
By: **Delegates Shank, Bartlett, Dumais, Lee, and McComas**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2006

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law - Child Neglect**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person who has permanent or temporary care or
4 custody or responsibility for the supervision of a child under a certain age from
5 intentionally failing to provide certain assistance and resources for the physical
6 needs of the child; establishing certain penalties; defining certain terms; and
7 generally relating to child neglect.

8 BY adding to

9 Article - Criminal Law

10 Section 3-608

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2002 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - Criminal Law**

16 3-608.

17 (A) A PARENT OR OTHER PERSON WHO HAS PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY
18 CARE OR CUSTODY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUPERVISION OF A CHILD UNDER
19 THE AGE OF 14 YEARS MAY NOT INTENTIONALLY FAIL TO PROVIDE NECESSARY
20 ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES FOR THE PHYSICAL NEEDS OF THE CHILD,
21 INCLUDING:

22 (1) FOOD;

23 (2) CLOTHING;

24 (3) TOILETING;

25 (4) ESSENTIAL MEDICAL TREATMENT;

26 (5) SHELTER; OR

1 (6) SUPERVISION.

2 (B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF THE
3 MISDEMEANOR OF CHILD NEGLECT AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO
4 IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR
5 BOTH.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2006.