

Report of the Conference Committee on House Bill 70

The Budget Bill

April 13, 2015

Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate:

Mr. Speaker,
Ladies and Gentlemen of the House of Delegates:

The Conference Committee has reconciled the differences between the Senate and House versions of HB 70 and Supplemental Budget No. 1, in which the House made total reductions of \$354.7 million, including \$158.0 million in reductions contingent on HB 72, the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA) of 2015. The Senate made total reductions of \$322.1 million, of which \$162.0 million is contingent on the BRFA of 2015. The Conference Committee made total reductions of \$298.5 million, including \$162.0 million contingent on the BRFA of 2015.

The House adopted 155 amendments to the budget bill. The Senate subsequently adopted 44 amendments to the budget bill, as amended by the House. The House concurred in none of the Senate amendments. All of these amendments have been reconsidered, and actions taken are indicated in the attached *Report of the Conference Committee*.

The budget continues to address the State's structural deficit, and overall spending grows just 1.5%. Despite reductions and constrained growth, funding is maintained for core State services and priorities including public education, higher education, Medicaid, human services, State employee compensation, and public safety. Further, the legislature has identified \$201.7 million in general funds that, if the Governor so chooses, can be used to restore cuts made to the budget as introduced. These restorations include additional funding for public education, funding for State employees, maintaining rates for providers of services to our most vulnerable citizens, and other legislative priorities.

The projected general fund balance at the close of fiscal 2016, given the legislative actions on the budget and the BRFA of 2015, is \$31.9 million. The budget reduces the estimated structural deficit by at least 69% and potentially by as much as 83% if certain unspecified reductions are structural as promised by the Administration. This is significantly above the recommendation of the Spending Affordability Committee to reduce the structural gap by at least 50%.

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A description of the Conference Committee's actions pertaining to the budget and the final report of the committee are attached. The Department of Legislative Services has also provided a separate report on the budget with additional data.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Kasemeyer, Chairman
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

Maggie McIntosh, Chairman
House Appropriations Committee

Report of the Conference Committee on House Bill 70

April 13, 2015

Mr. President,
Mr. Speaker,
Ladies and Gentlemen of the General Assembly of Maryland:

The House adopted 155 amendments to the original budget bill.

The Senate adopted 44 amendments to the budget bill, as amended by the House.

The House rejected all of the Senate amendments and called for a Conference Committee.

The Senate refused to recede and agreed to a Conference Committee.

The budget was then referred to the Conference Committee.

Action of the Conference Committee:

The Conference Committee recommends:

1. The adoption of the following Senate amendments:
5, 11, 15-18, 21-22, 24, 26-28, 32, 34, 36-37, 40, 43
2. The rejection of the following Senate amendments:
1-2, 6-8, 20, 29-30, 35, 38-39

3. The action indicated on the following Senate amendments:

<u>Adopt</u>	<u>Reject</u>	<u>Conference Committee Amendment</u>
.....	3	..... 1
4 .....		..... 2
.....	9	..... 3
.....	10	..... 4
.....	12	..... 5
13 .....		..... 6
14 .....		..... 7
19 .....		..... 8
.....	23	..... 9
25 .....		..... 10
31 .....		..... 11
33 .....		..... 12
41 .....		..... 13
42 .....		..... 15
44 .....		..... 14
.....		Technical Nos. 1-3

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Kasemeyer

Maggie McIntosh

James E. DeGrange, Sr.

Tawanna P. Gaines

George C. Edwards

Adrienne A. Jones

Nancy J. King

Anne R. Kaiser

Richard S. Madaleno, Jr.

Craig J. Zucker

House Bill 70

Amendment Descriptions

Payments to Civil Divisions of the State

Amendment 1: The Senate specified how much each county receives for disparity grants in line with the Governor's proposal. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Amendment 2: The Senate reduced funding to the amount proposed by the Governor for fiscal 2016 only. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Judiciary

Amendment 3: The Senate partially restored operating expense funding. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position, abolished 19 positions, and reduced related funding (Conference Committee Amendment 1).

Board of Public Works – Capital Appropriation

Amendment 4: The Senate modified language to restrict a smaller portion of the funds that are redirected to support capital programs in the Department of Housing and Community Development. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position and altered identified restrictions (Conference Committee Amendment 2).

