

## Chapter 167

**(Senate Bill 229)**

AN ACT concerning

**Criminal Law – Homicide by Motor Vehicle or Vessel While Impaired by  
Controlled Dangerous Substance – Penalties**

FOR the purpose of altering penalties for the crime of homicide by motor vehicle or vessel while impaired by a controlled dangerous substance; and generally relating to homicide.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Criminal Law  
Section 2–506  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

**Article – Criminal Law**

2–506.

(a) A person may not cause the death of another as a result of the person's negligently driving, operating, or controlling a motor vehicle or vessel while the person is impaired by a controlled dangerous substance, as defined in § 5–101 of this article.

(b) A violation of this section is homicide by motor vehicle or vessel while impaired by a controlled dangerous substance.

(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a person who violates this section is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding [3] 5 years or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

(2) (i) A person who violates this section, having previously been convicted under this section, § 2–209, § 2–210, § 2–503, § 2–504, § 2–505, or § 3–211 of this article, or § 21–902 of the Transportation Article, is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding [5] 10 years or a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or both.

(ii) For the purposes of application of subsequent offender penalties under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, a conviction for a crime committed in another state or federal jurisdiction that, if committed in this State would constitute a violation of

this section, § 2–209, § 2–210, § 2–503, § 2–504, § 2–505, or § 3–211 of this article, or § 21–902 of the Transportation Article, shall be considered a violation of this section.

(d) This section does not apply to a person who is entitled to use the controlled dangerous substance under the laws of this State.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.

**Approved by the Governor, April 18, 2017.**