

# SENATE BILL 294

E2  
HB 613/25 – JUD

6lr1215  
CF HB 450

---

By: **Senator Love**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

---

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 20, 2026

---

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Protection of Identity of Victim of Sexual Assault or**  
3 **Stalking**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a court or a party in a criminal or juvenile delinquency case  
5 from disclosing or allowing inspection of a certain court filing or record to a nonparty  
6 unless the court or the party redacts certain identifying information relating to a  
7 certain victim of sexual assault or victim of stalking that appears in the filing or  
8 record, subject to a certain exception; requiring a court to redact certain identifying  
9 information relating to a certain victim of sexual assault or victim of stalking from  
10 an existing filing or record on certain request; providing for disclosure or inspection  
11 of a certain record or filing by a certain health occupations board; and generally  
12 relating to protection of victims.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Criminal Procedure  
15 Section 11–301  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2025 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

21 11–301.

---

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) ~~On motion of the State or on request of a victim or witness, during a criminal~~  
 2 ~~trial or a juvenile delinquency adjudicatory hearing, a court may prohibit the release of the~~  
 3 ~~address or telephone number of the victim or witness unless the court determines that good~~  
 4 ~~cause is shown for the release of the information.~~

5 ~~(b)~~ (1) ~~(i)~~ In this ~~subsection~~ SECTION the following words have the  
 6 meanings indicated.

7 ~~(ii)~~ **(2)** “Identifying information” means the name of, and any  
 8 other information that could reasonably be expected to identify, a minor victim, **A VICTIM**  
 9 **OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR A VICTIM OF STALKING.**

10 ~~(iii)~~ **(3)** “Minor victim” means [a] **AN ALLEGED** victim of a crime  
 11 or delinquent act who was a minor at the time that the crime or delinquent act occurred.

12 ~~(iv)~~ **(4)** “**VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT**” MEANS AN ALLEGED  
 13 **VICTIM OF SEXUALLY ASSAULTIVE BEHAVIOR AS DEFINED IN § 10-923 OF THE**  
 14 **COURTS ARTICLE OR A CRIME UNDER TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 11 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW**  
 15 **ARTICLE.**

16 ~~(v)~~ **(5)** “**VICTIM OF STALKING**” MEANS AN ALLEGED VICTIM  
 17 **OF STALKING AS DEFINED IN § 3-802 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE.**

18 **(B) ON MOTION OF THE STATE OR ON REQUEST OF A VICTIM OR WITNESS,**  
 19 **DURING A CRIMINAL TRIAL OR A JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ADJUDICATORY**  
 20 **HEARING, A COURT MAY PROHIBIT THE RELEASE OF THE ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE**  
 21 **NUMBER OF THE VICTIM OR WITNESS UNLESS THE COURT DETERMINES THAT GOOD**  
 22 **CAUSE IS SHOWN FOR THE RELEASE OF THE INFORMATION.**

23 ~~(2)~~ **(C)** Notwithstanding any other law, on notice that an electronic or  
 24 paper filing includes identifying information of a minor victim, unless the court finds by  
 25 clear and convincing evidence that there is good cause to order otherwise, the court or a  
 26 party in a criminal or juvenile delinquency case may not disclose or allow inspection of an  
 27 electronic or paper court filing, including a charging document, to a nonparty to the  
 28 criminal or juvenile delinquency case unless the court or the party disclosing or allowing  
 29 inspection of the filing redacts all identifying information that appears in the filing.

30 ~~(3)~~ **(D) (1)** **NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, ON NOTICE**  
 31 **THAT A CASE FILING OR RECORD INCLUDES IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF A**  
 32 **VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OR A VICTIM OF STALKING, UNLESS THE COURT FINDS**  
 33 **CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT THERE IS GOOD CAUSE TO ORDER**  
 34 **OTHERWISE, THE COURT OR A PARTY IN A CRIMINAL OR JUVENILE DELINQUENCY**  
 35 **CASE MAY NOT DISCLOSE OR ALLOW INSPECTION OF AN ELECTRONIC OR PAPER**  
 36 **COURT FILING OR RECORD, INCLUDING A CHARGING DOCUMENT, TO A NONPARTY**

1 TO THE CRIMINAL OR JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASE, EXCEPT TO THE VICTIM OR  
2 THE VICTIM'S REPRESENTATIVE, UNLESS THE COURT OR THE PARTY DISCLOSING OR  
3 ALLOWING INSPECTION OF THE FILING OR RECORD REDACTS ALL IDENTIFYING  
4 INFORMATION THAT APPEARS IN THE FILING OR RECORD.

5 ~~(4)~~ (2) ON WRITTEN REQUEST OF A VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OR  
6 A VICTIM OF STALKING, THE COURT SHALL REDACT IDENTIFYING INFORMATION  
7 RELATING TO THE VICTIM FROM AN EXISTING FILING OR RECORD.

8 (3) (I) 1. A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD THAT HAS LICENSED  
9 OR CERTIFIED THE DEFENDANT OR RESPONDENT MAY PETITION THE COURT TO  
10 ORDER THE DISCLOSURE OR ALLOW INSPECTION OF AN UNREDACTED FILING OR  
11 RECORD DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
12 INVESTIGATING OR OTHERWISE DISCIPLINING THE DEFENDANT OR RESPONDENT  
13 FOR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-212 OF THE HEALTH  
14 OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.

15 2. THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL SERVE  
16 NOTICE OF THE PETITION ON EACH PARTY IN THE CASE.

17 (II) AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE OF A PETITION UNDER  
18 SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE STATE'S ATTORNEY SHALL NOTIFY  
19 EACH VICTIM IN THE CASE:

20 1. THAT A PETITION HAS BEEN FILED TO RELEASE THE  
21 VICTIM'S IDENTIFYING INFORMATION TO A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD FOR THE  
22 PURPOSE OF DISCIPLINE AGAINST THE DEFENDANT OR RESPONDENT;

23 2. OF THE TYPE OF INFORMATION THAT MAY BE  
24 RELEASED TO THE BOARD;

25 3. HOW THE VICTIM MAY OBJECT TO THE DISCLOSURE  
26 TO OR INSPECTION OF THE UNREDACTED FILING OR RECORD; AND

27 4. OF THE SEXUAL ASSAULT CRISIS PROGRAMS  
28 CERTIFIED UNDER § 11-923 OF THIS TITLE.

29 (III) UNLESS A VICTIM IN THE CASE OBJECTS, AN  
30 INVESTIGATION OR OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN BY A HEALTH  
31 OCCUPATIONS BOARD AGAINST A DEFENDANT IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-212 OF  
32 THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE IS GOOD CAUSE TO ALLOW DISCLOSURE OR  
33 INSPECTION OF AN UNREDACTED FILING OR RECORD.

1                                    **(IV) A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD THAT OBTAINS A FILING**  
2 **OR RECORD UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT PUBLICLY DISCLOSE THE RECORD**  
3 **OR FILING.**

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

Approved:

---

Governor.

---

President of the Senate.

---

Speaker of the House of Delegates.