



# Montgomery County

## Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 425

DATE: February 11, 2020

SPONSOR: Delegate Bartlett, *et al.*

ASSIGNED TO: Judiciary

CONTACT PERSON: Sara Morningstar (sara.morningstar@montgomerycountymd.gov)

POSITION: SUPPORT (Montgomery County Department of Police)

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### **Criminal Procedure – Sexual Assault Evidence Kits – Privacy, Reimbursement, and Notification**

House Bill 425 instructs a hospital, a physician, or a qualified healthcare provider to direct all requests for reimbursement for services provided to a victim of sexual assault to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB). The bill also enhances privacy provisions for victims as well as expands the length of time when a physical and sexual assault forensic examination of a victim can be filed as an eligible claim for compensation from the CICB.

Over the past several years, Maryland has been working to enact laws to promote justice for survivors of sexual violence and accountability for offenders. Through substantive changes in criminal procedure, like those proposed in HB 425, Maryland will take another step closer toward eliminating sexual violence in the State of Maryland.

It is with this laudable goal in mind, that the Montgomery County Department of Police supports HB 425 and urges that the Committee adopt a favorable report on the bill.

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