

# SENATE BILL 477

D4  
SB 41/14 – JPR

5lr2253  
CF 5lr0874

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By: **Senators Ramirez, Benson, Hough, Lee, and Raskin**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Domestic Violence – Persons Eligible for Relief**

3 FOR the purpose of altering, for purposes of certain provisions of law relating to domestic  
4 violence, the definition of “person eligible for relief” to include an individual who has  
5 had a sexual relationship with a certain respondent; and generally relating to  
6 domestic violence.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Family Law  
9 Section 4–501(m)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 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 4–501.

16 (m) “Person eligible for relief” includes:

17 (1) the current or former spouse of the respondent;

18 (2) a cohabitant of the respondent;

19 (3) a person related to the respondent by blood, marriage, or adoption;

20 (4) a parent, stepparent, child, or stepchild of the respondent or the person  
21 eligible for relief who resides or resided with the respondent or person eligible for relief for  
22 at least 90 days within 1 year before the filing of the petition;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (5) a vulnerable adult; [or]

2 (6) an individual who has a child in common with the respondent; OR

3 (7) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS HAD A CONSENSUAL OR  
4 NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE RESPONDENT.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
6 October 1, 2015.