Secretary of State

Amendment 5: The Senate restored 1 abolished vacant position. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Department of Aging

Amendment 6: The Senate added language that restricts funds until a report on improvements to the grant award process is provided and expresses intent that grants be awarded at the beginning of the fiscal year. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Amendment Descriptions

Maryland Health Benefit Exchange

Amendment 7: The Senate reduced funds for operations. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

State Lottery

Amendment 8: The Senate restricted funds for Internet lottery sales until a report is submitted. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Department of Budget and Management

Amendment 9: The Senate restored 3 abolished positions. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position and reduced 1 vacant position (Conference Committee Amendment 3).

Amendment 10: The Senate struck language restricting funds pending the receipt of a report on the allocation of the 2% across-the-board reduction. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position and modified the amount restricted and the submission date (Conference Committee Amendment 4).

Department of Information Technology

Amendment 11: The Senate partially restored funding for the Medicaid Enterprise Restructuring Project. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Department of Transportation

Amendment 12: The Senate restricted a portion of the grant to Baltimore City for operation of the Charm City Circulator until the city agrees to maintain operations of the Banner bus route. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position and adopted alternative language requiring a Memorandum of Understanding or report (Conference Committee Amendment 5).

Department of Natural Resources

Amendment 13: The Senate partially restored funding for payment in lieu of taxes contingent on the passage of legislation. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position and restored payment in lieu of taxes to local jurisdictions (Conference Committee Amendment 6).

Amendment Descriptions

Amendment 14: The Senate restricted Waterway Improvement Program funding for Deep Creek Lake dredging projects. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position and added language specifying that restricted funds not encumbered by April 1, 2016, may be released, provided that the dredging projects are prioritized for fiscal 2017 funding (Conference Committee Amendment 7).

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Amendment 15: The Senate added language expressing the intent that cancer research grant funds be allocated in a specified manner. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment 16: The Senate restored funding for academic health centers. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment 17: The Senate partially restored funding related to the Developmental Disabilities Administration by allowing for a provider rate increase of 3%. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment 18: Is technical.

Amendment 19: The Senate restored funding based on the availability of Cigarette Restitution Fund support and also restored a portion of the available funding for the hospital presumptive eligibility program. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position but took a lesser reduction and added language to a fiscal 2015 deficiency (Conference Committee Amendment 8).

Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Amendment 20: The Senate partially restored abolished vacant positions. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Amendment 21: The Senate struck language requesting a biannual staffing assessment. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Maryland State Department of Education

Amendment 22: The Senate modified language to express intent that State assessment contracts be fully funded. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment Descriptions

Amendment 23: The Senate restored 50 vacant positions deleted by the House. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position and deleted 25 positions from the agency (Conference Committee Amendment 9).

Amendment 24: The Senate modified language to add the Department of Budget and Management as an author for a report. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment 25: The Senate restored funding for the Nonpublic School Textbook Program. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position and restricted funding to the Nonpublic School Textbook Program to authorize an additional \$4 million if the Geographic Cost of Education Index is fully funded (Conference Committee Amendment 10).

University System of Maryland Office

Amendment 26: The Senate restricted funds until a report is submitted on the criteria to evaluate the new chancellor. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Maryland Higher Education Commission

Amendment 27: The Senate modified language restricting funds until a report is submitted on revised sexual misconduct policies. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment 28: The Senate restricted funds until repeat audit findings have been addressed. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment 29: The Senate modified a reduction to the Joseph A. Sellinger Formula. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Amendment 30: The Senate modified a reduction to the Senator John A. Cade Formula. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Higher Education

Amendment 31: This amendment is technical to Baltimore City Community Colleges (see Amendment 33). The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position with amendments (Conference Committee Amendment 11).

Amendment 32: This amendment is technical to the University System of Maryland Office (see Amendment 26). The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment Descriptions

Baltimore City Community College

Amendment 33: The Senate modified language to partially restore State support. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position and restored general funds, restricting this money to be used only on a consultant report reviewing the college. The Conference Committee also restricted \$50,000 in general funds pending receipt of the report from the consultant, and an additional \$50,000 in general funds pending receipt of a response from the college (Conference Committee Amendment 12).

