E2 2lr0762 (PRE–FILED) CF 2lr0884

By: Senator Lee

Requested: October 15, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

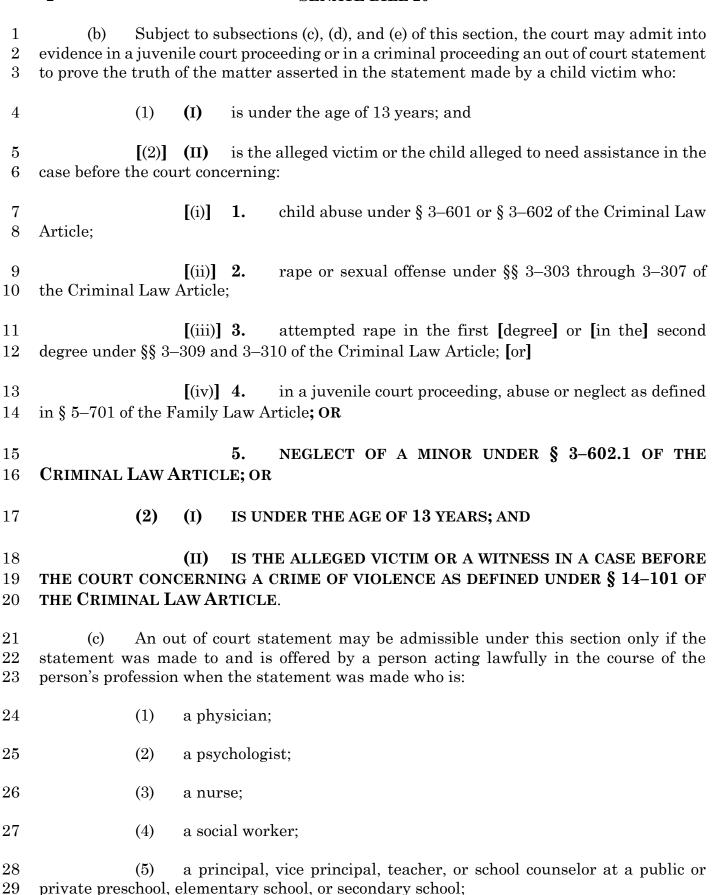
## 2 Criminal Procedure - Out of Court Statements - Child Victims

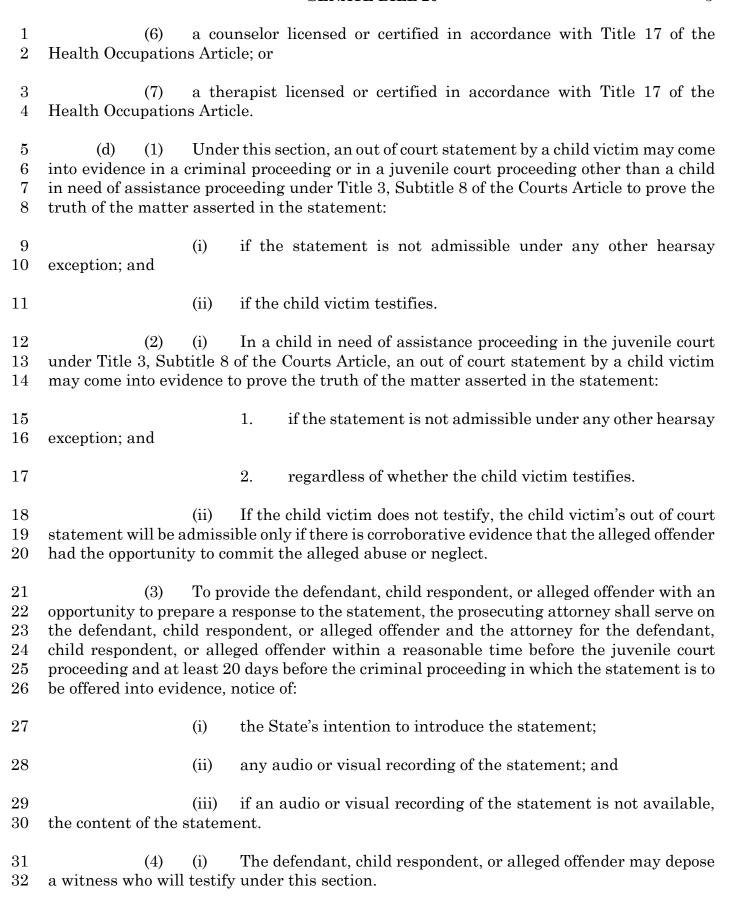
- FOR the purpose of authorizing the court to admit into evidence in certain criminal proceedings certain out of court statements made by a child victim who is under a certain age and a victim or a witness in a case concerning a crime of violence, subject to certain requirements; and generally relating to the admissibility of out of court statements of child victims in criminal proceedings.
- 8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 9 Article Criminal Procedure
- 10 Section 11–304
- 11 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 12 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)
- 13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 15 Article Criminal Procedure
- 16 11-304.
- 17 (a) In this section, "statement" means:
- 18 (1) an oral or written assertion; or
- 19 (2) nonverbal conduct intended as an assertion, including sounds, gestures, 20 demonstrations, drawings, and similar actions.

