

HOUSE BILL 1014

J1

6lr2350
CF SB 707

By: Delegates Woods, Cullison, Ivey, A. Johnson, S. Johnson, J. Long, McComas, Patterson, ~~and Roberts~~ Roberts, Alston, Bagnall, Guzzone, Hill, Hutchinson, Kaufman, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Reilly, Rosenberg, Ross, Szeliga, Taveras, White Holland, and Woorman

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Health

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 21, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Mental Health Law – Danger to the Life or Safety of the Individual or of Others**
3 **– Definition**
4 **(Right to Treatment)**

5 FOR the purpose of defining “danger to the life or safety of the individual or of others” for
6 purposes of the involuntary admission of individuals with mental disorders to a
7 facility or Veterans’ Administration hospital and the emergency evaluation of
8 individuals with mental disorders; and generally relating to involuntary admissions
9 and emergency evaluations of individuals with mental disorders.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Health – General
12 Section 10–601
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Health – General**

18 10–601.

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.



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

2 (b) “Clinical social worker” means an individual who is licensed under Title 19 of
3 the Health Occupations Article to practice clinical social work.

4 (c) **“DANGER TO THE LIFE OR SAFETY OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR OF OTHERS”**
5 **MEANS THERE IS, AS A RESULT OF A MENTAL DISORDER, A SUBSTANTIAL RISK,**
6 **~~WHETHER OR NOT THE RISK IS IMMINENT~~ BASED ON CONDUCT THAT IS RECENT AND**
7 **RELEVANT TO THE DANGER THAT THE INDIVIDUAL MAY PRESENT AND IN**
8 **CONSIDERATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL’S CURRENT CONDITION AND, IF AVAILABLE,**
9 **RECENT PERSONAL, MEDICAL, AND PSYCHIATRIC HISTORY, THAT ~~AS A RESULT OF~~**
10 **~~THE MENTAL DISORDER~~ THE INDIVIDUAL WILL:**

11 (1) **CAUSE SERIOUS BODILY HARM TO THE INDIVIDUAL OR ANOTHER**
12 **INDIVIDUAL; OR**

13 ~~(2) **ENGAGE IN CONDUCT THAT WILL RESULT IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE**~~
14 ~~**INVOLVEMENT;**~~

15 ~~(3)~~ (2) **BE UNABLE, EXCEPT FOR REASONS OF INDIGENCE, TO**
16 **PROVIDE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL’S BASIC NEEDS, INCLUDING FOOD, CLOTHING,**
17 **SHELTER, MEDICAL CARE, SELF-PROTECTION, OR SAFETY, TO SUCH A DEGREE AS**
18 **TO CREATE A SUBSTANTIAL RISK OF SERIOUS BODILY HARM, SERIOUS ILLNESS, OR**
19 **DEATH IN THE NEAR FUTURE; ~~OR~~**

20 ~~(4) **SUFFER SUBSTANTIAL DETERIORATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL’S**~~
21 ~~**JUDGMENT, REASONING, OR ABILITY TO CONTROL BEHAVIOR, PROVIDED THAT THE**~~
22 ~~**INDIVIDUAL IS CURRENTLY SUBSTANTIALLY IMPAIRED IN THE INDIVIDUAL’S**~~
23 ~~**ABILITY TO MAKE A RATIONAL AND INFORMED DECISION AS TO WHETHER TO**~~
24 ~~**SUBMIT TO TREATMENT, THAT WILL LIKELY RESULT IN THE INDIVIDUAL MEETING**~~
25 ~~**ONE OF THE CRITERIA ENUMERATED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.**~~

26 [(c)] (D) “Electronic record” means a document communicated, received, or
27 stored by electronic means.

28 [(d)] (E) “Licensed clinical marriage and family therapist” means an individual
29 who is licensed under Title 17, Subtitle 3A of the Health Occupations Article to practice
30 clinical marriage and family therapy.

31 [(e)] (F) “Licensed clinical professional counselor” means an individual who is
32 licensed under Title 17, Subtitle 3A of the Health Occupations Article to practice clinical
33 professional counseling.

1 **[(f)] (G)** “Physician” means an individual who is licensed under Title 14 of the
2 Health Occupations Article to practice medicine in this State.

3 **[(g)] (H)** “Psychiatric nurse practitioner” means an individual who is:

4 (1) Licensed as a registered nurse and certified as a nurse practitioner
5 under Title 8 of the Health Occupations Article; and

6 (2) Practicing in the State as a certified registered nurse
7 practitioner—psychiatric mental health.

8 **[(h)] (I)** “Psychologist” means an individual who is licensed under Title 18 of the
9 Health Occupations Article to practice psychology.

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

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.