

HOUSE BILL 185

E1
HB 478/13 – JUD

4lr1606

By: **Delegates Simmons and Kramer**
Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2014
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Crimes – Committing a Crime of Violence in the Presence of a Minor – Penalties

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from committing a certain crime of violence when the person knows or reasonably should know that a minor of a certain age is present in a residence; establishing certain circumstances under which a minor is present; establishing a certain enhanced penalty for a violation of this Act; authorizing a court to impose an enhanced penalty if the State's Attorney provides certain notice to the defendant in a certain manner and if certain elements have been proven beyond a reasonable doubt; authorizing the State to include a certain notice in a certain indictment or information; providing that a penalty imposed under this Act shall be separate from and consecutive to a sentence for any crime based on the act establishing the violation of this Act; and generally relating to the commission of crimes of violence in the presence of minors.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 9–106(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Criminal Law
Section 3–601.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Public Safety
Section 5–101(a) and (c)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Annotated Code of Maryland
(2011 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

9–106.

(a) The spouse of a person on trial for a crime may not be compelled to testify as an adverse witness unless the charge involves:

(1) The abuse of a child under 18; or

(2) Assault in any degree in which the spouse is a victim if:

(i) The person on trial was previously charged with assault in any degree or assault and battery of the spouse;

(ii) The spouse was sworn to testify at the previous trial; and

(iii) The spouse refused to testify at the previous trial on the basis of the provisions of this section.

Article – Criminal Law

3–601.1.

(A) (1) A PERSON MAY NOT COMMIT A CRIME OF VIOLENCE AS DEFINED IN § 5–101 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE WHEN THE PERSON KNOWS OR REASONABLY SHOULD KNOW THAT A MINOR WHO IS AT LEAST 2 YEARS OLD IS PRESENT IN A RESIDENCE.

(2) FOR THE PURPOSES OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A MINOR IS PRESENT IF THE MINOR IS WITHIN SIGHT OR HEARING OF THE CRIME OF VIOLENCE.

(B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR THE CRIME OF VIOLENCE.

(C) A COURT MAY IMPOSE AN ENHANCED PENALTY UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION IF:

(1) AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE TRIAL IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, AND 15 DAYS BEFORE TRIAL IN THE DISTRICT COURT, THE STATE’S ATTORNEY NOTIFIES THE DEFENDANT IN WRITING OF THE STATE’S INTENTION TO SEEK THE ENHANCED PENALTY; AND

(2) THE ELEMENTS OF SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION HAVE BEEN PROVEN BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT.

(D) IF THE DEFENDANT IS CHARGED BY INDICTMENT OR CRIMINAL INFORMATION, THE STATE MAY INCLUDE THE NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (C)(1) OF THIS SECTION IN THE INDICTMENT OR INFORMATION.

(E) AN ENHANCED PENALTY IMPOSED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE SEPARATE FROM AND CONSECUTIVE TO A SENTENCE FOR ANY CRIME BASED ON THE ACT ESTABLISHING THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

Article – Public Safety

5–101.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (c) “Crime of violence” means:
 - (1) abduction;
 - (2) arson in the first degree;
 - (3) assault in the first or second degree;
 - (4) burglary in the first, second, or third degree;
 - (5) carjacking and armed carjacking;
 - (6) escape in the first degree;
 - (7) kidnapping;
 - (8) voluntary manslaughter;
 - (9) maiming as previously proscribed under former Article 27, § 386 of the Code;
 - (10) mayhem as previously proscribed under former Article 27, § 384 of the Code;

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- (11) murder in the first or second degree;
- (12) rape in the first or second degree;
- (13) robbery;
- (14) robbery with a dangerous weapon;
- (15) sexual offense in the first, second, or third degree;
- (16) an attempt to commit any of the crimes listed in items (1) through (15) of this subsection; or
- (17) assault with intent to commit any of the crimes listed in items (1) through (15) of this subsection or a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than 1 year.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.