

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor



DOROTHY LENNIG
Executive Director

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 136

January 28, 2025

Bethany Young, Director of Policy and Legislation

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP)

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) advises the Governor on criminal justice strategies, coordinates across public safety agencies, and allocates resources statewide to support public safety.

One of GOCPP's duties is managing reimbursements to medical professionals for services provided to survivors of sexual assaults. Within GOCPP, the Sexual Assault Reimbursement Unit (SARU) administers the reimbursement program according to §§11–1007 and 11–1008 of the Criminal Procedure Article.

House Bill 136 is a technical bill updating the law to reflect current practice. Current law states that the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) issues reimbursements for sexual assault forensic exams. However, because the legal requirements, budgets, and processes for paying CICB and SARU claims differ, GOCPP maintains separate units and processes each payment category differently. HB136 amends the law to clarify that CICB does not process payments to medical providers for treatment they provide to survivors of sex crimes.

GOCPP requests a favorable report on HB136.