

HOUSE BILL 256

D4, O3, O2

7lr1494

By: **Delegates Carozza, Atterbeary, Aumann, Dumais, Krebs, McComas, Proctor, Rey, Valentino-Smith, and B. Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Adult Protective Services – Investigation – Time Period Increase**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the period of time during which a local department of social
4 services, or in Montgomery County the county department of health and human
5 services, must complete an investigation after receiving a report of suspected abuse,
6 neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation of an alleged vulnerable adult; and generally
7 relating to investigations conducted by local departments under adult protective
8 services programs.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Family Law
11 Section 14–303(a) and (b)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Family Law
16 Section 14–303(d)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
20 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Family Law**

22 14–303.

23 (a) To protect the welfare of the alleged vulnerable adult the local department
24 shall begin a thorough investigation:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(1) within 5 working days after the receipt of the report of suspected abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation; or

(2) within 24 hours after the receipt of the report of suspected abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation if the report indicates that an emergency exists.

(b) The investigation shall include:

(1) a determination of whether:

(i) the individual is a vulnerable adult; and

(ii) there has been abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation; and

(2) if the individual is determined to be a vulnerable adult and to have suffered abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation:

(i) a determination of the nature, extent, and cause of the abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation;

(ii) a determination of the identity of the person or persons responsible for the abuse, neglect, self-neglect, or exploitation;

(iii) an evaluation of the home environment; and

(iv) a determination of any other pertinent facts.

(d) An investigation under this section shall be completed within:

(1) **[30] 60** days; or

(2) 10 days if the report indicates that an emergency exists.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.