

# HOUSE BILL 1121

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By: **Delegate Conaway**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2018

Assigned to: Judiciary

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 10, 2018

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Sexual Assault Evidence Kits – Voluntary Payment by Victim for Testing of Kit**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and  
4 Funding Committee to develop a process to allow the victim of a sexual assault to  
5 elect to pay for the testing of a sexual assault evidence kit; and generally relating to  
6 the duties of the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and Funding  
7 Committee.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9 Article – Criminal Procedure  
10 Section 11–927(a)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Criminal Procedure  
15 Section 11–927(e)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 11-927.

2 (a) In this section, "Committee" means the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence  
3 Kit Policy and Funding Committee.

4 (e) (1) The Committee shall develop and disseminate best practices  
5 information and recommendations regarding:

6 (i) the testing and retention of sexual assault evidence collection  
7 kits;

8 (ii) coordination between State agencies, victim services providers,  
9 local law enforcement, and local sexual assault response teams;

10 (iii) payment for sexual assault evidence collection kits, **INCLUDING**  
11 **DEVELOPMENT OF A PROCESS TO ALLOW A VICTIM TO ELECT TO PAY FOR THE**  
12 **TESTING OF A SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE COLLECTION KIT;**

13 (iv) increasing the availability of sexual assault evidence collection  
14 exams for alleged victims of sexual assault;

15 (v) reducing the shortage of forensic nurse examiners; and

16 (vi) increasing the availability of information to sexual assault  
17 victims regarding:

18 1. criminal prosecutions of sexual assault crimes;

19 2. civil law remedies available to victims of sexual assault;

20 3. sexual assault evidence collection kits; and

21 4. victim rights.

22 (2) The Committee may adopt rules governing the administration and  
23 proceedings of the Committee.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
25 October 1, 2018.