

HOUSE BILL 1116

E4, D4

(5lr2917)

ENROLLED BILL

— Judiciary/Judicial Proceedings —

Introduced by **Delegate Healey**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – State Clearinghouse for Missing Persons**

3 FOR the purpose of renaming and transferring the State Clearinghouse for Missing
4 Children to be the State Clearinghouse for Missing Persons; requiring the
5 Department of State Police to report on the Department's ability to report certain
6 missing persons information to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons
7 System on or before a certain date; and generally relating to the State Clearinghouse
8 for Missing Persons.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, and transferring
10 Article – Family Law
11 Section 9–403
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
14 to be

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



Article – Public Safety
Section 3–609
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That Section(s) 9–403 of Article – Family Law of the Annotated Code of Maryland be
repealed and reenacted, with amendments, and transferred to be Section(s) 3–609 of Article
– Public Safety of the Annotated Code of Maryland, to read as follows:

Article – Public Safety

3–609.

(a) There is a State Clearinghouse for Missing [Children] **PERSONS** operated by
the Department of State Police that is responsible for:

(1) the receipt, collection, and distribution of general information and
annual statistics regarding missing [children] **PERSONS**; and

(2) coordination of law enforcement agencies and other interested
[persons] **INDIVIDUALS** or groups within and outside the State regarding information on
[children] **PERSONS** who have disappeared from, or are thought to be located in, Maryland.

(b) For [children] **PERSONS** who have disappeared from or are thought to be
located in the State, the State Clearinghouse for Missing [Children] **PERSONS**:

(1) shall publish:

(i) the names of and relevant available information on missing
[children] **PERSONS**; and

(ii) annual statistics regarding missing [children] **PERSONS**; and

(2) may establish and maintain a list of organizations and groups that
provide volunteer search teams or resources relating to missing [children] **PERSONS**.

(c) The Secretary of State Police may develop, in cooperation with local law
enforcement agencies, a plan for voluntary fingerprinting programs for children.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The Department of State Police shall study the Department's capacity to report
to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System information about persons who
have disappeared from, or thought to be located in, Maryland.

1 **(b)** *On or before December 1, 2025, the Department of State Police shall report its*
2 *findings to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article,*
3 *the General Assembly.*

4 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2025.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.