Department of Business and Economic Development

Amendment 34: The Senate restricted funds for a grant to the Veteran Institute for Procurement. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment 35: The Senate reduced funds under the Preservation of Cultural Arts Program. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Department of the Environment

Amendment 36: The Senate restricted positions and funds unless positions are reclassified. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Department of State Police

Amendment 37: The Senate restored 50 vacant positions deleted by the House. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Deficiency Appropriations

Amendment 38: The Senate reduced a fiscal 2015 deficiency appropriation for the Maryland Park Service, contingent on legislation, and added a provision on the distribution of funding if that legislation fails. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Amendment 39: The Senate deleted a fiscal 2015 deficiency appropriation for the Maryland Park Service contingent on legislation. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position.

Amendment 40: The Senate restored funding for a nonpublic placement provider rate increase. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment Descriptions

Back of the Bill Sections

Amendment 41: The Senate modified language requiring a report on interagency agreements. The Conference Committee rejected the Senate position and set a criteria for review of new agreements by the Secretary of Department of Budget and Management to those higher than \$500,000. The Conference Committee also adopted language to require an evaluation of asset allocation of the State Retirement and Pension System. In addition, the Conference Committee modified an across the board reduction and made a reduction to recognize bond premium revenue (Conference Committee Amendment 13).

Amendment 42: The Senate modified language restricting funds for specified General Assembly priorities. The Conference Committee modified the Senate language (Conference Committee Amendment 15).

Amendment 43: The Senate required a report from the Developmental Disabilities Administration on weather-related closures. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position.

Amendment 44: The Senate adopted a technical amendment renumbering back of the bill sections. The Conference Committee adopted the Senate position with amendments for additional renumbering of sections (Conference Committee Amendment 14).

Technical Amendments

Amendment 1: The Conference Committee adopted a technical amendment to strike unnecessary contingent language.

Amendment 2: The Conference Committee adopted an amendment to clarify language relating to the Office of Legislative Audits' review of unresolved repeat audit findings.

Amendment 3: The Conference Committee adopted a technical amendment to make a variety of corrections to appropriation titles; to add language authorizing the use of funds appropriated in certain agency budgets for use in other agency budgets; to amend the executive pay plan; and to include the Maryland Higher Education Commission and Maryland Insurance Administration in Section 21, a statewide across-the-board reduction from which two agencies were mistakenly omitted.

Fiscal 2016 – Conference Committee Amendment Table

<u>Senate Reprint Page</u>	<u>Senate Report Page</u>	<u>Amd No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Governor's Allowance</u>	<u>House Proposed Appropriation</u>	<u>Senate Proposed Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount at Issue</u>	<u>Conference Appropriation or Action</u>	<u>Legislative Reduction</u>
			CCTA1 Conference Committee Technical Amendment 1.						Adopt	
			CCTA2 Conference Committee Technical Amendment 2.						Adopt	
			CCTA3 Conference Committee Technical Amendment 3.						Adopt	
1	1	1	Payments to Civil Divisions – Dictates allocations of the Disparity Grants.						Reject	
2	2	2	Payments to Civil Divisions – Reduces funds for the Disparity Grants.	GF	\$129,819,872	\$129,819,872	\$127,708,537	\$2,111,335	\$129,819,872	\$0
4	3	3	Judiciary – Partially restores reduction for operating expenditures.						Reject w/ CCA	
12-13	12	4	Board of Public Works Capital – Modifies language to restrict a smaller portion of funds redirected to the Department of Housing and Community Development.						Adopt w/ CCA	
17	17	5	Secretary of State – Restores 1 abolished vacant position.						Adopt	
18-19	21	6	Department of Aging – Adds language restricting funds until a report is submitted.						Reject	
25	29	7	Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – Reduces funding for operations.	SF	23,690,073	23,690,073	22,301,917	1,388,156	23,690,073	0
33-34	37	8	State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency – Restricts funds for Internet lottery sales until a report is provided.						Reject	
36	38	9	Department of Budget and Management (DBM) – Restores 3 vacant positions.						Reject w/ CCA	
36	38	10	DBM – Strikes language restricting funds pending the receipt of a report on the allocation of the 2% across-the-board reduction.						Reject w/ CCA	
40	42-43	11	Department of Information Technology – Partially restores funding for the Medicaid Enterprise Restructuring Project.	GF	35,606,996	27,493,336	28,493,336	1,000,000	28,493,336	7,113,660
57	58-59	12	Department of Transportation – Adds language restricting funding for Baltimore City until the city agrees to maintain operations of the Banner bus route.						Reject w/ CCA	
61	62	13	Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – Reduces funding for the Park Service contingent on legislation other than the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA).						Adopt w/ CCA	
66	63	14	DNR – Adds language restricting funds for Deep Creek Lake dredging projects.						Adopt w/ CCA	
78	72	15	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) – Adds language that expresses the intent that cancer research grants be awarded consistent with the average historical allocation.						Adopt	
78	73	16	DHMH – Restores funding for academic health centers.	SF	46,798,346	43,198,346	46,798,346	3,600,000	46,798,346	0
84	77-78	17	DHMH – Restores funding for the Developmental Disabilities Administration allowing for a 3% provider rate increase.	GF	559,748,116	553,210,334	557,133,003	3,922,669	557,133,003	2,615,113
				SF	5,861,143	5,856,728	5,859,377	2,649	5,859,377	1,766
				FF	461,236,708	456,051,268	459,162,532	3,111,264	459,162,532	2,074,176

Fiscal 2016 – Conference Committee Amendment Table

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87	81	18	DHMH – Technical.						Adopt	
87	82-83	19	DHMH – Restores funding based on the availability of Cigarette Restitution funds and a portion of the funding reduced for the hospital presumptive eligibility program and other general funds due to available special fund balances.	GF	2,464,366,005	2,440,719,068	2,450,674,068	9,955,000	2,454,513,363	9,852,642
				FF	5,076,047,831	5,043,897,080	5,049,922,080	6,025,000	5,053,761,375	22,286,456
103	99	20	Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) – Partially restores a cut to vacant positions.						Reject	
106	101	21	DPSCS – Strikes language requesting a bi-annual staffing assessment.						Adopt	
114	103	22	Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) – Modifies language to express intent that State assessment contracts be fully funded.						Adopt	
115	104	23	MSDE – Restores a cut of 50 vacant positions.						Reject w/ CCA	
122-123	112-113	24	MSDE – Modifies language to add the DBM as an author for a report.						Adopt	
130	115-116	25	MSDE – Restores funding for the Nonpublic School Textbook Program.	SF	6,040,000	5,710,000	6,040,000	330,000	6,040,000	0
14	134-135	26	University System of Maryland Office – Adds language restricting funds until a report is submitted on the criteria to evaluate the new Chancellor.						Adopt	
135	123	27	Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) – Modifies language restricting funds until a report is submitted on revised sexual misconduct policies.						Adopt	
135-136	124	28	MHEC – Adds language restricting funds until repeat audit findings have been addressed.						Adopt	
136	125	29	MHEC – Modifies the reduction to the Sellinger formula.	GF	47,883,915	42,822,240	42,822,241	1	42,822,240	5,061,675
136-137	125-126	30	MHEC – Modifies the reduction to the Cade formula.	GF	248,436,368	239,390,853	239,390,854	1	239,390,853	9,045,515
141	132	31	Higher Education – Technical.						Adopt w/ CCA	
141	132	32	Higher Education – Technical.						Adopt	
143	136	33	Baltimore City Community College – Modifies language to partially restore funding.						Adopt w/ CCA	
152	140	34	Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) – Adds language restricting funds for a grant to the Veteran Institute for Procurement.						Adopt	
153	141	35	DBED – Reduces funds under the Preservation of Cultural Arts Program.	SF	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,657,042	342,958	2,000,000	0

Fiscal 2016 – Conference Committee Amendment Table

<u>Senate Reprint Page</u>	<u>Senate Report Page</u>	<u>Amd No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Governor's Allowance</u>	<u>House Proposed Appropriation</u>	<u>Senate Proposed Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount at Issue</u>	<u>Conference Appropriation or Action</u>	<u>Legislative Reduction</u>
155	142	36	Department of the Environment – Adds language restricting positions and funds unless the positions are reclassified.						Adopt	
162	146	37	Department of State Police – Restores a cut of 50 vacant positions.						Adopt	
172-173	153-154	38	Fiscal 2015 Deficiencies – DNR – Reduces funding for the Park Service contingent on legislation other than the BRFA and adds a provision on the distribution of funding if that legislation fails.	SF	-24,900,636	-24,665,636	-23,065,636	1,600,000	-24,665,636	-235,000
173	154	39	Fiscal 2015 Deficiencies – DNR – Reduces funding for the Park Service contingent on legislation other than the BRFA.	SF	-140,000	-140,000	0	140,000	-140,000	0
181	156	40	Fiscal 2015 Deficiencies – Maryland State Department of Education – Restores funding for a nonpublic placement provider rate increase.	GF	-376,995	-376,995	0	376,995	0	-376,995
215-216	167-168	41	Section 41 – Modifies language requiring a report on interagency agreements.						Adopt w/ CCA	
225-226	184-187	42	Section 48 – Modifies language restricting funds for specified General Assembly priorities.						Adopt w/ CCA	
227	187-188	43	Section 49 – Adds a section requiring a report from the Developmental Disabilities Administration on weather-related closures.						Adopt	
227	189	44	Technical renumbering.						Adopt w/ CCA	

CCA: Conference Committee Amendment

Conference Committee Amendments

Conference Committee Technical Amendment No. 1

On page 30 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Revenue Administration Division, in program E00A05.01 Compliance Administration, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 34 down through “annual basis” in line 2 on page 31; and on page 100 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Division of Racing, in program P00E01.06 Share of Video Lottery Terminal Revenue for Local Impact Grants, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 21 down through “Fund” in line 26; and on page 121 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Aid to Education, in program R00A02.01 State Share of Foundation Program, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 24 down through “amount” in line 29; and on the same page, strike beginning with “Further provided” in line 30 down through “Trust Fund.” in line 34; and on the same page, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 35 down through “Trust Fund” in line 40; and on page 122 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Aid to Education, in program R00A02.02 Compensatory Education, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 3 down through “amount” in line 8; and on the same page, under the heading Aid to Education, in program R00A02.04 Children at Risk, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 12 down through “amount” in line 17; and on the same page, under the heading Aid to Education, in program R00A02.07 Students with Disabilities, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 30 down through “amount” in line 35; and on the same page, in line 36, strike “Further provided” and substitute “, provided”; and on page 124 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Aid to Education, in program R00A02.24 Limited English Proficient, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 25 down through “amount” in line 30; and on page 127 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Funding for Educational Organizations, in program R00A03.01 Maryland School for the Blind, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 8 down through “amount” in line 13; and on page 143 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Frederick Campus, in program R99E01.00 Services and Institutional Operations, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 29 down through “amount” in line 34; and on page 160 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Baltimore City Region, in program V00G01.01 Baltimore City Region Operations, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 7 down through “increase” in line 11; and on the same page, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 12 down through “increase” in line 16; and on the same page, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 17 down through “increase” in line 21; and on the same page, under the heading Western Region, in program V00I01.01 Western Region Operations, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 31 down through “increase” in line 35; and on the same page, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 36 down through “increase” in line 40; and on the same page, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 41 through “increase” in line 4 on page 161; and on page 161 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Metro Region, in program V00L01.01 Metro Region Operations, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 20 down through “increase” in line 24; and on the same page, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 25 down through “increase” in line 29; and on the same page, strike beginning with “, provided that” in line 30 down through “increase” in line 34; and on page 180 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Aid to Education, strike beginning with “R00A02.01” in line 32 down through “4,073,964” in line 11 on page 181.

Conference Committee Amendments

Conference Committee Technical Amendment No. 2

On page 30 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Revenue Administration Division, in program E00A04.01 Revenue Administration, in line 2 following “more” insert “unresolved”; and in line 9 following “all” insert “unresolved”; and in line 13 following “each” insert “unresolved”; and in line 15 following “each” insert “unresolved”; and on page 45 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Office of Procurement and Logistics, in program H00D01.01 Procurement and Logistics, in line 23 following “more” insert “unresolved”; and in line 30 following “all” insert “unresolved”; and in line 34 following “each” insert “unresolved”; and in line 36 following “each” insert “unresolved”; and on page 69 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Office of the Secretary, in program L00A11.01 Executive Direction, in line 6 following “more” insert “unresolved”; and in line 13 following “all” insert “unresolved”; and in line 18 following “each” insert “unresolved”; and in line 20 following “each” insert “unresolved”; and on page 135 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Maryland Higher Education Commission, in program R62I00.01 General Administration, in line 39 following “more” insert “unresolved”; and on page 136, in line 2 following “all” insert “unresolved”; and in line 6 following “each” insert “unresolved”; and in line 8 following “each” insert “unresolved”.

Conference Committee Technical Amendment No. 3

On page 17 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Governor’s Office for Children, in program D18A18.01 Governor’s Office for Children, following line 26 insert “Funds are appropriated in other agency budgets to pay for services provided by this program. Authorization is hereby granted to use these receipts as special funds for operating expenses in this program.”; and on page 27 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority, in program D90U00.01 General Administration, following line 30 insert “Funds are appropriated in other agency budgets to pay for services provided by this program. Authorization is hereby granted to use these receipts as special funds for operating expenses in this program.”; and on page 30 of the Committee Reprint, following line 31 insert “COMPLIANCE DIVISION”; and on page 112 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Corrections – Central, in program Q00T02.05 Baltimore Central Maryland Correctional Center, in line 4 following “Q00T02.05” strike “Baltimore”; and in line 5 following “Correctional” strike “Center” and substitute “Facility”; and on page 113, under the heading Detention – Central, in program Q00T04.04 Central Booking and Intake Facility, in line 9 following “Q00T04.04” strike “Central Booking and Intake Facility” and substitute “Baltimore Central Booking and Intake Center”; and on page 186 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Public Service Commission, in line 23 following “(@ 139,364)” strike “5 696,820” and substitute “4 557,456”; and on the same page strike lines 24 through line 29 in their entirety; and on page 195 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading State Treasurer’s Office, in line 2 strike “112,892” and substitute “110,481”; and following line 3 insert “Executive V 9905 85,902 Executive IV 9904 79,953”; and on page 211 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Section 21, following line 10 insert

Conference Committee Amendments

“R62 Maryland Higher Education Commission 1,140”; and on the same page following line 28 insert “D80 Maryland Insurance Administration 2,334”.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 1

On page 4 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Judiciary, reject Amendment 3, and in line 12 following “are” insert “abolished.” and strike beginning with “contingent” down through “332.” in line 13.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 2

On page 13 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Board of Public Works – Capital Appropriation, in program D06E02.02 Public School Capital Appropriation, adopt Amendment 4, and following line 18 insert “Further provided that \$4,800,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of public school construction may only be expended for capital appropriations in the amounts and only for the purposes herein listed: (1) \$2,000,000 as a grant to the Board of Directors of The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, for the planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of improvements at the Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Inc. (Baltimore City); and (2) \$2,800,000 as a grant to the Prince George’s County Office of the County Executive for the planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site work, and capital equipping of athletic facilities at the following public high schools: (a) Northwestern High School; (b) Suitland High School; (c) High Point High School; and (d) Bowie High School.”.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 3

On page 36 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Department of Budget and Management, reject Amendment 9, and in line 2 following “that” strike “3 regular positions are” and substitute “1 regular position is”.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 4

On page 36 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Department of Budget and Management, reject Amendment 10, and in line 4 strike “\$1,000,000” and substitute “\$250,000”; and in line 8 strike “July” and substitute “September”; and in line 23 strike “July” and substitute “September”.

Conference Committee Amendments

Conference Committee Amendment No. 5

On page 57 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Maryland Transit Administration, in program J00H01.06 Statewide Programs Operations, reject Amendment 12, and in line 3, following “Appropriation” insert “, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of providing a grant to Baltimore City for the operation of the Charm City Circulator, may not be expended until either:

- (1) Baltimore City and the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) have executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in which the city agrees to maintain the operations of the Circulator’s Banner bus route along a geographically similar alignment as the route operated as of January 1, 2015; or
- (2) At the option of Baltimore City, MTA, in conjunction with Baltimore City, submits a report by August 1, 2015 to the budget committees evaluating the feasibility of enhancing MTA bus service in south Baltimore should the Charm City Circulator Banner bus route be discontinued.

Funds restricted pending execution of the MOU or submission of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the MOU is not executed and the report is not submitted.”.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 6

On page 61 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Maryland Park Service, in program K00A04.01 Statewide Operations, adopt Amendment 13, and in line 19, strike beginning with “, provided” down through “1091” in line 25; and in program K00A04.06 Revenue Operations, in line 37, strike beginning with “, provided” down through “1091” in line 3 on page 62.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 7

On page 66 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Boating Services, in program K00A11.02 Waterway Improvement Capital Projects, adopt Amendment 14, and in line 15, strike beginning with “may” down through “canceled” in line 17 and substitute “by April 1, 2016, may be used for other Waterway Improvement Program projects submitted by the Administration. Further provided that if funds are not used for dredging projects at Deep Creek Lake in fiscal 2016 then the Deep Creek Lake dredging projects shall be included on the Administration’s priority list for fiscal 2017 funding.”.

