

**APRIL ROSE**  
*Legislative District 5*  
Carroll County



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Health and Government Operations  
Committee

*Subcommittees*  
Estates and Trusts

Government Operations and  
Long Term Care

**THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**SUPPORT HB 1551**

**Health Practitioners – Minor Patients – Child Abuse Reporting**

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Chairman Clippinger, Vice Chair Atterbeary and members of the Judiciary Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present HB 1551.

This bill requires health practitioners to inform minor patients that they can report abuse to the health practitioner.

The intent of this legislation is to protect minors when they encounter incidents in their lives that could be the result of abuse, rape or trafficking.

The health practitioner would be required to provide written information to the patient outlining their rights if the incident could be the result of abuse, rape or trafficking.

This information may be provided in any way the health practitioner would choose.

In my discussions with advocates for children, I have learned that often the predators themselves or enabling parents often interfere in these situations and prevent children from feeling open to disclose the situations they have experienced.

It is my wish that this may provide an additional avenue of providing some hope - or plan of action - for a minor to be informed of opportunities, resources and help available to them.

Thank you for your consideration.

I respectfully request a **FAVORABLE** report.

April Rose  
Delegate, District 5 Carroll County