

SENATE BILL 78

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1999 Regular Session
9lr0176

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee (Departmental - Human Resources)**

Requested: July 27, 1998

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 1999

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law - Child Abuse and Neglect - Definition of Neglect**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of child neglect; and generally relating to
4 child abuse and neglect.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

6 Article - Family Law

7 Section 5-701(p)

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (1999 Replacement Volume)

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

12 **Article - Family Law**

13 5-701.

14 (p) (1) "Neglect" means the [leaving of a child unattended or other] failure
15 to give proper care and attention to a child by any parent or other person who has
16 permanent or temporary care or custody or responsibility for supervision of the child
17 under circumstances that indicate:

18 [(1)] (I) that the child's health or welfare is harmed or placed at
19 substantial risk of harm; or

20 [(2)] (II) mental injury to the child or a substantial risk of mental injury.

21 (2) "NEGLECT" INCLUDES:

22 (I) LEAVING A CHILD UNATTENDED; OR

23 (II) PROVIDING IMPROPER CARE OR ATTENTION.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
2 effect October 1, 1999.