D4, E1 7lr0464 CF 7lr2256

By: Delegates Sanchez, Barron, and Sydnor

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary

AN ACT concerning

A BILL ENTITLED

2	Child Abuse and Neglect - Failure to Report - Penalty

- FOR the purpose of making it a misdemeanor subject to certain penalties for a health practitioner, police officer, educator, or human service worker to fail to report child abuse or neglect under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the reporting of child abuse and neglect.
- 7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 8 Article Family Law
- 9 Section 5–704
- 10 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 11 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)
- 12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 Article – Family Law

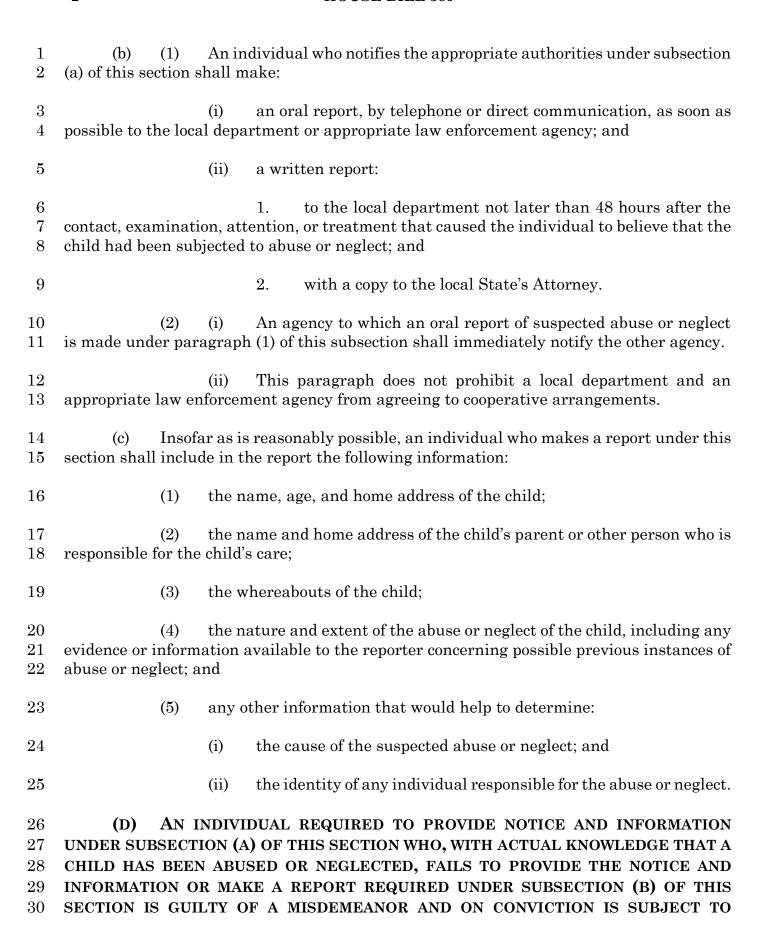
 $15 \quad 5-704.$

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- 16 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including any law on privileged communications, each health practitioner, police officer, educator, or human service worker, acting in a professional capacity in this State:
- 19 (1) who has reason to believe that a child has been subjected to abuse or 20 neglect, shall notify the local department or the appropriate law enforcement agency; and
- 21 (2) if acting as a staff member of a hospital, public health agency, child care 22 institution, juvenile detention center, school, or similar institution, shall immediately 23 notify and give all information required by this section to the head of the institution or the 24 designee of the head.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.





- 1 IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 6 MONTHS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$2,500 OR
- 2 **BOTH.**
- 3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 4 October 1, 2017.