



2017 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

MNADV Priority Legislation - SUPPORT

HB /SB Health Care Decisions Act – Advance Directives and Surrogate Decision Making – Disqualified Individuals

Primary House Sponsor: Delegate Shelly Hettleman

Primary Senate Sponsor: Senator Delores Kelley

This bill would prohibit certain individuals from serving as a surrogate decision maker or health care agent for the purpose of making health care decisions for a patient if they are the subject of an interim, temporary or final protective order for that patient or if the individual is the spouse of a patient with a separation agreement or who has filed for divorce. Patients would be persons eligible for relief for a protective order. The goal is to prevent an abuser (spouse, intimate partner, family member, guardian) from making health care decisions for someone they have abused and who may have caused the patient's injuries.

HB /SB 224 Conviction of a Disqualifying Crime – Probation Before Judgment – Second Degree Assault

Primary House Sponsor: Delegate Kathleen Dumais

Primary Senate Sponsor: Senator Susan Lee

This bill would ensure that people who have received a Probation Before Judgment (PBJ) in a criminal court case for second degree assault for a domestically-related crime cannot retain their firearms. This change would correct an inconsistency in the current law. This legislative proposal came out of a Family Violence Council workgroup that included a broad diversity of advocates and criminal justice stakeholders.

Other Domestic Violence Bills of Interest - SUPPORT

Other Related Bills of Interest - SUPPORT

HB 1/SB 230 Labor and Employment - Maryland Healthy Working Families Act

Primary Senate Sponsor: Senator Mac Middleton

Primary House Sponsor: Delegate Luke Clippinger

This bill would require employers with 15 or more employees to the employees to earn a certain number of annual paid sick and safe days, including earning one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked, up to a maximum of seven days per year. The safe time component requires employers to allow survivors of domestic abuse or sexual assault to use paid sick leave to care for their health after these incidents or seek legal protections or new housing.

For further information about the 2017 Legislative Agenda, contact:

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For information on bills, legislators, synopses, budget, etc.:

Website: <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov> or call Legislative Services at 301-970-5200 or 410-946-5200

→ **NOTE:** **Committee votes** are now available online on the Maryland General Assembly website.

Look under the Documents section at the bottom of the bill information page.

When a committee vote is available a link is provided to the vote record in pdf format.

Committee hearings and general sessions may be accessed online through audio and/or video.

Check the Maryland General Assembly website for the headphone or video camera icon.

The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) is the state domestic violence coalition that brings together victim service providers, allied professionals, and concerned individuals for the common purpose of reducing intimate partner and family violence and its harmful effects on our citizens. The Network accomplishes this goal by providing education, training, resources, and advocacy to advance victim safety and abuser accountability.