

# HOUSE BILL 450

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6lr1214  
CF SB 294

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By: **Delegates Guyton, Bagnall, Boyce, Conaway, Embry, Feldmark, Fennell, Foley, Forbes, Harrison, Hornberger, D. Jones, Kaiser, Kaufman, Lehman, Lewis, J. Long, Lopez, Miller, Phillips, Roberts, Rose, Ruth, Schindler, Spiegel, Stein, Stinnett, Taveras, Terrasa, Tomlinson, Watson, White Holland, Wolek, Woods, Woorman, and Wu**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 22, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Protection of Identity of Victim of Sexual Assault or**  
3 **Stalking**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a court or a party in a criminal or juvenile delinquency case  
5 from disclosing or allowing inspection of a certain court filing or record to a nonparty  
6 unless the court or the party redacts certain identifying information relating to a  
7 certain victim of sexual assault or victim of stalking that appears in the filing or  
8 record, subject to a certain exception; requiring a court to redact certain identifying  
9 information relating to a certain victim of sexual assault or victim of stalking from  
10 an existing filing or record on certain request; providing for disclosure or inspection  
11 of a certain record or filing by a certain health occupations board; and generally  
12 relating to protection of victims.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Criminal Procedure

15 Section 11–301

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2025 Replacement Volume)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

2 11–301.

3 (a) ~~On motion of the State or on request of a victim or witness, during a criminal~~  
 4 ~~trial or a juvenile delinquency adjudicatory hearing, a court may prohibit the release of the~~  
 5 ~~address or telephone number of the victim or witness unless the court determines that good~~  
 6 ~~cause is shown for the release of the information.~~

7 ~~(b)~~ (1) ~~(i)~~ In this ~~subsection~~ SECTION the following words have the  
 8 meanings indicated.

9 ~~(ii)~~ **(2)** “Identifying information” means the name of, and any  
 10 other information that could reasonably be expected to identify, a minor victim, **A VICTIM**  
 11 **OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR A VICTIM OF STALKING.**

12 ~~(iii)~~ **(3)** “Minor victim” means [a] **AN ALLEGED** victim of a crime  
 13 or delinquent act who was a minor at the time that the crime or delinquent act occurred.

14 ~~(iv)~~ **(4)** “**VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT**” MEANS AN ALLEGED  
 15 **VICTIM OF SEXUALLY ASSAULTIVE BEHAVIOR AS DEFINED IN § 10–923 OF THE**  
 16 **COURTS ARTICLE OR A CRIME UNDER TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 11 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW**  
 17 **ARTICLE.**

18 ~~(v)~~ **(5)** “**VICTIM OF STALKING**” MEANS AN ALLEGED VICTIM  
 19 **OF STALKING AS DEFINED IN § 3–802 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE.**

20 **(B) ON MOTION OF THE STATE OR ON REQUEST OF A VICTIM OR WITNESS,**  
 21 **DURING A CRIMINAL TRIAL OR A JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ADJUDICATORY**  
 22 **HEARING, A COURT MAY PROHIBIT THE RELEASE OF THE ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE**  
 23 **NUMBER OF THE VICTIM OR WITNESS UNLESS THE COURT DETERMINES THAT GOOD**  
 24 **CAUSE IS SHOWN FOR THE RELEASE OF THE INFORMATION.**

25 ~~(2)~~ **(C)** Notwithstanding any other law, on notice that an electronic or  
 26 paper filing includes identifying information of a minor victim, unless the court finds by  
 27 clear and convincing evidence that there is good cause to order otherwise, the court or a  
 28 party in a criminal or juvenile delinquency case may not disclose or allow inspection of an  
 29 electronic or paper court filing, including a charging document, to a nonparty to the  
 30 criminal or juvenile delinquency case unless the court or the party disclosing or allowing  
 31 inspection of the filing redacts all identifying information that appears in the filing.

32 ~~(3)~~ **(D)** **(1)** **NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, ON NOTICE**  
 33 **THAT A CASE FILING OR RECORD INCLUDES IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF A**  
 34 **VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OR A VICTIM OF STALKING, UNLESS THE COURT FINDS**

1 CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT THERE IS GOOD CAUSE TO ORDER  
2 OTHERWISE, THE COURT OR A PARTY IN A CRIMINAL OR JUVENILE DELINQUENCY  
3 CASE MAY NOT DISCLOSE OR ALLOW INSPECTION OF AN ELECTRONIC OR PAPER  
4 COURT FILING OR RECORD, INCLUDING A CHARGING DOCUMENT, TO A NONPARTY  
5 TO THE CRIMINAL OR JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASE, EXCEPT TO THE VICTIM OR  
6 THE VICTIM'S REPRESENTATIVE, UNLESS THE COURT OR THE PARTY DISCLOSING OR  
7 ALLOWING INSPECTION OF THE FILING OR RECORD REDACTS ALL IDENTIFYING  
8 INFORMATION THAT APPEARS IN THE FILING OR RECORD.

9 ~~(4)~~ (2) ON WRITTEN REQUEST OF A VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OR  
10 A VICTIM OF STALKING, THE COURT SHALL REDACT IDENTIFYING INFORMATION  
11 RELATING TO THE VICTIM FROM AN EXISTING FILING OR RECORD.

12 (3) (I) 1. A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD THAT HAS LICENSED  
13 OR CERTIFIED THE DEFENDANT OR RESPONDENT MAY PETITION THE COURT TO  
14 ORDER THE DISCLOSURE OR ALLOW INSPECTION OF AN UNREDACTED FILING OR  
15 RECORD DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
16 INVESTIGATING OR OTHERWISE DISCIPLINING THE DEFENDANT OR RESPONDENT  
17 FOR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-212 OF THE HEALTH  
18 OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.

19 2. THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL SERVE  
20 NOTICE OF THE PETITION ON EACH PARTY IN THE CASE.

21 (II) AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE OF A PETITION UNDER  
22 SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE STATE'S ATTORNEY SHALL NOTIFY  
23 EACH VICTIM IN THE CASE:

24 1. THAT A PETITION HAS BEEN FILED TO RELEASE THE  
25 VICTIM'S IDENTIFYING INFORMATION TO A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD FOR THE  
26 PURPOSE OF DISCIPLINE AGAINST THE DEFENDANT OR RESPONDENT;

27 2. OF THE TYPE OF INFORMATION THAT MAY BE  
28 RELEASED TO THE BOARD;

29 3. HOW THE VICTIM MAY OBJECT TO THE DISCLOSURE  
30 TO OR INSPECTION OF THE UNREDACTED FILING OR RECORD; AND

31 4. OF THE SEXUAL ASSAULT CRISIS PROGRAMS  
32 CERTIFIED UNDER § 11-923 OF THIS TITLE.

33 (III) UNLESS A VICTIM IN THE CASE OBJECTS, AN  
34 INVESTIGATION OR OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN BY A HEALTH  
35 OCCUPATIONS BOARD AGAINST A DEFENDANT IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-212 OF

1 THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE IS GOOD CAUSE TO ALLOW DISCLOSURE OR  
2 INSPECTION OF AN UNREDACTED FILING OR RECORD.

3 (IV) A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD THAT OBTAINS A FILING  
4 OR RECORD UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT PUBLICLY DISCLOSE THE RECORD  
5 OR FILING.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
7 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.