

# HOUSE BILL 547

E1, E2

4lr0765

---

By: **Delegates Alston, Anderton, Arikan, Boafu, Embry, Feldmark, Grammer, Hartman, Kaufman, Martinez, Miller, T. Morgan, Munoz, Pasteur, Phillips, Roberson, Sample–Hughes, Schmidt, Simmons, Simpson, Smith, Taylor, Toles, Turner, and Woods**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2024

Assigned to: Judiciary

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crime of Violence – Educational Facilities, Medical Facilities, and Places of**  
3 **Worship – Penalty**  
4 **(Sacred Places Safety Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from committing a crime of violence while the  
6 person is in an educational facility, a medical facility, or a place of worship; and  
7 generally relating to crimes of violence and educational facilities, medical facilities,  
8 and places of worship.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Criminal Law

11 Section 14–105

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Criminal Law**

17 **14–105.**

18 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
19 **INDICATED.**

20 **(2) “EDUCATIONAL FACILITY” INCLUDES:**

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (I) AN ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL AND THE  
2 SURROUNDING GROUNDS; AND

3 (II) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AS DEFINED IN §  
4 10-101 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.

5 (3) "MEDICAL FACILITY" INCLUDES:

6 (I) A FACILITY AS DEFINED IN § 10-101 OF THE  
7 HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE;

8 (II) A HEALTH CARE FACILITY AS DEFINED IN § 19-114 OF THE  
9 HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; AND

10 (III) AN AGENCY, A CLINIC, OR AN OFFICE OPERATED UNDER THE  
11 DIRECTION OF THE LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER OR UNDER THE REGULATORY  
12 AUTHORITY OF THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

13 (4) "PLACE OF WORSHIP" MEANS A NONRESIDENTIAL LOCATION  
14 WHERE MORE THAN ONE INDIVIDUAL ASSEMBLES FOR PURPOSES OF RELIGIOUS OR  
15 SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCE.

16 (B) A PERSON MAY NOT COMMIT A CRIME OF VIOLENCE, AS DEFINED IN §  
17 14-101 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IN AN EDUCATIONAL FACILITY, A MEDICAL FACILITY, OR  
18 A PLACE OF WORSHIP.

19 (C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND,  
20 IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER PENALTY IMPOSED FOR THE UNDERLYING CRIME OF  
21 VIOLENCE, ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 10  
22 YEARS.

23 (D) A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY BE IMPOSED  
24 SEPARATE FROM AND CONSECUTIVE TO OR CONCURRENT WITH A SENTENCE FOR  
25 ANY CRIME BASED ON THE ACT ESTABLISHING THE VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
27 1, 2024.