

HOUSE BILL 539

E1
HB 18/12 – JUD

3lr2146

By: **Delegate Howard**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2013

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes – Requirement to Report Death or Disappearance of Minor –**
3 **Penalties**
4 **(Caylee’s Law)**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring a parent or other person who has permanent care or
6 custody or responsibility for the supervision of a minor to notify, within certain
7 periods of time depending on the age of the minor, the appropriate law
8 enforcement agency that the minor is missing; requiring a parent or other
9 person who has permanent care or custody or responsibility for the supervision
10 of a minor to notify, within a certain period of time, the appropriate law
11 enforcement agency or medical authority that the minor has died; establishing
12 certain penalties; and generally relating to a requirement to report the death or
13 disappearance of a minor.

14 BY adding to
15 Article – Criminal Law
16 Section 3–608 through 3–610
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Criminal Law**

22 **3–608.**

23 **(A) A PARENT OR OTHER PERSON WHO HAS PERMANENT CARE OR**
24 **CUSTODY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUPERVISION OF A MINOR UNDER THE**
25 **AGE OF 9 YEARS SHALL NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 THAT THE MINOR IS MISSING WITHIN 3 HOURS OF BECOMING AWARE THAT THE
2 MINOR IS MISSING.

3 (B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY
4 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS
5 OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 OR BOTH.

6 **3-609.**

7 (A) A PARENT OR OTHER PERSON WHO HAS PERMANENT CARE OR
8 CUSTODY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUPERVISION OF A MINOR OVER THE
9 AGE OF 8 YEARS SHALL NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
10 THAT THE MINOR IS MISSING WITHIN 12 HOURS OF BECOMING AWARE THAT THE
11 MINOR IS MISSING.

12 (B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY
13 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS
14 OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR BOTH.

15 **3-610.**

16 (A) A PARENT OR OTHER PERSON WHO HAS PERMANENT CARE OR
17 CUSTODY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUPERVISION OF A MINOR SHALL
18 REPORT THE DEATH OF THE MINOR TO THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT
19 AGENCY OR MEDICAL AUTHORITY WITHIN 1 HOUR OF BECOMING AWARE OF THE
20 DEATH.

21 (B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY
22 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS
23 OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 OR BOTH.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2013.