

# HOUSE BILL 418

D2

6lr1008

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By: Prince George's County Delegation

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2                   **Prince George's County – Courts – Remote Public Access to Bail Review**  
3                   **Hearings**

4                   **PG 302-26**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring each court in Prince George's County to provide remote  
6 audio-visual access to bail review hearings, except under certain circumstances; and  
7 generally relating to remote access to bail review hearings.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9                   Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

10                  Section 1-101

11                  Annotated Code of Maryland

12                  (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

13 BY adding to

14                  Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

15                  Section 1-206

16                  Annotated Code of Maryland

17                  (2020 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 – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

21 1-101.

22                  (a) In this title the following words or terms have the meanings indicated.

23                  (b) "Circuit court" means the circuit court for a county.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



5 (d) "Judge" means a judge of a court.

6 1-206.

7 (A) **THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.**

8                   **(B) EACH COURT SHALL PROVIDE REMOTE PUBLIC ACCESS FOR BAIL**  
9    **REVIEW HEARINGS, UNLESS A HEARING IS DEEMED CLOSED, CONFIDENTIAL, OR**  
10   **RESTRICTED BY FEDERAL OR STATE LAW.**

11 (C) UNLESS THERE IS AN OVERRIDING PUBLIC INTEREST COMPELLING  
12 DISCLOSURE, A PRESIDING JUDGE MAY PROHIBIT THE BROADCAST OF ANY PORTION  
13 OF A HEARING ON THE REQUEST OF ANY PARTY, WITNESS, OR COUNSEL INVOLVED  
14 IN THE HEARING.

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