

HOUSE BILL 167

D4

6lr0695

By: **Delegates Valentino-Smith, Atterbeary, Cluster, Moon, Morales, Sanchez, Smith, Sydnor, and B. Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2016

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “person eligible for relief” for purposes of
4 certain provisions relating to domestic violence; and generally relating to domestic
5 violence.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

7 Article – Family Law

8 Section 4–501(m)

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

12 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article – Family Law**

14 4–501.

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

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

17 (2) a cohabitant of the respondent;

18 (3) a person related to the respondent **OR THE PERSON ELIGIBLE FOR**
19 **RELIEF** by blood, marriage, or adoption;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

4 (5)] a vulnerable adult;

5 [(6)] (5) an individual who has a child in common with the respondent; or

6 [(7)] (6) an individual who has had a sexual relationship with the
7 respondent within 1 year before the filing of the petition.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
9 October 1, 2016.