

Bill No. 39-15
Concerning: Offenses – Purchase of
Prostitution – Prohibited
Revised: 11-9-15 Draft No. 7
Introduced: September 29, 2015
Enacted: November 17, 2015
Executive: November 24, 2015
Effective: February 23, 2016
Sunset Date: None
Ch. 52, Laws of Mont. Co. 2015

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lead Sponsors: Councilmembers Hucker and Rice
Co-sponsor: Councilmembers Navarro, Riemer, Berliner, Elrich, Katz, and Council Vice President
Floreen

AN ACT to:

- (1) prohibit the purchase of prostitution;
- (2) establish enforcement procedures and penalties; and
- (3) generally amend County law relating to offenses.

By adding

Montgomery County Code
Chapter 32, Offenses – Purchase of Prostitution
Section 32-23A

Boldface	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

1 **Sec 1. Sections 32-23A is added as follows:**

2 **32-23A. Purchase of prostitution.**

3 **(a) Findings.**

- 4 (1) Due to its location on the I-95 corridor, low crime rate, and high
5 disposable income, Montgomery County has become a prime
6 location for human trafficking;
7 (2) a significant number of prostitutes working in Montgomery
8 County are victims of human trafficking; and
9 (3) the United States Department of Justice has found strong
10 evidence to support a demand-reduction approach to combatting
11 human trafficking.

12 **(b) Definitions.**

13 In this Section, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

14 Human trafficking means the recruitment, transportation, transfer,
15 harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force
16 or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the
17 abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or
18 receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person
19 having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

20 Prostitution means the performance of a sexual act, sexual contact, or
21 vaginal intercourse for hire.

22 Purchase means to offer or agree to pay money or something of value
23 to another person in return for a service.

24 Sexual act has the meaning stated in Md. Criminal Law Art. §3-301, as
25 amended.

26 Sexual contact has the meaning stated in Md. Criminal Law Art. §3-
27 301, as amended.

28 Vaginal intercourse has the meaning stated in Md. Criminal Law Art.
29 §3-301, as amended.

30 ~~[(b)]~~ (c) **Prohibition.** A person must not purchase prostitution in the
31 County.

32 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) **Enforcement; penalties.**

33 (1) A police officer may issue a civil citation or a criminal citation
34 to a person whom the officer reasonably believes has violated
35 this Section.

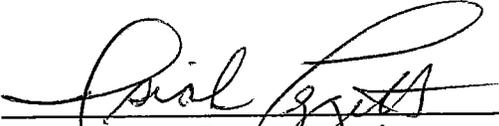
36 (2) A violation of this Section is a Class A violation.

37 *Approved:*

38  11/18/2015

George Leventhal, President, County Council Date

39 *Approved:*

40  11/24/2015

Isiah Leggett, County Executive Date

41 *This is a correct copy of Council action.*

42  11/27/15

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council Date

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