

# HOUSE BILL 338

D4

2lr1285

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By: **Delegate Lopez**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2022

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Abuse and Neglect – Definition of Neglect**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “neglect” in provisions of law relating to child  
4 abuse and neglect and children in need of assistance; and generally relating to child  
5 abuse and neglect and children in need of assistance.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
8 Section 3–801(s)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Family Law  
13 Section 5–701(s)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

19 3–801.

20 (s) **(1)** “Neglect” means the leaving of a child unattended or other failure to  
21 give proper care and attention to a child by any parent or individual who has permanent or  
22 temporary care or custody or responsibility for supervision of the child under circumstances  
23 that indicate:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.





1                   **(II) FAILING TO LEAVE THE HOME IN WHICH THE ALLEGED**  
2 **PERPETRATOR RESIDES;**

3                   **(III) FAILING TO END A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ALLEGED**  
4 **PERPETRATOR;**

5                   **(IV) FAILING TO REPORT THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TO LAW**  
6 **ENFORCEMENT OR THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES; OR**

7                   **(V) FAILING TO SEEK AN ORDER OF PROTECTION AGAINST THE**  
8 **ALLEGED PERPETRATOR.**

9           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
10 October 1, 2022.