

Chapter 53

(Senate Bill 292)

AN ACT concerning

Institutions of Postsecondary Education – Falsified Transcripts, Diplomas, and Grade Reports – Penalties

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from falsely altering, causing or procuring to be falsely altered, or willingly aiding or assisting in falsely altering a transcript, diploma, or grade report of an institution of postsecondary education; prohibiting a person from knowingly buying, selling, or distributing a false, forged, counterfeited, or altered transcript, diploma, or grade report of an institution of postsecondary education; establishing certain penalties; and generally relating to falsified transcripts, diplomas, and grade reports of institutions of postsecondary education.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section 26–301

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2008 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

26–301.

(a) (1) A person may not falsely make, **FALSELY ALTER**, forge, [or] counterfeit, or cause or procure to be falsely made, **FALSELY ALTERED**, forged, or counterfeited, or willingly aid or assist in falsely making, **FALSELY ALTERING**, forging, or counterfeiting a transcript, diploma, or grade report of [a postsecondary educational] **AN institution OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**.

(2) A person may not **KNOWINGLY BUY, SELL, DISTRIBUTE**, use, offer, or present as genuine a false, forged, counterfeited, or altered transcript, diploma, or grade report of [a postsecondary educational] **AN institution OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**.

(3) A person may not use, offer or present a transcript, diploma, or grade report of [a postsecondary educational] AN institution **OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION** in a fraudulent manner.

(b) A person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or both.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2011.

Approved by the Governor, April 12, 2011.