

# HOUSE BILL 497

D4

6lr1871  
CF 6lr1873

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By: Delegate Simpson

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law – Temporary and Final Protective Orders – Duration and Relief**

3 FOR the purpose of extending the time period during which a temporary protective order  
4 is effective after service of the order; extending the time period for which a final  
5 protective order hearing is required to be held after service of the temporary  
6 protective order; providing that a final protective order may order the respondent to  
7 pay to a person eligible for relief certain losses or expenses incurred as a result of  
8 abuse; providing that a certain monetary award does not preclude a petitioner from  
9 bringing a subsequent claim for certain losses or expenses; and generally relating to  
10 temporary and final protective orders.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

12 Article – Family Law

13 Section 4–505(a)(1)(i) and 4–506(a)

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

17 Article – Family Law

18 Section 4–505(c) and 4–506(b)(1) and (d)(13) and (14)

19 Annotated Code of Maryland

20 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

21 BY adding to

22 Article – Family Law

23 Section 4–506(d)(14) and (l)

24 Annotated Code of Maryland

25 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

26 **SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,**

27 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



## Article – Family Law

2 4-505.

7 (c) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the temporary  
8 protective order shall be effective for not more than [7] 14 days after service of the order.

15 4-506.

16 (a) A respondent under § 4–505 of this subtitle shall have an opportunity to be  
17 heard on the question of whether the judge should issue a final protective order.

18 (b) (1) (i) The temporary protective order shall state the date and time of  
19 the final protective order hearing.

20 (ii) Except as provided in § 4-505(c) of this subtitle, or unless  
21 continued for good cause, the final protective order hearing shall be held no later than [7]  
22 14 days after the temporary protective order is served on the respondent.

23 (d) The final protective order may include any or all of the following relief:

24 (13) award temporary possession of any pet of the person eligible for relief  
25 or the respondent; [or]

31 (II) COSTS TO REPAIR OR REPLACE DAMAGED PROPERTY:

- (III) FOOD, TEMPORARY SHELTER, OR RELOCATION COSTS;**
- (IV) TRANSPORTATION COSTS;**
- (V) FILING FEES AND COURT COSTS; AND**
- (VI) REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES; OR**

5 [14] (15) order any other relief that the judge determines is necessary to  
6 protect a person eligible for relief from abuse.

7        (L) A MONETARY AWARD UNDER SUBSECTION (D)(14) OF THIS SECTION  
8 DOES NOT PRECLUDE A PETITIONER FROM BRINGING A SUBSEQUENT CLAIM FOR  
9 ADDITIONAL LOSSES OR EXPENSES NOT AWARDED IN THE FINAL PROTECTIVE  
10 ORDER.

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