

# SENATE BILL 945

D4, O4

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CF HB 697

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By: **Senators Smith, Hough, Muse, Ramirez, and Ready**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2017

Assigned to: Finance and Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Abuse and Neglect – Statewide Reporting – 2–1–1 Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the duties of 2–1–1 Maryland to include serving as a  
4 statewide hotline for the reporting of child abuse and neglect; requiring that 2–1–1  
5 Maryland accept reports of child abuse and neglect 7 days a week, 24 hours a day;  
6 requiring the Health and Human Services Board in consultation with the State  
7 Department of Human Resources to develop policies for the proper training of  
8 2–1–1 Maryland service provider staff in responding to reports of child abuse and  
9 neglect; requiring 2–1–1 Maryland to notify a local department of social services or  
10 local law enforcement agency of a report of child abuse or neglect; requiring a local  
11 department or law enforcement agency to take certain action on receipt of a report  
12 of child abuse or neglect from 2–1–1 Maryland; requiring the State Department of  
13 Human Resources to post certain information on its Web site; requiring each local  
14 education agency to post certain information on its Web site; requiring each local  
15 education agency to provide certain information to parents annually; requiring the  
16 State Department of Human Resources and the State Department of Education to  
17 develop a certain poster for distribution to elementary and secondary schools  
18 throughout the State; requiring 2–1–1 Maryland, in coordination with the State  
19 Department of Human Resources, to report certain data on the reporting of child  
20 abuse and neglect through 2–1–1 Maryland annually to the Maternal and Child  
21 Health Bureau, the Center for Injury and Sexual Assault Prevention, the State  
22 Council on Child Abuse and Neglect, the Citizens Review Board for Children, and  
23 the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention; requiring the State  
24 Department of Human Resources in consultation with the Department of Health and  
25 Mental Hygiene to adopt certain regulations; authorizing the State Department of  
26 Human Resources to adopt certain regulations; defining certain terms; and generally  
27 relating to the reporting of child abuse and neglect.

28 BY adding to  
29 Article – Family Law  
30 Section 5–716

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland  
2 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
4 Article – Health – General  
5 Section 24–1205(a)  
6 Annotated Code of Maryland  
7 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

10 **Article – Family Law**

11 **5–716.**

12 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
13 INDICATED.

14 (2) “2–1–1” MEANS THE ABBREVIATED DIALING CODE ASSIGNED BY  
15 THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR CONSUMER ACCESS TO  
16 COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES.

17 (3) “2–1–1 MARYLAND” MEANS THE MARYLAND INFORMATION  
18 NETWORK 2–1–1 MARYLAND, A 501(C)(3) CORPORATION IN THE STATE.

19 (4) “2–1–1 MARYLAND CALL CENTER” MEANS A NONPROFIT AGENCY  
20 OR ORGANIZATION DESIGNATED BY 2–1–1 MARYLAND TO PROVIDE 2–1–1 SERVICES.

21 (B) (1) IN ADDITION TO THOSE DUTIES REQUIRED UNDER TITLE 24,  
22 SUBTITLE 12 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE, 2–1–1 MARYLAND SHALL  
23 SERVE AS A STATEWIDE HOTLINE FOR THE REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND  
24 NEGLECT.

25 (2) 2–1–1 MARYLAND SHALL ACCEPT REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE AND  
26 NEGLECT 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK.

27 (3) THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD, IN CONSULTATION  
28 WITH THE DEPARTMENT, SHALL DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO ENSURE  
29 THAT 2–1–1 MARYLAND SERVICE PROVIDER STAFF ARE PROPERLY TRAINED USING  
30 EVIDENCE–BASED BEST PRACTICES FOR RESPONDING TO REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE  
31 AND NEGLECT.

