

# HOUSE BILL 1259

E1, E2  
HB 1308/08 – JUD

0lr2858

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By: **Delegates Sophocleus, Beidle, Dwyer, Kipke, Love, and Schuh**  
Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2010  
Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Definition of “Criminal Gang”**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “criminal gang” to include any  
4 association of a certain number of persons meeting certain criteria; and  
5 generally relating to criminal gangs.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Criminal Law  
8 Section 9–801(c)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2002 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Criminal Law**

14 9–801.

15 (c) “Criminal gang” means a group or [ongoing] AN association of three or  
16 more persons whose members:

17 (1) individually or collectively engage in a pattern of criminal gang  
18 activity;

19 (2) have as one of their primary objectives or activities the commission  
20 of one or more underlying crimes, including acts by juveniles that would be underlying  
21 crimes if committed by adults; and

22 (3) have in common an identifying sign, symbol, name, leader, or  
23 purpose.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2   October 1, 2010.