

HB0969/793129/1

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 969
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “**Delegate Bartlett**” and substitute “**Delegates Bartlett, Pena-Melnyk, Cullison, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Chisholm, Guzzone, Hill, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Kerr, Kipke, R. Lewis, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Reilly, Rosenberg, Szeliga, Taveras, White Holland, and Woods**”; after line 3, insert:

“(Katherine Morris Death Reclassification Act)”;

and in line 13, after “law;” insert “requiring a law enforcement agency to reopen or reinvestigate an investigation involving the death of a victim whose cause or manner of death was amended or corrected to be undetermined or homicide; prohibiting a law enforcement agency from closing a case that was reopened or reinvestigated for at least a certain period of time;”.

On page 2, after line 2, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article - Public Safety
Section 3-201(a) and (d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)”

BY adding to
Article - Public Safety
Section 3-531
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)”.

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Amendments to HB 969
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AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 4, after line 30, insert:

“Article – Public Safety

3-201.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(d) (1) “Law enforcement agency” means a governmental police force, sheriff’s office, or security force or law enforcement organization of the State, a county, or a municipal corporation that by statute, ordinance, or common law is authorized to enforce the general criminal laws of the State.

(2) “Law enforcement agency” does not include members of the Maryland National Guard who:

(i) are under the control and jurisdiction of the Military Department;

(ii) are assigned to the military property designated as the Martin State Airport; and

(iii) are charged with exercising police powers in and for the Martin State Airport.

3-531.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 3-201 OF THIS TITLE.

(B) IF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IS NOTIFIED BY A MEDICAL EXAMINER UNDER § 5-309(D) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY:

(1) SHALL REOPEN OR REINVESTIGATE AN INVESTIGATION INVOLVING THE DEATH OF A VICTIM WHOSE CAUSE OR MANNER OF DEATH WAS AMENDED OR CORRECTED TO BE UNDETERMINED OR HOMICIDE; AND

(2) MAY NOT CLOSE A CASE THAT WAS REOPENED OR REINVESTIGATED UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION UNTIL AT LEAST 20 YEARS AFTER THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY WAS NOTIFIED.”.