HOUSE BILL 375

E1 4lr0964
HB 1260/13 – JUD CF SB 177

By: **Delegate Glenn**
Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2014
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Crimes – Elder Abuse or Neglect – Increased Penalties

FOR the purpose of altering the penalties for the crime of causing abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult in the first or second degree; and generally relating to elder abuse or neglect.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Criminal Law
Section 3–604(b) and 3–605(b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Criminal Law
Section 3–604(c) and 3–605(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 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 – Criminal Law

3–604.

(b) (1) A caregiver, a parent, or other person who has permanent or temporary care or responsibility for the supervision of a vulnerable adult may not cause abuse or neglect of the vulnerable adult that:

(i) results in the death of the vulnerable adult;

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
[Brackets**]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.

(ii) causes serious physical injury to the vulnerable adult; or

(iii) involves sexual abuse of the vulnerable adult.

(2) A household member or family member may not cause abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult that:

(i) results in the death of the vulnerable adult;

(ii) causes serious physical injury to the vulnerable adult; or

(iii) involves sexual abuse of the vulnerable adult.

(c) A person who violates this section is guilty of the felony of abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult in the first degree and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding **[**10**] 20** years or a fine not exceeding **[**$10,000**] $20,000** or both.

3–605.

(b) (1) A caregiver, a parent, or other person who has permanent or temporary care or responsibility for the supervision of a vulnerable adult may not cause abuse or neglect of the vulnerable adult.

(2) A household member or family member may not cause abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult.

(c) A person who violates this section is guilty of the misdemeanor of abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult in the second degree and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding **[**5**] 10** years or a fine not exceeding **[**$5,000**] $10,000** or both.

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