

HOUSE BILL 1121

E2

8lr3310

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 – Voluntary Payment by Victim for Testing of Kit**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and
4 Funding Committee to develop a process to allow the victim of a sexual assault to
5 elect to pay for the testing of a sexual assault evidence kit; and generally relating to
6 the duties of the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and Funding
7 Committee.

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.

24 (e) (1) The Committee shall develop and disseminate best practices

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 information and recommendations regarding:

2 (i) the testing and retention of sexual assault evidence collection
3 kits;

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

6 (iii) payment for sexual assault evidence collection kits, **INCLUDING**
7 **DEVELOPMENT OF A PROCESS TO ALLOW A VICTIM TO ELECT TO PAY FOR THE**
8 **TESTING OF A SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE COLLECTION KIT;**

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.