

# HOUSE BILL 20

E1  
HB 375/14 – JUD

(PRE-FILED)

5lr0657

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By: **Delegate Glenn**

Requested: November 20, 2014

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2015

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes – Elder Abuse or Neglect – Increased Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the penalties for the crime of causing abuse or neglect of a  
4 vulnerable adult in the first or second degree; and generally relating to elder abuse  
5 or neglect.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article – Criminal Law  
8 Section 3–604(b) and 3–605(b)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Criminal Law  
13 Section 3–604(c) and 3–605(c)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Criminal Law**

19 3–604.

20 (b) (1) A caregiver, a parent, or other person who has permanent or temporary  
21 care or responsibility for the supervision of a vulnerable adult may not cause abuse or  
22 neglect of the vulnerable adult that:

23 (i) results in the death of the vulnerable adult;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) causes serious physical injury to the vulnerable adult; or

2 (iii) involves sexual abuse of the vulnerable adult.

3 (2) A household member or family member may not cause abuse or neglect  
4 of a vulnerable adult that:

5 (i) results in the death of the vulnerable adult;

6 (ii) causes serious physical injury to the vulnerable adult; or

7 (iii) involves sexual abuse of the vulnerable adult.

8 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of the felony of abuse or neglect of  
9 a vulnerable adult in the first degree and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not  
10 exceeding [10] **20** years or a fine not exceeding [\$10,000] **\$20,000** or both.

11 3-605.

12 (b) (1) A caregiver, a parent, or other person who has permanent or temporary  
13 care or responsibility for the supervision of a vulnerable adult may not cause abuse or  
14 neglect of the vulnerable adult.

15 (2) A household member or family member may not cause abuse or neglect  
16 of a vulnerable adult.

17 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of the misdemeanor of abuse or  
18 neglect of a vulnerable adult in the second degree and on conviction is subject to  
19 imprisonment not exceeding [5] **10** years or a fine not exceeding [\$5,000] **\$10,000** or both.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
21 October 1, 2015.