D4 0lr1908

By: Senator Lee

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2020

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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Child Custody and Visitation - Abuse or Neglect of Child

- FOR the purpose of requiring a court, in a custody or visitation proceeding, to deny custody or visitation rights to a certain party under certain circumstances, unless the court states the reasons for a certain finding; altering the conditions of a certain supervised visitation arrangement that a court is authorized to approve; and generally relating to child custody and visitation.
- 8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 9 Article Family Law
- 10 Section 9–101
- 11 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 12 (2019 Replacement Volume)
- 13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 Article – Family Law

16 9–101.

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- 17 (a) In any custody or visitation proceeding, if the court has reasonable grounds to believe that a child has been abused or neglected by a party to the proceeding, the court shall determine whether abuse or neglect is likely to occur if custody or visitation rights are granted to the party.
 - (b) Unless the court specifically finds that there is no likelihood of further child abuse or neglect by the party AND STATES THE REASONS FOR THE FINDING, the court shall deny custody or visitation rights to that party, except that the court may approve a supervised visitation arrangement, WITH NEUTRAL AND PHYSICALLY PRESENT



- $1\quad \textbf{SUPERVISION,} \text{ that assures the safety and the physiological, psychological, and emotional}$
- 2 well-being of the child.
- 3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 4 October 1, 2020.