Conference Committee Amendments

Conference Committee Amendment No. 8

On page 87 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Medical Care Programs Administration, in program M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements, adopt Amendment 19, and in line 31 strike “2,450,674,068” and substitute “2,454,513,363”; and in line 35 strike “5,049,922,080” and substitute “5,053,761,375”; and in the same line strike “8,437,603,950” and substitute “8,445,282,540”; and on page 176 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Medical Care Programs Administration, in program M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements, in line 11 following “2015” insert “, provided that the Governor is authorized to transfer by budget amendment up to \$10,000,000 of this appropriation to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to provide funds for overtime, utility costs and other operational expenses and up to \$1,000,000 of this appropriation to the Department of State Police to provide funds for overtime and other operational expenses”.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 9

On page 115 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Headquarters, reject Amendment 23, and in line 5, strike “50” and substitute “25”.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 10

On page 130 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Funding for Educational Organizations, in program R00A03.04 Aid to Non-Public Schools, adopt Amendment 25, and in line 30 following “purposes” insert “. Further provided that \$4,000,000 in special funds from the Cigarette Restitution Fund is hereby authorized to be transferred from M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements for the purpose of increasing the per student funding amounts for the Aid to Non-Public Schools program for textbooks, computer hardware and computer software to \$170 per eligible non-public school student at participating schools where at least 20% of the students are eligible for the free or reduced price lunch program and up to \$110 per eligible student at other participating non-public schools. Further provided, however, that these funds may not be used for this purpose and may only be used to supplement general funds appropriated in program R00A02.01 for the Geographic Cost of Education Index if the general fund appropriation to that program is less than \$136,200,471. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled and revert to the Cigarette Restitution Fund.”

Further provided that a non-public school participating in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program R00A03.04 shall certify compliance with Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article. A non-public school participating in the program may not discriminate in student admissions on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sexual orientation. Nothing herein shall require any school or institution to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy which conflicts with its religious or moral

Conference Committee Amendments

teachings. The sole legal remedy for violation of these provisions is ineligibility for participation in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program.”.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 11

On page 141 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Higher Education, in program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education, adopt Amendment 31, and in line 16 strike “\$1,440,978” and substitute “\$1,040,978”; and following line 19 insert “Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of operations at Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) may not be expended for that purpose, but instead may only be expended by the Board of Trustees of BCCC to engage an outside consultant to review the operations of the college. BCCC shall submit the consultant’s report with recommendations to the budget committees by December 15, 2015. The report shall include a review of the following: (1) general condition of the college; (2) credit and noncredit programs; (3) faculty; (4) student services and financial aid; (5) administration; (6) budget and financial management; (7) private support and outside grants; (8) public relations; (9) governance and how the institution fits into the State’s higher education organization system; and (10) any other issues deemed appropriate by the board or consultant. The Board of Trustees may use fund balance if the consulting firm’s services cost more than \$500,000. Any funds not expended for this restricted purpose shall revert to the General Fund.

Further provided that the Board of Trustees shall notify the budget committees in writing on the consulting firm selected to conduct the review.

Further provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of BCCC operations may not be released until the Board of Trustees submits the consultant’s report to the budget committees by December 15, 2015.

Further provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of BCCC operations may not be expended until BCCC submits a follow-up report to the budget committees by March 1, 2016, that addresses each section of the consulting firm’s report and whether the college agrees or disagrees with the findings for improving governance and student outcomes. If any actions are to be adopted, the college should include timetables and benchmarks for implementation of recommendations from the consultant’s report and identify the parties responsible for implementing each element of the report adopted by the college and indicate the recommendations in the report that the college does not plan to implement. The budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment following the receipt of the report. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the consultant’s report and the follow-up report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall to revert the General Fund if the reports are not submitted to the budget committees.”.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 12

On page 143 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Baltimore City Community College, in program R95C00.00 Baltimore City Community College, adopt Amendment 33, and in line 23 strike “\$1,440,978” and substitute “\$1,040,978. Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of operations at Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) may not be expended for that purpose, but instead may only be expended by the Board of Trustees of BCCC to engage an outside consultant to review the operations of the college. BCCC shall submit the consultant’s report with recommendations to the budget committees by December 15, 2015. The report shall include a review of the following: (1) general condition of the college; (2) credit and noncredit programs; (3) faculty; (4) student services and financial aid; (5) administration; (6) budget and financial management; (7) private support and outside grants; (8) public relations; (9) governance and how the institution fits into the State’s higher education organization system; and (10) any other issues deemed appropriate by the board or consultant. The Board of Trustees may use fund balance if the consulting firm’s services cost more than \$500,000. Any funds not expended for this restricted purpose shall be canceled.

