

# SENATE BILL 549

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4lr3263  
CF HB 476

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By: **Senator Sydnor**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2024

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 27, 2024

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Forensic Genetic Genealogical DNA Analysis and Search –**  
3 **Applicability for Deceased and Missing ~~Children~~ Individuals**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that certain provisions of law regarding the use of a certain  
5 forensic genetic genealogical DNA analysis and search (FGGS) do not apply when  
6 the FGGS is conducted solely for the purpose of identifying an individual ~~under a~~  
7 ~~certain age~~ who is deceased or the subject of a certain missing person report and  
8 whose whereabouts are unknown; and generally relating to the use of FGGS.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
10 Article – Criminal Procedure  
11 Section 17–101(a) and (e)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

14 BY adding to  
15 Article – Criminal Procedure  
16 Section 17–101.1  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

21 **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 17-101.

2 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

3 (e) “Forensic genetic genealogical DNA analysis and search” or “FGGS” means:

4 (1) the forensic genetic genealogical DNA analysis of biological material  
5 using SNP or other sequencing techniques to develop an FGG profile;

6 (2) a subsequent search using the FGG profile in a publicly available  
7 open-data personal genomics database or a direct-to-consumer genetic genealogy service  
8 to find individuals related to the source of the FGG profile; and

9 (3) a genealogical search using public records and other lawful means to  
10 obtain information in accordance with this title.

11 **17-101.1.**

12 **THIS TITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO FGGS CONDUCTED SOLELY FOR THE**  
13 **PURPOSE OF IDENTIFYING AN INDIVIDUAL ~~UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS~~ WHO IS:**

14 **(1) DECEASED; OR**

15 **(2) THE SUBJECT OF A MISSING PERSON REPORT FILED WITH A LAW**  
16 **ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IN THE STATE AND WHOSE WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2024.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.