

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1984.

Approved May 29, 1984.

CHAPTER 784

(Senate Bill 323)

AN ACT concerning

Child Abuse - Investigations

FOR the purpose of requiring that certain agencies responsible for investigating reports of child abuse initiate an investigation within a certain period after receiving a report; requiring that certain agencies enter certain written agreements; requiring certain agencies responsible for investigating reports of child sexual abuse to implement certain joint investigatory procedures; requiring that the procedures include certain matters; and generally relating to investigations of child abuse by certain agencies.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Family Law
Section 5-905
Annotated Code of Maryland
(As enacted by Chapter ____ (H.B. 1) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1984)

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

Article - Family Law

5-905.

(a) (1) Promptly after receiving a report of suspected abuse, the local department or the appropriate law enforcement agency, as appropriate, or both, if jointly agreed on, shall make a thorough investigation to protect the welfare of the child or children.

(2) WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER RECEIVING THE REPORT OF SUSPECTED ABUSE, THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OR THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL:

(I) SEE THE CHILD;

(II) ATTEMPT TO HAVE AN ON-SITE INTERVIEW WITH THE CHILD'S CARETAKER; AND