

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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunset Date: None  
Ch. \_\_\_\_\_, Laws of Mont. Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## 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

<b>Boldface</b>	<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:*

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

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

(a) **Findings.**

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

(b) **Definitions.**

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

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

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

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

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

Sexual contact has the meaning stated in Md. Criminal Law Art. §3-301, 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 George Leventhal 11/18/2015  
 George Leventhal, President, County Council Date

39 *Approved:*

40 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Isiah Leggett, County Executive Date

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

42 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council Date

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