



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

In support of HB425 – SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE KITS – PRIVACY,
REIMBURSEMENT, AND NOTIFICATION

Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Atterbeary and Fellow Members of the Committee.

It is my bittersweet honor to sponsor HB425 – SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE KITS – PRIVACY, REIMBURSEMENT AND NOTIFICATION BILL again this year. The purpose of the proposed legislation limits the information a qualified health care provider or hospital is required to provide when seeking reimbursement for performing a sexual assault forensic examination for certain sexually related crimes.

Some of you may recall last year we had a briefing from the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and Funding Committee. The Committee was statutorily created after the national awareness of destroyed evidence kits and President Obama’s Survivor’s Bill of Rights Act. Today you will be hearing from some of the members from the Committee in support of the proposed legislation since it emerges from that committee. I also am a member.

Another piece of the bill is the time in which the examination is conducted. The proposed change complies with the medical evidence standard of 15 days. The Administration agreed with this expansion last year and I hope the Administration will support this language this year.

In solidarity with the countless sexual assault survivors, I strongly request a favorable vote on HB425.