

SENATE BILL 335

E1

0lr2335

By: **Senators Peters, Miller, Augustine, Carter, Feldman, Guzzone, King, Lee, Smith, and West**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2020

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Hate Crimes – Harassment and Destruction of Property**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the basis on which a person is prohibited from taking certain
4 actions against a certain person or group; and generally relating to hate crimes.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Criminal Law
7 Section 10–304
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Criminal Law**

13 10–304.

14 [Because of] **MOTIVATED EITHER IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY** another person’s or
15 group’s race, color, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, gender, disability, or national
16 origin, or because another person or group is homeless, a person may not:

17 (1) (i) commit a crime or attempt or threaten to commit a crime against
18 that person or group;

19 (ii) deface, damage, or destroy, or attempt or threaten to deface,
20 damage, or destroy the real or personal property of that person or group; or

21 (iii) burn or attempt or threaten to burn an object on the real or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 personal property of that person or group; or

2 (2) commit a violation of item (1) of this section that:

3 (i) except as provided in item (ii) of this item, involves a separate
4 crime that is a felony; or

5 (ii) results in the death of a victim.

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