

JACK BAILEY  
Legislative District 29  
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Education, Health, and  
Environmental Affairs Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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February 6, 2020

**Senate Bill 259 – Criminal Law – Crime of Violence – Definition**

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 259 – Criminal Law – Crime of Violence – Definition.

Senate Bill 259 alters the definition of “crime of violence” under § 14-101 of the Criminal Law Article to include involuntary manslaughter and sexual abuse of a minor under specified circumstances where the offender is an adult and the victim is a minor younger than age 18.

These two changes strengthen Maryland’s criminal laws by making involuntary manslaughter and sexual abuse of a minor between the ages of 13 and 17 crimes of violence, which subjects offenders to additional criminal penalties under Maryland law. At this time, when Marylanders are increasingly focused on ways to stop crime in our state, this bill could be part of the solution, particularly by giving longer sentences to those who sexually abuse minors.

I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 259. Thank you for your consideration of this important bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bailey'.

Senator Jack Bailey  
District 29  
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties