### General Assembly of Maryland

#### Dates of Interest

**2018 SESSION**

#### 438th Session

(Preliminary)

**January 10**  
**GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES (noon, Wednesday)**

17 Final date for Governor to introduce budget bill

17 Final date for the Governor to introduce capital budget bill

19 **10th Day** — Final date for submission of Executive Orders reorganizing the Executive Branch of State Government; either Chamber may disapprove by resolution within 50 days

22 **13th Day** — Administration bills introduced in the Senate after this date referred to Senate Rules Committee.

23 **14th Day** — **SENATE AND HOUSE BILL REQUEST GUARANTEE DATE**

24 **15th Day** — Final date for introduction of Governor’s Salary Commission, General Assembly Compensation Commission, and Judicial Compensation Commission recommendations. Legislative action must be taken within 50 days after introduction of the joint resolutions of the Governor’s Salary Commission and the Judicial Compensation Commission.

**February 5**  
**27th Day** — **SENATE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE**

Senate bills introduced after this date referred to the Senate Rules Committee

8 Day before House Bill Introduction Date; “Hopper” will close at 5:00 P.M.

9 **31st Day** — **HOUSE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE**

House bills introduced after this date referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee

18 **40th Day** — “Green Bag” appointments submitted by Governor (Delivered on Friday, February 16)

**March 5**  
**55th Day** — Final date for introduction of bills without suspension of Rules

13 **63rd Day** — Committee Reporting Courtesy Date

Each Chamber’s committees to report their own bills by this date

19 **69th Day** — Opposite Chamber Bill Crossover Date

Each Chamber to send to other Chamber those bills it intends to pass favorably

Opposite Chamber bills received after this date subject to referral to Rules Committees (Senate Rule 32(c), House Courtesy Date)

**April 2**  
**83rd Day** — Budget bill to be passed by both Chambers

**April 9**  
**90th Day** — **ADJOURNMENT “SINE DIE” (Monday)**

**May 9**  
Final date for an extended session (Wednesday)

### POST-SESSION

**April 28**  
20th Day after adjournment — Final date for presentment of bills to Governor

**May 28**  
30th Day after presentment — Governor to sign/veto bills by this date

**June 1**  
Other than emergency bills and as otherwise provided, earliest date for bills to take effect

**July 1**  
Budgetary, tax, and revenue bills to take effect

**October 1**  
Usual effective date for bills

### HOLIDAYS AND OTHER OBSERVANCES

**January 1**  
1 New Year’s Day*

15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*

**February 12**  
1 Lincoln’s Birthday

19 Presidents’ Day*

22 Washington’s Birthday

**March 25**  
Maryland Day

30 Passover

30 Good Friday

**April 1**  
Easter

**May 28**  
Memorial Day*

*State Holiday

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provides that Senate bills and joint resolutions introduced after the “13th calendar day” of session on behalf of the Administration, i.e., the Governor, revenue bills. By custom, October 1 is the usual effective date for legislation. June 1 after the session during which the laws passed. June 1 is the effective date for bond bills, and July 1 is the effective date for budgetary, tax, and

Effective Date of Bills

Introduction of Legislation

Governor approves it.

Presentment and Signing of Bills

Adoption of Budget Bill

Reorganization of Executive Branch

Limitation on Length of Session

Effective Date of Bills

The introduction of legislation is governed by Constitutional provision, rule, and custom. Article III, Section 27 of the Maryland Constitution prohibits the introduction of legislation “during the last thirty-five calendar days” of a regular session, unless permitted by two-thirds vote of the members. This allows 55 days for the normal introduction of bills.

Senate Rule 32(b) and (d)(1) and House Rule 32(b) materially after the 55/35 day situation. Senate Rule 32(b) requires Senate bills and joint resolutions introduced “after the twenty-seventh calendar day” of the session to be referred to the Senate Rules Committee. Senate Rule 32(d)(1) provides that Senate bills and joint resolutions introduced after the “13th calendar day” of session on behalf of the Administration, i.e., the Governor, be referred to the Senate Rules Committee. House Rule 32(b) requires that all House bills and joint resolutions introduced “during the last fifty-nine calendar days” of the session (after the thirty-first day) be referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee. The Senate Rules and House Rules contain further provisions concerning the requirements for forcing legislation out of these committees.

Introduction, the General Assembly may amend the joint resolution to decrease the salaries, but may not amend the joint resolution to increase the salaries.

Article III, Section 52(10) specifies that, if the budget bill has not been acted upon by the legislature at least “seven days before the expiration” of a regular session, the Governor is required to issue a proclamation extending the session for whatever period in the Governor’s judgment is necessary for the passage of the bill. Section 52(10) further stipulates that no matter other than the budget bill is to be considered during the extended session, except a provision for the cost of the extended session.

Governor to reorganize the Executive Branch of the State Government through Executive Orders submitted to the General Assembly “within the first ten days” of a regular session. The Executive Orders become effective on the date designated in the Orders, unless the majority of all members of either Chamber specifically concurs in a resolution of disapproval “within fifty days” after the Orders are submitted.

Article II, Section 24 of the Maryland Constitution permits the Governor to continue the session for a period “not longer than ninety days” each year. The General Assembly or the Governor may extend the session for up to thirty days.

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