SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2020 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 31, 2020
Schedule 19

PLEASE NOTE: January 31 – Bill introduction deadline.
All bills should be given to the Secretary of the Senate’s office by
5:00 P.M. on Monday, February 3.
As required by Senate Rule 32(b), bills introduced after this date will
be referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

SENATE BILL INTRODUCED January 30, 2020

SB 558 The President (By Request – Administration)
UNIVERSAL SCHOOL START ACT OF 2020
Requiring, beginning in the 2020–2021 school year, a county board of
education to set the start date of the school year for schools in the county not
earlier than the first Tuesday after Labor Day; authorizing a county board to
grant a school a certain waiver from a certain requirement for good cause as
established by the State Board of Education in regulations; requiring the State
Board to adopt certain regulations; etc.
EMERGENCY BILL
ED, § 7-103(g) - amended
Assigned to: Senate Rules
SENATE OF MARYLAND

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED January 31, 2020

SB 559  Senators Hough and Young
FREDERICK COUNTY – SOLAR ENERGY – MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITIES

Altering to 2.5% the percentage of the renewable energy portfolio standard that must be derived from solar energy for a municipal electric utility in Frederick County.
EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2020
PU, § 7-703(e) - amended
Assigned to: Finance

SB 560  Senators Hough, et al
RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD – ELIGIBLE SOURCES

Altering the eligibility of certain sources of energy for the creation of credits under the renewable energy portfolio standard; removing certain sources from the definition of a “Tier 1 renewable source”; providing that existing obligations or contract rights may not be impaired by the Act; and applying the Act to all renewable energy portfolio standard compliance years beginning after December 31, 2020.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
PU, §§ 7-701(r) and 7-704(a) - amended
Assigned to: Finance

SB 561  Senator Miller
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES – JURISDICTION AND MARYLAND CAPITOL POLICE

Altering the jurisdiction of the Department of General Services to include State–owned or State–leased buildings and grounds and extending to the surrounding area that encompasses 1,000 feet in any direction from the boundary of those buildings and grounds; altering the jurisdiction of the Maryland Capitol Police of the Department; requiring the Secretary of General Services to appoint the Chief of the Maryland Capitol Police; providing that the Chief serves at the pleasure of the Secretary; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
SF, §§ 4-601 and 4-605 - amended, § 4-605.1 - added, and § 4-606 - repealed
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings
SB 562  Senator Gallion, et al
PUBLIC SCHOOLS – FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS – POLICY REQUIREMENTS
Authorizing a county board of education to apply to the State Board of Education to implement a policy for the use up to 5 flexible instructional days during the school year; defining “flexible instructional day” as one in which a public school provides remote academic instruction because a natural or civil disaster or severe weather conditions prevented schools from opening; requiring the State Board to adopt certain guidelines and a certain model policy and to approve or deny a certain application; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
ED, § 7-103.2 - added
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 563  Senator Simonaire
MARYLAND POLICE TRAINING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION – USE OF HANDCUFFS – BODY ATTACHMENTS POLICY
Requiring the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission, by October 1, 2020, to develop written policies to provide guidance to law enforcement agencies on the appropriate use of handcuffs when taking a person into custody on a body attachment; and requiring each law enforcement agency, by January 1, 2021, to adopt and implement the written policy developed by the Commission.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
PS, § 3-522 - added
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 564  Senator Washington, et al
EDUCATION – HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – STUDENTS IN FOSTER CARE OR HOMELESS YOUTH
Requiring a county board of education to waive high school graduation requirements established by the county board that are in addition to high school graduation requirements established by the State Board of Education for a student in foster care or who is a homeless youth if while in grade 11 or 12 the youth transfers into the local school system from a different system in the State or transfers between high schools in the local school system; prohibiting a county board from waiving certain requirements; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
ED, § 7-205 - amended
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
SB 565  Senator Washington, et al

POLICE OFFICERS – MENTAL HEALTH – EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Requiring each law enforcement agency to develop and implement an employee assistance program to protect the mental health of police officers and provide police officers access to confidential low- or no-cost mental health services; establishing certain requirements for a certain program; requiring each law enforcement agency to develop standards for annual assessments of the employee assistance program to identify deficiencies and areas for improvement; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
PS, § 3-522 - added
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 566  Senator Washington

VEHICLE LAWS – REGISTRATION RENEWAL – INSPECTION REQUIREMENT

Requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to require the submission of a valid registration renewal inspection certificate before renewing a motor vehicle registration for a vehicle at least 5 model years old; requiring an inspection to include a certain examination of certain vehicle equipment; requiring an inspection certificate to remain valid for 90 days; requiring an inspection certificate to include the name of the inspection station and mechanic; prohibiting an inspection station from charging more than $45 for an inspection; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
TR, §§ 13-412(a) and 23-104 - amended and § 23-107.1 - added
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings
SB 567  Senator Washington
SALES AND USE TAX – EXEMPTION – OUT-OF-STATE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Providing an exemption from the sales and use tax for sales to out-of-state nonprofit organizations for sales made in connection with and solely for use at conferences or conventions held in the State by the nonprofit organizations, related to the mission or work of the nonprofit organizations, and attended by at least 25 individuals; and requiring a nonprofit organization to file an application for an exemption certificate with the Comptroller in order to qualify for the exemption.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
TG, § 11-204(a) and (c) - amended
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 568  Chair, Joint Committee on Ending Homelessness
WORKGROUP ON FUNDING FOR A LOW– OR NO–INTEREST MORTGAGE PROGRAM

Establishing the Workgroup on Funding for a Low– or No–Interest Mortgage Program within the Joint Committee on Ending Homelessness; providing for the composition of the Workgroup; requiring the Workgroup to explore options for providing State funding to provide low– or no–interest mortgages for families that spend not less than 30% of income on housing and that do not make more than a set amount of income, and to explore similar low– or no–interest mortgage programs in other jurisdictions; etc.
EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2020
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 569  Senator Lee
INTERCEPTED COMMUNICATIONS – PENALTIES AND ADMISSIBILITY OF EVIDENCE

Repealing certain penalties relating to the prohibition against intercepting and disclosing certain communications; providing that a certain communication that was intercepted in violation of certain provisions of law may be admissible in certain proceedings under certain circumstances; and prohibiting the admissibility of the contents of an intercepted communication or information derived from an intercepted electronic communication as evidence unless certain conditions are met.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
CJ, §§ 10-402(b) and (e) and 10-405 - amended
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings
SB 570  Senator West

REAL PROPERTY – NOTICE OF EASEMENTS, COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND CONDITIONS – RECORDATION

Authorizing notice of certain easements, covenants, restrictions, and conditions to be recorded in the land records of the county in which the property interest is located; specifying the information required to be provided in the notice; requiring that the notice be indexed for recording in a certain manner; and providing that failure to record a notice in accordance with the Act does not impair the rights or interests of the holder of an easement, a covenant, a restriction, or a condition.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

RP, § 3-102.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 571  Senator McCray

BALTIMORE CITY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – LICENSES – HOURS OF SALE

Specifying 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. as the hours of sale for a holder of a Class B-D-7 beer, wine, and liquor license in a certain area of Baltimore City; prohibiting the hours of sale for a license holder in a certain area from beginning before or ending after certain times; and prohibiting the hours of sale from being extended under certain conditions.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

AB, §§ 12-905 and 12-2005(c) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 572  Senator McCray

EDUCATION – HOME AND HOSPITAL TEACHING PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS – REPORT

Requiring the State Department of Education to study certain matters relating to the Home and Hospital Teaching Program for Students and make recommendations regarding any statutory or regulatory changes to the program; requiring, by December 31, 2020, the Department to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the General Assembly; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
SB 573  Senators McCray and Beidle
SALES AND USE TAX – SHORT-TERM RENTAL VEHICLES AND PEER-TO-PEER CAR SHARING – RATE ALTERATION AND SUNSET REPEAL

Repealing the termination of certain provisions of law making sales and charges related to peer–to–peer car sharing subject to a certain sales and use tax rate; requiring the Comptroller to distribute revenue from the sales and use tax imposed on peer–to–peer car sharing to the Transportation Trust Fund and to the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund; altering the sales and use tax rate imposed on certain short–term vehicle rentals and shared motor vehicles used for peer–to–peer car sharing; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES
Chapter 852 of the Acts of 2018, § 7 and TG, §§ 2-1302.1 and 11-104(c) and (c-1) - amended
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 574  Senators McCray and Guzzone
DISTRICT COURT – JOBS COURT PILOT PROGRAM

Establishing the Jobs Court Pilot Program in the District Court to reduce recidivism by offering defendants an opportunity to participate in full–time job training and job placement programs as a condition of probation or as an alternative to incarceration; requiring the Administrative Office of the Courts to take certain actions to accomplish the purpose of the program; requiring the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide a certain report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before June 30, 2025; etc.
This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
CP, § 6-235 - added
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings and Budget and Taxation
SB 575  Senator Hester

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – EARLY LITERACY AND DYSLEXIA PRACTICES – GUIDANCE AND ASSISTANCE

Requiring the State Department of Education to establish a certain stakeholder advisory group to develop a certain reading and dyslexia handbook; requiring the Department and the advisory stakeholder group to make a completed handbook available to the public by June 1, 2021, and to develop a list of recommended programs and materials that address certain needs; requiring the Department to update the handbook every 3 years; requiring the handbook and updates to be published and disseminated in a certain manner; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
ED, § 8-420 - added
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 576  Senator Eckardt

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – NURSE PRACTITIONERS – CERTIFICATIONS OF COMPETENCY AND INCAPACITY

Altering a requirement that a petition for guardianship of a disabled person include certain signed and verified certificates of competency by providing that the certificates may be signed and verified by a nurse practitioner and certain other health care practitioners; altering the requirements for the certification of a patient’s incapacity to make an informed decision regarding treatment to allow the second individual making the certification to be a nurse practitioner, rather than a second physician; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
ET, § 13-705(c) and HG, § 5-606 - amended
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 577  Senator Guzzone, et al

INCOME TAX – THEATRICAL PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT

Allowing certain theatrical production entities to claim a credit against the State income tax for certain costs incurred for certain theatrical productions in the State; making the credit refundable under certain circumstances; requiring an entity to apply to the Department of Commerce to be a qualified theatrical production entity; requiring that to qualify for the credit certain estimated costs incurred in the State must exceed $100,000; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2019; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
EC, § 2.5-109(a)(4) - amended and TG, § 10-751 - added
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation
SB 578  Harford County Senators

ELECTRICITY – CONSIDERATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINES

Requiring the Public Service Commission to take final action on an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity only after due consideration certain factors including whether the applicant’s design prioritizes the use or upgrading of existing infrastructure; prohibiting the construction of an overhead transmission line that is aligned with and within 1 mile of a conservation easement unless there is a certain showing of good cause; and providing for the prospective application of the Act.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
PU, § 7-207 - amended
Assigned to: Finance

SB 579  Senator Sydnor

CHILD SUPPORT – SHARED PHYSICAL CUSTODY

Establishing a certain formula for the calculation of a certain child support obligation under the child support guidelines when a parent with shared physical custody keeps the child or children overnight for more than 25%, at least 92 overnights, but less than 30%, not more than 109 overnights, of the year; applying the Act only to cases filed on or after October 1, 2020; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
FL, §§ 12-201(n) and 12-204(m) - amended and § 12-201(o) - added
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings
SB 580  Senator Sydnor
PUBLIC SAFETY – EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO COUNTER RACIALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENT EXTREMISM PROGRAM FUND – ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Empowering Communities to Counter Racially Motivated Violent Extremism Program Fund to provide grants to local governments to train individuals to recognize signs of racially motivated violent extremism and best practices for reporting and preventing racially motivated violent extremism; requiring the Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention to establish certain procedures for local governments to apply for grants from the Fund; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
PS, §§ 4-1501 through 4-1503 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)123. - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)121. and 122. - amended
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 581  Senator Sydnor, et al
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – FAMILY LAW SERVICES FOR SUSTAINED SAFETY FUND

Establishing the Family Law Services for Sustained Safety Fund to increase legal services in family law cases for victims in order to help ensure safety and long–term stability after victimization; requiring the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention to administer the Fund; requiring each grantee from the Fund to receive training on the effects of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and elder abuse; prohibiting a grantee from requesting an individual to waive certain rights in order to receive services; etc.
This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
CP, § 11-923.1 - added
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings and Budget and Taxation
**SB 582**  Senator Edwards

**NATURAL RESOURCES – STATE LAKES PROTECTION AND RESTORATION PROGRAM AND FUND**

Altering the purpose and authorized uses of the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund to include protection and restoration of State–owned and State–managed lakes by removing sediment, treating contaminated sediment, preventing invasive species, and improving ecological and recreational value; and requiring the Secretary of Natural Resources to spend at least $3,000,000 from the Secretary’s budget on the Program in fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

NR, § 8-205 - amended and § 8-205.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Budget and Taxation

**SB 583**  Senator Feldman

**MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland Small Business Innovation Research Technical Assistance Program in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation; providing the purpose of the Program is to provide technical assistance to small businesses in the State; requiring small businesses to meet certain qualifications for participation in the Program; requiring the Corporation, in accordance with certain provisions of law, to procure a nonprofit organization located in the State to provide services under the Program; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

EC, § 10-4A-01 - added

Assigned to: Finance
SB 584  Senator Zucker
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES REFERRAL SYSTEM – MODIFICATIONS
Repealing the limit on the number of call centers that may be approved by 2–1–1 Maryland to provide certain services; repealing certain provisions of law establishing and governing the Health and Human Services Referral Board in the Maryland Department of Health; requiring the Department, rather than the Board, in consultation with 2–1–1 Maryland, as appropriate, to take certain actions related to 2–1–1 Maryland; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
HG, §§ 24-1201 through 24-1203, 24-1205, and 24-1206 - amended and § 24-1204 - repealed
Assigned to: Finance

