANY FURTHER**  
5 **ACTION IN THE CASE, INCLUDING ANY VIOLATION OF PROBATION, SHALL BE**  
6 **TAKEN BY THE REVIEW PANEL MEMBER DESIGNATED BY THE REVIEW PANEL.**

7 8–106.

8           (a) A review panel may increase, modify, or reduce a sentence only after  
9 notice to each party and notice to any victim or victim’s representative as provided  
10 under § 11–104 or § 11–503 of this article.

11           (b) **[Before changing] AT A HEARING FOR A REVIEW OF** a sentence, a  
12 review panel shall allow:

13           (1) **[each party] THE STATE, DEFENDANT, AND DEFENDANT’S**  
14 **COUNSEL** to be heard at the hearing; and

15           (2) the victim or victim’s representative to attend the hearing, as  
16 provided by § 11–102 of this article, and to address the review panel, as provided by §  
17 11–403 of this article.

18           **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**  
19 **October 1, 2012.**