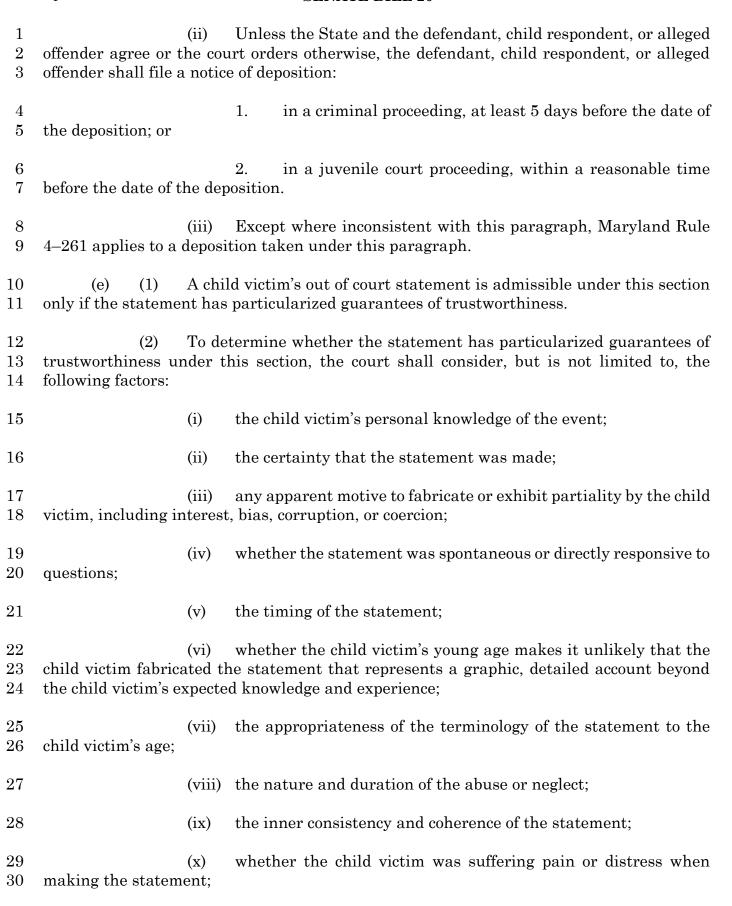
EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

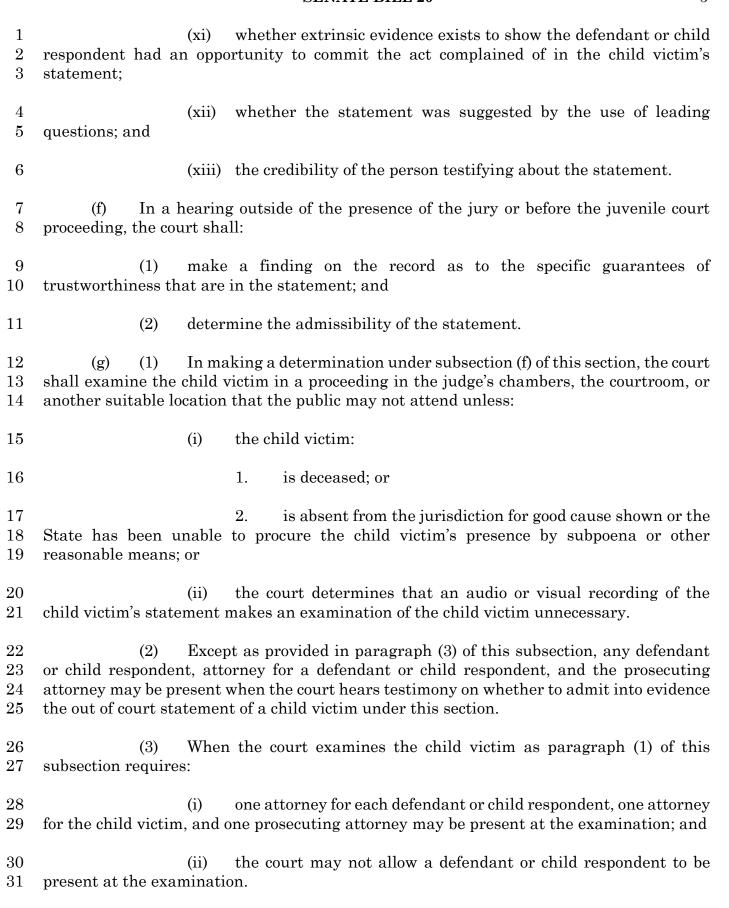
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.











## **SENATE BILL 20**

- 1 (h) (1) This section does not limit the admissibility of a statement under any 2 other applicable hearsay exception or rule of evidence.
- 3 (2) This section does not prohibit the court in a juvenile court proceeding 4 from hearing testimony in the judge's chambers.
- 5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 6 October 1, 2022.