

HOUSE BILL 1484

E2, E1

6lr1970

By: **Delegates Arentz, Buckel, Hornberger, Howard, McComas, Reilly, and Rose**
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Sex Offenders – Plea Agreements and Places for Children**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that a State’s Attorney may not enter into a certain plea
4 agreement; prohibiting a certain person required to register as a sex offender from
5 knowingly operating or entering a place for children; and generally relating to child
6 sex offenders.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Criminal Law

9 Section 3–1104

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Criminal Procedure

14 Section 11–722.1

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2025 Replacement Volume)

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

19 **Article – Criminal Law**

20 **3–1104.**

21 **IN A PROSECUTION BROUGHT FOR AN OFFENSE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE**
22 **COMMITTED AGAINST A MINOR, A STATE’S ATTORNEY MAY NOT ENTER INTO A PLEA**
23 **AGREEMENT THAT WOULD RESULT IN THE DISMISSAL OR NOLLE PROSEQUI OF ANY**
24 **CHARGE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

2 **11-722.1.**

3 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, “PLACE FOR CHILDREN” MEANS A LOCATION**
4 **SPECIFICALLY INTENDED TO BE USED OR VISITED BY MINORS.**

5 **(2) “PLACE FOR CHILDREN” INCLUDES:**

6 **(I) A PLAYGROUND;**

7 **(II) A THEME PARK; AND**

8 **(III) A CHILDREN’S MUSEUM.**

9 **(B) A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF AN OFFENSE IN WHICH THE**
10 **VICTIM OF THE OFFENSE WAS A MINOR AND THE OFFENSE REQUIRED REGISTRATION**
11 **UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT KNOWINGLY OPERATE OR ENTER A PLACE FOR**
12 **CHILDREN.**

13 **(C) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND**
14 **ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS OR A FINE**
15 **NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR BOTH.**

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