

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 26A - Criminal Injuries Compensation Act
 Section 1-7, 2, 5, 7, 8(a), and 12(a)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (1981 Replacement Volume and 1984 Supplement)

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

Article 26A - Criminal Injuries Compensation Act

1-

The legislature recognizes that many innocent persons suffer personal physical injury, PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURY, or death as a result of criminal acts or in their efforts to prevent crime or apprehend persons committing or attempting to commit crimes. Such persons or their dependents may thereby suffer disability, incur financial hardships or become dependent upon public assistance. The legislature finds and determines that there is a need for government financial assistance for such victims of crime. Accordingly, it is the legislature's intent that aid, care and support be provided by the State, as a matter of moral responsibility, for such victims of crime.

2.

For the purpose of this article:

(a) "Board" [shall mean] MEANS the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board

(b) "Claimant" [shall mean] MEANS the person filing a claim pursuant to this article.

(c) "Crime" [shall mean] MEANS an act committed by any person [in the State of Maryland which would constitute a crime as defined in Article 27 of the Code] IN THIS STATE WHICH WOULD BE A CRIME UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS STATE, FEDERAL LAW, or at common law, provided, however, that no act involving the operation of a vessel or motor vehicle which results in injury shall constitute a crime for the purpose of this article unless the injuries were intentionally inflicted through the use of a vessel or motor vehicle.

(d) "Family" when used with reference to a person, [shall mean] MEANS: (1) any person related to such person within the third degree of consanguinity or [affinity,] AFFINITY; (2) any person maintaining a sexual relationship with such [person,] PERSON; or (3) any person residing in the same household with such person.