Further provided that the Board of Trustees shall notify the budget committees in writing on the consulting firm selected to conduct the review.

Further provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of BCCC operations may not be released until the Board of Trustees submits the consultant’s report to the budget committees by December 15, 2015.

Further provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of BCCC operations may not be expended until BCCC submits a follow-up report to the budget committees by March 1, 2016, that addresses each section of the consulting firm’s report and whether the college agrees or disagrees with the findings for improving governance and student outcomes. If any actions are to be adopted, the college should include timetables and benchmarks for implementation of recommendations from the consultant’s report and identify the parties responsible for implementing each element of the report adopted by the college and indicate the recommendations in the report that the college does not plan to implement. The budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment following the receipt of the report. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the consultant’s report and the follow-up report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the reports are not submitted to the budget committees.”.

Conference Committee Amendments

Conference Committee Amendment No. 13

On page 215 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Section 31, adopt Amendment 41, and in line 31 following “agreement” insert “in excess of \$500,000”; and on page 164, under the heading Public Debt, in program X00A00.01 Redemption and Interest on State Bonds, in line 4 strike “234,000,000” and substitute “252,400,000”; and in line 7 strike “1,090,855,189” and substitute “1,109,255,189”; and on page 205, in Section 20, in line 39, strike “for salaries and wages” and substitute “in Section 1 of this Act for Executive Branch agencies” and strike beginning with “in” in line 39 down through and including “by” in line 42 and substitute “. This reduction may be allocated to any object or subobject of expenditure related to agency operation in”; and on page 227, following line 29 insert “SECTION 50. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation made for the Office of the Comptroller (E00A01.01 Executive Direction) and \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation made for the State Treasurer’s Office (E20B01.01 Treasury Management) may not be expended for its original purpose but instead may only be expended for the purpose of an independent evaluation of the asset allocation of the State Retirement and Pension System to be performed by an investment consulting firm that is not currently serving as a general investment consultant to the Board of Trustees of the State Retirement and Pension System. It should examine the system’s asset allocation in the context of the system’s actuarial assumed rate of return and the asset allocation of comparable state pension funds, and make recommendations for changes to the strategic asset allocation. The board shall provide a copy of the consultant’s report and recommendations to the budget committees no later than December 1, 2015. The budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment from the date of receipt of the report. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.”.

Conference Committee Amendment No. 14

On page 227 of the Committee Reprint, adopt Amendment 44, and in line 30 strike “50.” and substitute “51.”; and on page 228, in line 1 strike “51.” and substitute “52.”.

Conference Committee Amendments

Conference Committee Amendment No. 15

On page 225 of the Committee Reprint, under the heading Section 48, adopt Amendment 42, and in line 12 strike “\$22,725,000” and substitute “\$26,564,295”; and in line 14 strike “\$15,000,000” and substitute “\$10,200,000”; and in line 22 strike “for salaries and wages”; and in line 23 strike “2% reduction in State salary schedules” and substitute “reduction”; and in line 28 strike “\$15,100,000” and substitute “\$15,500,000”; and in line 30 strike “90.9%” and substitute “92%”; and in the same line strike “April” and substitute “July”; and in line 33 strike “1,” and substitute “8,”; and on page 226, in line 2, strike “1,” and substitute “8,”; and in line 13 strike “\$1,000,000” and substitute “\$1,100,000”; and in line 15 strike “90.9%” and substitute “92%”; and in the same line strike “April” and substitute “July”; and in line 19 strike “\$5,700,000” and substitute “\$4,000,000”; and in line 20 strike beginning with “to maintain” down through “2015” in line 21 and substitute “to support nursing home reimbursement rates effective July 1, 2015”; and in line 23 strike “and”; and in line 25 strike “services.” and substitute “services; and (17) contingent on enactment of House Bill 486 or Senate Bill 595, \$250,000 to Program R00A01.12 Division of Student, Family and School Support to provide funding for a charter school funding study.”.