

# SENATE BILL 177

E1  
HB 1260/13 – JUD

4lr0963  
CF 4lr0964

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By: **Senator Gladden**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Crimes – Elder Abuse or Neglect – Increased Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the penalties for the crime of causing abuse or neglect of a  
4 vulnerable adult in the first or second degree; and generally relating to elder  
5 abuse or neglect.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article – Criminal Law  
8 Section 3–604(b) and 3–605(b)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Criminal Law  
13 Section 3–604(c) and 3–605(c)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Criminal Law**

19 3–604.

20 (b) (1) A caregiver, a parent, or other person who has permanent or  
21 temporary care or responsibility for the supervision of a vulnerable adult may not  
22 cause abuse or neglect of the vulnerable adult that:

23 (i) results in the death of the vulnerable adult;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) causes serious physical injury to the vulnerable adult; or

2 (iii) involves sexual abuse of the vulnerable adult.

3 (2) A household member or family member may not cause abuse or  
4 neglect of a vulnerable adult that:

5 (i) results in the death of the vulnerable adult;

6 (ii) causes serious physical injury to the vulnerable adult; or

7 (iii) involves sexual abuse of the vulnerable adult.

8 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of the felony of abuse or  
9 neglect of a vulnerable adult in the first degree and on conviction is subject to  
10 imprisonment not exceeding [10] **20** years or a fine not exceeding [\$10,000] **\$20,000**  
11 or both.

12 3-605.

13 (b) (1) A caregiver, a parent, or other person who has permanent or  
14 temporary care or responsibility for the supervision of a vulnerable adult may not  
15 cause abuse or neglect of the vulnerable adult.

16 (2) A household member or family member may not cause abuse or  
17 neglect of a vulnerable adult.

18 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of the misdemeanor of abuse  
19 or neglect of a vulnerable adult in the second degree and on conviction is subject to  
20 imprisonment not exceeding [5] **10** years or a fine not exceeding [\$5,000] **\$10,000** or  
21 both.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
23 October 1, 2014.