

# HOUSE BILL 1116

E4, D4

5lr2917

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By: **Delegate Healey**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2025

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – State Clearinghouse for Missing Persons**

3 FOR the purpose of renaming and transferring the State Clearinghouse for Missing  
4 Children to be the State Clearinghouse for Missing Persons; and generally relating  
5 to the State Clearinghouse for Missing Persons.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, and transferring

7 Article – Family Law

8 Section 9–403

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

11 to be

12 Article – Public Safety

13 Section 3–609

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
17 That Section(s) 9–403 of Article – Family Law of the Annotated Code of Maryland be  
18 repealed and reenacted, with amendments, and transferred to be Section(s) 3–609 of Article  
19 – Public Safety of the Annotated Code of Maryland, to read as follows:

20 **Article – Public Safety**

21 3–609.

22 (a) There is a State Clearinghouse for Missing [Children] **PERSONS** operated by  
23 the Department of State Police that is responsible for:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) the receipt, collection, and distribution of general information and  
2 annual statistics regarding missing [children] **PERSONS**; and

3 (2) coordination of law enforcement agencies and other interested  
4 [persons] **INDIVIDUALS** or groups within and outside the State regarding information on  
5 [children] **PERSONS** who have disappeared from, or are thought to be located in, Maryland.

6 (b) For [children] **PERSONS** who have disappeared from or are thought to be  
7 located in the State, the State Clearinghouse for Missing [Children] **PERSONS**:

8 (1) shall publish:

9 (i) the names of and relevant available information on missing  
10 [children] **PERSONS**; and

11 (ii) annual statistics regarding missing [children] **PERSONS**; and

12 (2) may establish and maintain a list of organizations and groups that  
13 provide volunteer search teams or resources relating to missing [children] **PERSONS**.

14 (c) The Secretary of State Police may develop, in cooperation with local law  
15 enforcement agencies, a plan for voluntary fingerprinting programs for children.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
17 October 1, 2025.