

HOUSE BILL 256

D4, O3, O2

7lr1494
CF 7lr3425

By: **Delegates Carozza, Atterbeary, Aumann, Dumais, Krebs, McComas, Proctor, Rey, Valentino-Smith, and B. Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 21, 2017

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Adult Protective Services – Investigation – Time Period Increase**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the period of time during which a local department of social
4 services, or in Montgomery County the county department of health and human
5 services, must complete an investigation after receiving a report of suspected abuse,
6 neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation of an alleged vulnerable adult; and generally
7 relating to investigations conducted by local departments under adult protective
8 services programs.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Family Law
11 Section 14–303(a) and (b)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Family Law
16 Section 14–303(d)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

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.



Article – Family Law

14–303.

(a) To protect the welfare of the alleged vulnerable adult the local department shall begin a thorough investigation:

(1) within 5 working days after the receipt of the report of suspected abuse, neglect, self–neglect, or exploitation; or

(2) within 24 hours after the receipt of the report of suspected abuse, neglect, self–neglect, or exploitation if the report indicates that an emergency exists.

(b) The investigation shall include:

(1) a determination of whether:

(i) the individual is a vulnerable adult; and

(ii) there has been abuse, neglect, self–neglect, or exploitation; and

(2) if the individual is determined to be a vulnerable adult and to have suffered abuse, neglect, self–neglect, or exploitation:

(i) a determination of the nature, extent, and cause of the abuse, neglect, self–neglect, or exploitation;

(ii) a determination of the identity of the person or persons responsible for the abuse, neglect, self–neglect, or exploitation;

(iii) an evaluation of the home environment; and

(iv) a determination of any other pertinent facts.

(d) An investigation under this section shall be completed within:

(1) **[30] 60** days; or

(2) 10 days if the report indicates that an emergency exists.

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