

14-12A-04.

IF A JUDGMENT IS ENTERED IN FAVOR OF A COMPLAINING PARTY, THE COURT MAY AWARD ATTORNEY FEES TO THE COMPLAINING PARTY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1980.

Approved May 6, 1980.

CHAPTER 317

(Senate Bill 433)

AN ACT concerning

Alleged Rape and Sexual Offense Victims -
Payment of Medical Expenses

FOR the purpose of altering the present reimbursement procedure for the victims of alleged rape and sexual offenses to provide that the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall pay certain doctor and hospital charges; and generally relating to the payment of doctor and hospital costs for alleged rape and sexual offense victims.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 43 - Health
Section 31D
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1971 Replacement Volume and 1979 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 43 - Health

31D.

(a) Whenever a doctor or a hospital provides any physical examination of any victim of an alleged rape or sexual offense for the purpose of establishing and gathering information and evidence as to the ALLEGED crime, the service shall be furnished without charge to the person and the doctor or hospital shall be entitled to be [reimbursed] PAID by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for the costs of providing these services.