

HOUSE BILL 1123

E2

8lr3362

By: **Delegate Conaway**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2018

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Sexual Assault Evidence Kits – Federal Best Practices**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and
4 Funding Committee to develop and disseminate best practices for testing and
5 retention of sexual assault evidence collection kits in accordance with certain federal
6 recommendations; and generally relating to the testing and retention of sexual
7 assault evidence collection kits.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Criminal Procedure

10 Section 11–927(a)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Criminal Procedure

15 Section 11–927(e)

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Criminal Procedure**

21 11–927.

22 (a) In this section, “Committee” means the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence
23 Kit Policy and Funding Committee.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (e) (1) The Committee shall develop and disseminate best practices
2 information and recommendations regarding:

3 (i) the testing and retention of sexual assault evidence collection
4 kits **IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL RECOMMENDATIONS PUBLISHED BY THE**
5 **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE;**

6 (ii) coordination between State agencies, victim services providers,
7 local law enforcement, and local sexual assault response teams;

8 (iii) payment for sexual assault evidence collection kits;

9 (iv) increasing the availability of sexual assault evidence collection
10 exams for alleged victims of sexual assault;

11 (v) reducing the shortage of forensic nurse examiners; and

12 (vi) increasing the availability of information to sexual assault
13 victims regarding:

- 14 1. criminal prosecutions of sexual assault crimes;
- 15 2. civil law remedies available to victims of sexual assault;
- 16 3. sexual assault evidence collection kits; and
- 17 4. victim rights.

18 (2) The Committee may adopt rules governing the administration and
19 proceedings of the Committee.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2018.