



Secular Maryland

<https://secularmaryland.dorik.io> [secularmaryland@tutanota.com](mailto:secularmaryland@tutanota.com)

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February 13, 2024

## **HB 496 - SUPPORT**

Criminal Law - Sexual Crimes - Definition of Consent and Repeal of Force

Dear Chair Luke Clippinger, Vice-Chair J. Sandy Bartlett, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

This bill applies a standard secular definition of consent to sexual crime. There is a need to clarify and standardize the law and provide judges, lawyers, plaintiffs, and defendants clear definitions. Secular Maryland favors enacting this bill.

Mathew Goldstein  
3838 Early Glow Ln  
Bowie, MD