

HOUSE BILL 1363

E2

6lr2958

By: **Delegate Nkongolo**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Domestic Violence Offenders – Registration**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a certain person to register as a domestic violence offender
4 with a certain supervising authority; requiring certain information to be included in
5 a registration statement; establishing certain terms of registration; requiring the
6 Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to make available to the
7 public and post to the Internet certain registration information; and generally
8 relating to the domestic violence offender registration.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Criminal Procedure
11 Section 6–233(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2025 Replacement Volume)

14 BY adding to
15 Article – Criminal Procedure
16 Section 11–7A–01 through 11–7A–08 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 7A.
17 Domestic Violence Offender Registration”
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2025 Replacement Volume)

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

22 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

23 6–233.

24 (a) In this section, “domestically related crime” means a crime committed by a
25 defendant against a victim who is a person eligible for relief, as defined in § 4–501 of the

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Family Law Article, or who had a sexual relationship with the defendant within 12 months
2 before the commission of the crime.

3 **SUBTITLE 7A. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER REGISTRATION.**

4 **11-7A-01.**

5 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
6 INDICATED.

7 (B) "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL CONVICTED
8 OF A DOMESTICALLY RELATED CRIME REQUIRED TO REGISTER UNDER THIS
9 SUBTITLE.

10 (C) "DOMESTICALLY RELATED CRIME" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §
11 6-233 OF THIS ARTICLE.

12 (D) "IMPRISONMENT" MEANS INCARCERATION RESULTING FROM A
13 CONVICTION, REGARDLESS OF THE NATURE OF THE INSTITUTION IN WHICH THE
14 OFFENDER SERVES THE SENTENCE.

15 (E) "JURISDICTION" MEANS A STATE OR A NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE THAT
16 ELECTS TO FUNCTION AS A REGISTRATION JURISDICTION UNDER FEDERAL LAW.

17 (F) "LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT" MEANS THE LAW ENFORCEMENT
18 UNIT IN A COUNTY THAT HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY
19 GOVERNING BODY AS THE PRIMARY LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT IN THE COUNTY.

20 (G) "SUPERVISING AUTHORITY" MEANS AN AGENCY OR PERSON THAT IS
21 RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTING INFORMATION FOR THE INITIAL REGISTRATION OF
22 A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER, INCLUDING:

23 (1) THE SECRETARY, IF THE REGISTRANT IS IN THE CUSTODY OF A
24 CORRECTIONAL FACILITY OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT;

25 (2) THE ADMINISTRATOR OF A LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, IF
26 THE REGISTRANT, INCLUDING A PARTICIPANT IN A HOME DETENTION PROGRAM, IS
27 IN THE CUSTODY OF THE LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY;

28 (3) THE COURT THAT GRANTED THE PROBATION OR SUSPENDED
29 SENTENCE, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN ITEM (9) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IF THE
30 REGISTRANT IS GRANTED PROBATION BEFORE JUDGMENT, PROBATION AFTER
31 JUDGMENT, OR A SUSPENDED SENTENCE;

1 **(4) THE DIRECTOR OF THE PATUXENT INSTITUTION, IF THE**
2 **REGISTRANT IS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE PATUXENT INSTITUTION;**

3 **(5) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, IF THE REGISTRANT IS IN THE**
4 **CUSTODY OF A FACILITY OPERATED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH;**

5 **(6) THE COURT IN WHICH THE REGISTRANT WAS CONVICTED, IF THE**
6 **REGISTRANT'S SENTENCE DOES NOT INCLUDE A TERM OF IMPRISONMENT OR IF THE**
7 **SENTENCE IS MODIFIED TO TIME SERVED;**

8 **(7) THE SECRETARY, IF THE REGISTRANT IS IN THE STATE UNDER**
9 **TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR ADULT OFFENDER**
10 **SUPERVISION, SET FORTH IN TITLE 6, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE CORRECTIONAL**
11 **SERVICES ARTICLE, OR THE INTERSTATE CORRECTIONS COMPACT, SET FORTH IN**
12 **TITLE 8, SUBTITLE 6 OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ARTICLE;**

13 **(8) THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT WHERE THE DOMESTIC**
14 **VIOLENCE OFFENDER IS A RESIDENT, IS A TRANSIENT, OR HABITUALLY LIVES ON**
15 **MOVING FROM ANOTHER JURISDICTION OR FOREIGN COUNTRY THAT REQUIRES**
16 **REGISTRATION IF THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER IS NOT UNDER THE**
17 **SUPERVISION, CUSTODY, OR CONTROL OF ANOTHER SUPERVISING AUTHORITY; OR**

18 **(9) THE DIRECTOR OF PAROLE AND PROBATION, IF THE REGISTRANT**
19 **IS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE DIVISION OF PAROLE AND PROBATION.**

20 **11-7A-02.**

21 **FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE, A PERSON IS CONVICTED WHEN THE**
22 **PERSON:**

23 **(1) IS FOUND GUILTY OF A CRIME BY A JURY OR JUDICIAL OFFICER;**

24 **(2) ENTERS A PLEA OF GUILTY OR NOLO CONTENDERE; OR**

25 **(3) IS GRANTED A PROBATION BEFORE JUDGMENT AFTER A FINDING**
26 **OF GUILT FOR A CRIME IF THE COURT, AS A CONDITION OF PROBATION, ORDERS**
27 **COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

28 **11-7A-03.**

29 **(A) (1) A PERSON SHALL REGISTER WITH THE PERSON'S SUPERVISING**
30 **AUTHORITY IF THE PERSON IS CONVICTED OF AT LEAST TWO DOMESTICALLY**
31 **RELATED CRIMES.**

