

physical injury for the purpose of the crime of child abuse in the first degree.

House Bill 588, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 133.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Senate Bill No. 133

AN ACT concerning

Criminal Law - Child Abuse and Child Sexual Abuse - Increased Penalties

FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain persons with permanent or temporary care or custody or responsibility for the supervision of a minor from causing abuse resulting in ~~serious~~ severe physical injury or death to the minor; altering certain penalties for child abuse; establishing the offenses of child abuse in the first and second degrees; increasing certain penalties for child sexual abuse; establishing certain penalties for certain subsequent convictions of certain offenses; defining a certain term; and generally relating to penalties for abuse and sexual abuse of a minor.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Criminal Law
Section 3-601 and 3-602
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2002 Volume)

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

Article - Criminal Law

3-601.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) "Abuse" means physical injury sustained by a minor as a result of cruel or inhumane treatment or as a result of a malicious act under circumstances that indicate that the minor's health or welfare is harmed or threatened by the treatment or act.

(3) "Family member" means a relative of a minor by blood, adoption, or marriage.

(4) "Household member" means a person who lives with or is a regular presence in a home of a minor at the time of the alleged abuse.

(5) "~~SERIOUS~~ SERIOUS SEVERE PHYSICAL INJURY" MEANS: