

**HB0246/903327/1**

BY: Judiciary Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 246  
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 8, after “services;” insert “authorizing certain individuals who are required under certain circumstances to report certain information regarding alleged vulnerable adults to make a report by calling the statewide reporting hotline;”; in the same line, after “to” insert “vulnerable adults and”; in line 16, after “14–101(g)” insert “, 14–302(b),”; and after line 18, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article - Family Law  
Section 14-302(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, after line 22, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:”;

and after line 29, insert:

“SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Family Law**

14–302.

(a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, notwithstanding any law on privileged communications, each health practitioner, police

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officer, or human service worker who contacts, examines, attends, or treats an alleged vulnerable adult, and who has reason to believe that the alleged vulnerable adult has been subjected to abuse, neglect, self–neglect, or exploitation shall:

(i) notify the local department; and

(ii) if acting as a staff member of a hospital or public health agency, immediately notify and give all the information required by this section to the head of the institution or the designee of the head.

(2) An ombudsman, as defined in § 10–901 of the Human Services Article, shall comply with 42 U.S.C. § 3058g(d)(2) and may not disclose the identity of a resident or complainant except as authorized under 42 U.S.C. § 3058g(d)(2).

(b) An individual who is required to make a report under subsection (a) of this section shall make the report **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** by telephone, **BY** direct communication, or in writing to the local department [as soon as possible] **OR BY CALLING THE STATEWIDE REPORTING HOTLINE.**

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 3, after line 6, insert:

“SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.”;

in line 7, strike “2.” and substitute “5.”; and in the same line, after “That” insert “, except as provided in Section 4 of this Act.”.