

HOUSE BILL 1308

E1, E2

5lr2496
CF 5lr3566

By: **Delegates Alston, Acevero, Kaufman, Martinez, Miller, Pasteur, Roberson,
Sample–Hughes, Tomlinson, and Woods**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crime of Violence – Medical Facilities and Places of Worship – Penalty**
3 **(Sacred Places Safety Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from committing a crime of violence while the
5 person is in a medical facility or a place of worship; and generally relating to crimes
6 of violence.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Criminal Law

9 Section 14–105

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Criminal Law**

15 **14–105.**

16 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
17 **INDICATED.**

18 **(2) “MEDICAL FACILITY” INCLUDES:**

19 **(I) A FACILITY AS DEFINED IN § 10–101 OF THE**
20 **HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE;**

21 **(II) A HEALTH CARE FACILITY AS DEFINED IN § 19–114 OF THE**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; AND

(III) AN AGENCY, A CLINIC, OR AN OFFICE OPERATED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER OR UNDER THE REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

(3) “PLACE OF WORSHIP” MEANS A NONRESIDENTIAL LOCATION WHERE MORE THAN ONE INDIVIDUAL ASSEMBLES FOR PURPOSES OF RELIGIOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCE.

(B) A PERSON MAY NOT COMMIT A CRIME OF VIOLENCE, AS DEFINED IN § 14–101 OF THIS TITLE, IN A MEDICAL FACILITY OR A PLACE OF WORSHIP.

(C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND, IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTY IMPOSED FOR THE UNDERLYING CRIME OF VIOLENCE, ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS.

(D) A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE IMPOSED SEPARATE FROM AND CONSECUTIVE TO OR CONCURRENT WITH A SENTENCE FOR ANY CRIME BASED ON THE ACT ESTABLISHING THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2025.