1 **(2) A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER SHALL REGISTER WITH THE**
2 **APPROPRIATE SUPERVISING AUTHORITY IN THE STATE WITHIN 7 DAYS AFTER A**
3 **SECOND CONVICTION FOR A DOMESTICALLY RELATED CRIME.**

4 **(B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, A PERSON IS NO**
5 **LONGER SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IF:**

6 **(1) THE UNDERLYING CONVICTION REQUIRING REGISTRATION IS**
7 **REVERSED, VACATED, OR SET ASIDE; OR**

8 **(2) THE REGISTRANT IS PARDONED FOR THE UNDERLYING**
9 **CONVICTION.**

10 **11-7A-04.**

11 **A REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL INCLUDE:**

12 **(1) THE REGISTRANT'S FULL NAME, INCLUDING ANY SUFFIX;**

13 **(2) A DESCRIPTION OF THE CRIME FOR WHICH THE REGISTRANT WAS**
14 **CONVICTED;**

15 **(3) THE DATE THAT THE REGISTRANT WAS CONVICTED;**

16 **(4) THE JURISDICTION AND THE NAME OF THE COURT IN WHICH THE**
17 **REGISTRANT WAS CONVICTED;**

18 **(5) ALL IDENTIFYING FACTORS, INCLUDING A PHYSICAL**
19 **DESCRIPTION OF THE REGISTRANT;**

20 **(6) A COPY OF THE REGISTRANT'S VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE OR**
21 **IDENTIFICATION CARD; AND**

22 **(7) THE REGISTRANT'S SIGNATURE AND DATE SIGNED.**

23 **11-7A-05.**

24 **THE TERM OF REGISTRATION IS:**

25 **(1) IF THE REGISTRANT HAS ONE PRIOR CONVICTION FOR A**
26 **DOMESTICALLY RELATED CRIME, 2 YEARS;**

1 **(2) IF THE REGISTRANT HAS AT LEAST TWO PRIOR CONVICTIONS FOR**
2 **A DOMESTICALLY RELATED CRIME, 5 YEARS; OR**

3 **(3) IF THE REGISTRANT HAS AT LEAST THREE PRIOR CONVICTIONS**
4 **FOR A DOMESTICALLY RELATED CRIME, 10 YEARS.**

5 **11-7A-06.**

6 **(A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC**
7 **REGISTRATION STATEMENTS OR INFORMATION ABOUT REGISTRATION**
8 **STATEMENTS.**

9 **(2) INFORMATION ABOUT REGISTRATION STATEMENTS SHALL**
10 **INCLUDE, IN PLAIN LANGUAGE THAT CAN BE UNDERSTOOD WITHOUT SPECIAL**
11 **KNOWLEDGE OF THE CRIMINAL LAWS OF THE STATE, A FACTUAL DESCRIPTION OF**
12 **THE CRIME OF THE OFFENDER THAT IS THE BASIS FOR THE REGISTRATION,**
13 **EXCLUDING DETAILS THAT WOULD IDENTIFY THE VICTIM.**

14 **(3) REGISTRATION INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC MAY**
15 **NOT INCLUDE A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER,**
16 **DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER, OR ARRESTS NOT RESULTING IN CONVICTION.**

17 **(4) A REGISTRATION STATEMENT PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE**
18 **SHALL INCLUDE A COPY OF THE COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM AND A COPY OF**
19 **THE REGISTRANT'S DIGITAL IMAGE.**

20 **(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL POST ON THE INTERNET:**

21 **(1) A CURRENT LISTING OF EACH REGISTRANT, INCLUDING EACH**
22 **REGISTRANT'S:**

23 **(I) NAME;**

24 **(II) DATE OF BIRTH;**

25 **(III) DATE OF CONVICTION;**

26 **(IV) JURISDICTION OF THE CONVICTION; AND**

27 **(V) DIGITAL IMAGE; AND**

28 **(2) IN PLAIN LANGUAGE THAT CAN BE UNDERSTOOD WITHOUT**
29 **SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE CRIMINAL LAWS OF THE STATE, A FACTUAL**

1 DESCRIPTION OF THE CRIME OF THE OFFENDER THAT IS THE BASIS FOR THE
2 REGISTRATION, EXCLUDING DETAILS THAT WOULD IDENTIFY THE VICTIM.

3 11-7A-07.

4 (A) A REGISTRANT MAY NOT KNOWINGLY FAIL TO REGISTER, KNOWINGLY
5 FAIL TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN A REGISTRATION
6 STATEMENT DESCRIBED IN § 11-7A-04 OF THIS SUBTITLE, OR KNOWINGLY PROVIDE
7 FALSE INFORMATION OF A MATERIAL FACT AS REQUIRED BY THIS SUBTITLE.

8 (B) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION:

9 (1) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL FINE NOT
10 EXCEEDING \$250;

11 (2) FOR A SECOND OFFENSE, IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL FINE NOT
12 EXCEEDING \$500; AND

13 (3) FOR A THIRD OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, IS GUILTY OF A
14 MISDEMEANOR AND IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 90 DAYS OR A
15 FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 OR BOTH.

16 11-7A-08.

17 (A) WITH ADVICE FROM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION ADVISORY
18 BOARD ESTABLISHED UNDER § 10-207 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE SECRETARY SHALL
19 ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.

20 (B) THE SECRETARY MAY ESTABLISH A REASONABLE REGISTRATION FEE
21 TO RECOVER THE COSTS OF MANAGING THE REGISTRY AND ELECTRONICALLY
22 POSTING REGISTRY INFORMATION.

23 (C) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE THE
24 EXISTING RESOURCES IN THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY UNDER SUBTITLE 7 OF
25 THIS TITLE TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

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