

OTHER PERSON WHO HAS PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY CARE OR CUSTODY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUPERVISION OF A CHILD, OR BY ANY HOUSEHOLD OR FAMILY MEMBER.

(2) "SEXUAL ABUSE" INCLUDES:

- (I) INCEST, RAPE, OR SEXUAL OFFENSE IN ANY DEGREE;
- (II) SODOMY; AND
- (III) UNNATURAL OR PERVERTED SEXUAL PRACTICES.

5-702.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUBTITLE IS TO PROTECT CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT BY:

- (1) MANDATING THE REPORTING OF ANY SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT;
- (2) GIVING IMMUNITY TO ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO REPORTS, IN GOOD FAITH, A SUSPECTED INCIDENT OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT;
- (3) REQUIRING PROMPT INVESTIGATION OF EACH REPORTED SUSPECTED INCIDENT OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT;
- (4) CAUSING IMMEDIATE, COOPERATIVE EFFORTS BY THE RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF REPORTS OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT; AND
- (5) REQUIRING EACH LOCAL DEPARTMENT TO GIVE THE APPROPRIATE SERVICE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE ABUSED OR NEGLECTED CHILD.

5-703.

THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE ARE IN ADDITION TO AND NOT IN SUBSTITUTION FOR THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 8 OF THE COURTS AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS ARTICLE.

5-704.

(A) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, INCLUDING ANY LAW ON PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS, EACH HEALTH PRACTITIONER, POLICE OFFICER, OR EDUCATOR OR HUMAN SERVICE WORKER, ACTING IN A PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY, WHO HAS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT A CHILD HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO:

- (1) (I) ABUSE, SHALL NOTIFY THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OR THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY; OR