

HOUSE BILL 404

E4

4r0718
CF SB 190

By: **Delegates Woods, Alston, Anderton, Bagnall, Boaf, Chang, Crutchfield, Cullison, Davis, Harris, Harrison, Healey, Henson, Ivey, Kaufman, Kerr, J. Long, McCaskill, Pasteur, Pena–Melnyk, Roberson, Roberts, Simpson, Taveras, Taylor, Turner, Valderrama, Wilkins, and Williams**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2024

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Law Enforcement – Wellness Checks – Requirements**
3 **(Gabriel’s Law)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a law enforcement agency that receives a certain request for
5 a wellness check of an individual to immediately conduct a wellness check or submit
6 a request for the relevant law enforcement agency to conduct a wellness check; and
7 generally relating to law enforcement agencies and wellness checks.

8 BY adding to
9 Article – Public Safety
10 Section 3–531
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Public Safety**

16 **3–531.**

17 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
18 **INDICATED.**

19 **(2) “QUALIFIED REQUEST” MEANS AN ORAL OR WRITTEN REQUEST**
20 **THAT INCLUDES SUFFICIENT INFORMATION REGARDING A SPECIFIC**
21 **LIFE–THREATENING CONCERN FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION OR RESPONSE.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) “WELLNESS CHECK” MEANS AN IN-PERSON VISIT BY A LAW**
2 **ENFORCEMENT OFFICER CONCERNING THE WELL-BEING OF AN INDIVIDUAL.**

3 **(B) (1) IF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY RECEIVES A QUALIFIED**
4 **REQUEST FOR A WELLNESS CHECK OF AN INDIVIDUAL LOCATED IN THE LAW**
5 **ENFORCEMENT AGENCY’S JURISDICTION, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL**
6 **IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT A WELLNESS CHECK OF THE INDIVIDUAL.**

7 **(2) IF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY RECEIVES A QUALIFIED**
8 **REQUEST FOR A WELLNESS CHECK OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT LOCATED IN THE**
9 **LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY’S JURISDICTION, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**
10 **SHALL IMMEDIATELY SUBMIT A REQUEST TO THE RELEVANT LAW ENFORCEMENT**
11 **AGENCY IN THE STATE OR ANOTHER STATE TO CONDUCT A WELLNESS CHECK OF**
12 **THE INDIVIDUAL.**

13 **(C) A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT RECEIVES A QUALIFIED REQUEST**
14 **UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS**
15 **SECTION REGARDLESS OF WHERE THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY MAKING THE**
16 **QUALIFIED REQUEST IS LOCATED.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2024.