



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 19, 2025

**HB 676 - Duty to Remain at the Scene, Render Assistance, and Provide Information**

Good afternoon Chair Klippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, esteemed members of the committee, I am Delegate Stuart Schmidt from District 33B.

For the purpose of requiring the operator of a vessel involved in a collision, accident, or other casualty to stop the vessel as close as possible to the scene of the collision, accident, or casualty until the operator has rendered certain assistance and provided certain information; establishing criminal penalties for the operator of a vessel involved in a collision, accident, or other casualty.

In short, this bill requires those involved in boating accidents to remain at the scene, render assistance to injured parties, and provide critical information to law enforcement and other parties. It introduces stricter penalties for non-compliance to deter negligent or reckless behavior.

When this bill is passed, it would finally bring the penalties for leaving the scene of a boating accident in line with those for leaving the scene of a vehicle accident.

Senate update – Amendments in Senate added

The SB has been voted on and passed out of the committee favorably and then onto the floor which it was also voted on and passed unanimously by the Senate.

I ask the committee kindly for a favorable report. Thank you!