

HOUSE BILL 316

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By: **Delegates Kaufman, Holmes, A. Johnson, S. Johnson, and Shetty**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2026

Assigned to: Health

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Confidentiality of Medical Records – Definition of Medical Record**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “medical record” for purposes of law governing
4 the confidentiality of medical records to require that certain information be recorded
5 by a health care provider through certain means, instead of entered into the record
6 of a patient or recipient, and to include certain electronic messages; and generally
7 relating to the confidentiality of medical records.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Health – General
10 Section 4–301(a)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Health – General
15 Section 4–301(k)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Health – General**

21 4–301.

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

23 (k) (1) “Medical record” means any oral, written, or other transmission in any
24 form or medium of information that:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(i) Is [entered in the record of a patient or recipient] **RECORDED BY A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER THROUGH WRITTEN, ELECTRONIC, OR OTHER MEANS, INCLUDING AUDIO OR VIDEO MEANS;**

(ii) Identifies or can readily be associated with the identity of a patient or recipient; and

(iii) Relates to the health care of the patient or recipient.

(2) “Medical record” includes any:

(i) Documentation of disclosures of a medical record to any person who is not an employee, agent, or consultant of the health care provider;

(ii) File or record maintained under § 12–403(c)(13) of the Health Occupations Article by a pharmacy of a prescription order for drugs, medicines, or devices that identifies or may be readily associated with the identity of a patient;

(iii) Documentation of an examination of a patient regardless of who:

1. Requested the examination; or

2. Is making payment for the examination; [and]

(iv) File or record received from another health care provider that:

1. Relates to the health care of a patient or recipient received from that health care provider; and

2. Identifies or can readily be associated with the identity of the patient or recipient; **AND**

(V) ELECTRONIC MESSAGE SENT OR RECEIVED BY A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER THAT IDENTIFIES OR MAY READILY BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE IDENTITY OF A PATIENT.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.