1           **(C) (1) ON RECEIPT OF A REPORT OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT, 2-1-1**  
2 **MARYLAND STAFF SHALL NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OR LAW**  
3 **ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.**

4           **(2) ON RECEIPT OF A REPORT OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT FROM**  
5 **2-1-1 MARYLAND STAFF, A LOCAL DEPARTMENT OR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**  
6 **SHALL INVESTIGATE THE REPORT AS PROVIDED UNDER § 5-706 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

7           **(D) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL POST INFORMATION ON THE**  
8 **REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT THROUGH 2-1-1 MARYLAND**  
9 **PROMINENTLY ON ITS WEB SITE.**

10           **(2) EACH LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY SHALL:**

11                   **(I) POST INFORMATION ON THE REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE**  
12 **AND NEGLECT THROUGH 2-1-1 MARYLAND ON THE AGENCY'S WEB SITE; AND**

13                   **(II) ANNUALLY DISTRIBUTE INFORMATION TO PARENTS ON THE**  
14 **REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT THROUGH 2-1-1 MARYLAND.**

15           **(3) THE DEPARTMENT, IN COOPERATION WITH THE STATE**  
16 **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SHALL DEVELOP AN INFORMATIONAL POSTER ON**  
17 **THE REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT THROUGH 2-1-1 MARYLAND AND**  
18 **DISSEMINATE THE POSTER TO ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND**  
19 **SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE STATE TO BE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED BY THE**  
20 **SCHOOLS.**

21           **(E) (1) 2-1-1 MARYLAND, IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT,**  
22 **SHALL SUBMIT TO THE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BUREAU, THE CENTER FOR**  
23 **INJURY AND SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION, THE STATE COUNCIL ON CHILD**  
24 **ABUSE AND NEGLECT, THE CITIZENS REVIEW BOARD FOR CHILDREN, AND THE**  
25 **GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION AN ANNUAL REPORT**  
26 **THAT INCLUDES:**

27                   **(I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE AND**  
28 **NEGLECT RECEIVED BY 2-1-1 MARYLAND IN THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR;**

29                   **(II) THE NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED DISAGGREGATED BY**  
30 **TYPE OF ABUSE;**

31                   **(III) THE NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED THAT WERE**  
32 **SCREENED OUT OR RULED OUT;**

1 (IV) THE NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED THAT RESULTED IN A  
2 FINDING OF INDICATED OR UNSUBSTANTIATED; AND

3 (V) FOR THOSE REPORTS RESULTING IN A FINDING OF  
4 INDICATED OR UNSUBSTANTIATED:

5 1. THE AGE, RACE, ETHNICITY, AND GENDER OF THE  
6 VICTIM;

7 2. THE AGE, RACE, ETHNICITY, AND GENDER OF THE  
8 MALTREATOR OR ALLEGED MALTREATOR; AND

9 3. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VICTIM AND THE  
10 MALTREATOR OR ALLEGED MALTREATOR.

11 (2) THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT  
12 OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE AND OTHER APPROPRIATE STAKEHOLDERS,  
13 SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBSECTION.

14 (F) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS  
15 SECTION.

16 **Article – Health – General**

17 24–1205.

18 (a) The Board shall:

19 (1) Maintain public information available from State agencies, programs,  
20 and departments that provide health and human services;

21 (2) Support projects and activities that further the development of 2–1–1  
22 Maryland;

23 (3) Examine and make recommendations to maximize the use of  
24 information technology in making 2–1–1 services available throughout the State;

25 (4) Evaluate the performance of each 2–1–1 Maryland call center;

26 (5) Make recommendations to 2–1–1 Maryland regarding the quality of  
27 service provided by call centers or the performance of call centers when issues related to  
28 service quality and performance are presented to the Board;

29 (6) Make recommendations regarding corrective action to be taken by a call  
30 center, as appropriate; [and]

1                   (7)    Develop policies and procedures governing conflict of interest standards  
2 for Board members; AND

3                   **(8)    PERFORM THOSE DUTIES REQUIRED UNDER § 5-716 OF THE**  
4 **FAMILY LAW ARTICLE REGARDING THE REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND**  
5 **NEGLECT.**

6                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
7 October 1, 2017.