HOUSE BILL 1272

D4 7lr0787

By: Prince George's County Delegation

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1	AN ACT concerning
2	Prince George's County - Domestic Violence - Definition of Abuse
3	PG 314–17
4 5 6 7	FOR the purpose of altering, in Prince George's County, the definition of "abuse" to include harassment and malicious destruction of property for purposes of certain provisions of law relating to domestic violence; defining certain terms; and generally relating to domestic violence in Prince George's County.
8 9 10 11	BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Article – Family Law Section 4–501(a) Annotated Code of Maryland (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)
13 14 15 16	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Family Law Section 4–501(b)(1) Annotated Code of Maryland (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)
18 19 20 21 22	BY adding to Article – Family Law Section 4–501.1 Annotated Code of Maryland (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)
23 24	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

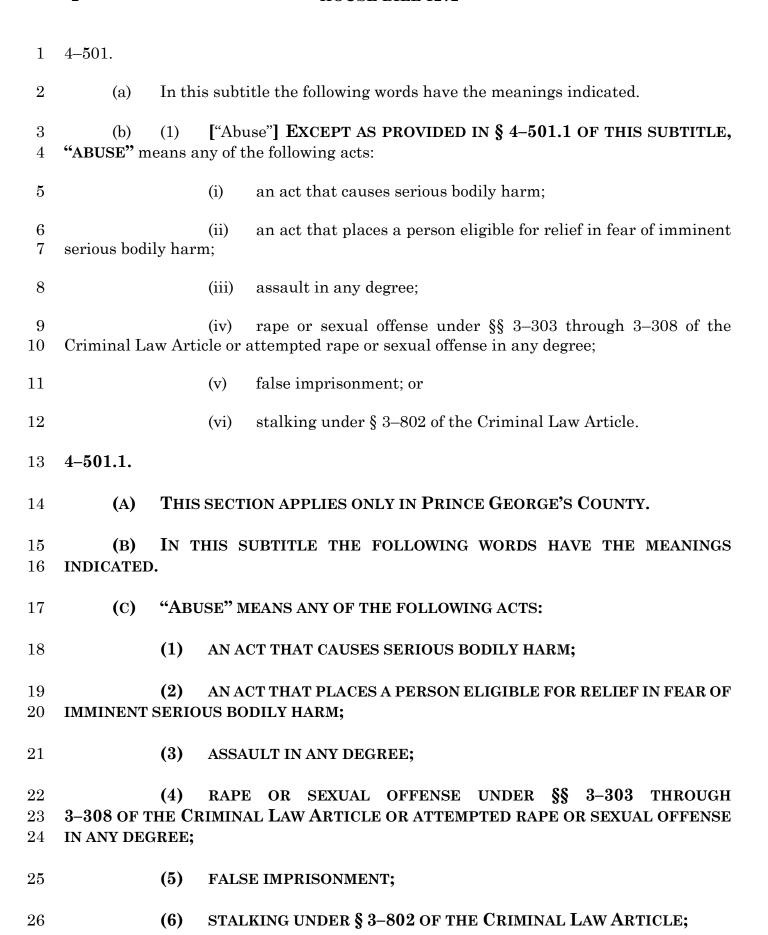
Article - Family Law

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1	(7) HARASSMENT; OR
2	(8) MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.
3	(D) "HARASSMENT" MEANS AN INTENTIONAL OR KNOWING COURSE OF
4	CONDUCT OR A SERIES OF ACTS, INCLUDING WRITTEN OR ELECTRONIC
5	COMMUNICATION OR TRANSMISSION, THAT CONTINUES AFTER A REASONABLE
6	WARNING OR REQUEST TO STOP BY OR ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON AND THAT:
7	(1) SERIOUSLY ALARMS, TORMENTS, TERRORIZES, OR DISTURBS THE
8	OTHER PERSON;
9	(2) HAS NO LEGAL PURPOSE; AND
10	(3) WOULD CAUSE A REASONABLE PERSON TO SUFFER MENTAL OR
11	EMOTIONAL DISTRESS.
12	(E) "MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY" MEANS AN ACT THAT
13	WILLFULLY DESTROYS, INJURES, OR DEFACES THE REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY
14	OF ANOTHER PERSON, INCLUDING A PERMANENT DRAWING, PAINTING, MARKING,
15	OR INSCRIPTION, EVEN IF THE PROPERTY IS HELD AS TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY,
16	AND THAT:
17	(1) SERIOUSLY ALARMS, TORMENTS, TERRORIZES, OR DISTURBS THE
18	OTHER PERSON;
19	(2) HAS NO LEGAL PURPOSE; AND
20 21	(3) WOULD CAUSE A REASONABLE PERSON TO SUFFER MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL DISTRESS.
22	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

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October 1, 2017.