

HOUSE BILL 432

L3
HB 734/24 – JUD

6lr1748
CF SB 463

By: **Delegates Mireku–North, Embry, Roberson, and Woods**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 14, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Municipalities – Vagrancy – Repeal of Authority to Prohibit**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the authority of a municipality to prohibit vagrancy; and
4 generally relating to vagrancy.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

6 Article – Local Government

7 Section 5–207

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2013 Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Local Government**

13 5–207.

14 (a) A municipality may establish and maintain:

15 (1) a fire department; and

16 (2) a police force.

17 (b) A municipality may:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (1) provide for the removal of fire hazards;

2 (2) control the use and handling of dangerous and explosive materials; and

3 (3) prevent the discharge of firearms or other explosive instruments.

4 (c) A municipality may:

5 (1) pay rewards for information relating to crime committed in the
6 municipality;

7 (2) prohibit [vagrancy,] vice, gambling, and houses of prostitution in the
8 municipality;

9 (3) enforce all ordinances relating to disorderly conduct and nuisances
10 equally:

11 (i) within the municipality; and

12 (ii) up to one-half mile outside the municipal limits, except where
13 there is a conflict with the powers of another municipality; and

14 (4) prohibit minors from being on the streets and in public places at certain
15 hours of the night.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.