SB 585  Senator Waldstreicher, et al
FAMILY LAW – CHILDREN IN OUT–OF–HOME PLACEMENTS – MANDATORY CONCURRENT PLANNING
Requiring, rather than authorizing, reasonable efforts to place a child for adoption or with a legal guardian to be made concurrently with reasonable efforts to preserve and reunify families under certain circumstances.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
FL, § 5-525(e)(3) - amended
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 586  Senator Waldstreicher, et al
FOSTER PARENTS, PREADOPTIVE PARENTS, AND CAREGIVERS – RIGHT TO INTERVENE
Requiring the circuit court to provide notice to a child’s foster parent, preadoptive parent, or caregiver of the right to intervene as a party in a certain proceeding except under certain circumstances; granting certain rights to certain individuals in certain proceedings; granting the right to intervene in certain proceedings and the right to obtain all nonprivileged information in documents pertaining to the placement of a child; requiring a party who asserts that information in a document is privileged is required to meet certain criteria; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
CJ, §§ 3-801(u) and 3-816.3 and FL, § 5-504 - amended
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings
SB 587 Senators Griffith and Serafini
STATE POLICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS’ PENSION SYSTEM – MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

Providing that members of the State Police Retirement System no longer make member contributions after 28 years of service credit is earned; and providing that certain members of the Law Enforcement Officers’ Pension System no longer make member contributions after 32 years and 6 months of service credit is earned.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
SP, §§ 24-205 and 26-204 - amended
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 588 Senator Kagan
STATE GOVERNMENT – PROTECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION – UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND

Excluding the University System of Maryland from certain provisions of law governing protection of information by government agencies; requiring the University System of Maryland to review and designate certain systems as systems of record based on certain criteria and to develop and adopt a certain privacy governance program to govern each system of record; requiring the University to develop and adopt a certain information security and risk management program for the protection of personally identifiable information; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2022
SG, § 10-1301(f) - amended and §§ 10-13A-01 through 10-13A-04 - added
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 589 Senators Carter and Sydnor
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – PARTIAL EXPUNGEMENT

Authorizing a person to file a petition for a partial expungement of certain criminal records under certain circumstances; requiring a court to order that certain records may not be included on the public website maintained by the Maryland Judiciary or within records submitted to the Central Repository; repealing a provision of law establishing that, if a person is not entitled to expungement of one charge or conviction in a certain unit, the person is not entitled to expungement of any other charge or conviction in the unit; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
CP, § 10-105 - amended and § 10-107 - repealed
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings
SB 590  Senators Kagan and Lam
PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT – REVISIONS

Requiring each official custodian to adopt a certain policy of proactive disclosure; requiring each official custodian to publish a certain annual report on a certain website, to the extent practicable; requiring the Public Information Act Compliance Board to receive, review, and resolve certain complaints from applicants and applicants’ designated representatives; requiring the Board to receive and review complaints from any custodian alleging that an applicant’s request or pattern of requests is frivolous or vexatious; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
GP, §§ 4-104 and 4-105 - added and §§ 4-1A-02(a), 4-1A-03(d), 4-1A-04 through 4-1A-07, 4-1B-02(b), 4-1B-04, and 4-402 - amended
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 591  Senator West, et al
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – PETITION TO MODIFY OR REDUCE SENTENCE (MARYLAND SECOND LOOK ACT)

Authorizing a person who is serving a term of confinement to petition a court to modify or reduce the sentence under certain circumstances; requiring a person to file a petition under the Act in a certain court; requiring a court to hold a hearing under certain circumstances; providing for a hearing held under the Act; requiring a State’s Attorney to provide certain notice to a victim and a victim’s representative under certain circumstances; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
CP, § 8-501 - added
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings
SB 592  Senator West, et al
STATE-FUNDED CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR RENOVATION PROJECTS – SOLAR PANELS – REQUIREMENT

Requiring the State, for certain construction projects and major renovation projects proposed after December 31, 2020, to require that the project be designed, engineered, and constructed in a manner that allows the roof to withstand the weight of solar panels; requiring certain construction projects and major renovation projects to include the placement of the maximum number of solar panels for which the project was designed; requiring the Maryland Green Building Council to provide certain recommendations; etc.
Preliminary analysis: local government mandate
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
SF, § 3-602.2 - added and § 4-809(f) - amended
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 593  Senator Carter, et al
JUVENILE LAW – CHILD INTERROGATION PROTECTION ACT

Requiring a law enforcement officer who takes a child into custody to provide notice to the child’s parents, guardian, or custodian in a manner reasonably calculated to give actual notice; specifying the required contents of a notice; prohibiting the interrogation of a child by a law enforcement officer until the child has consulted with a certain attorney and a notice has been provided to the child’s parent, guardian, or custodian; requiring that a consultation between a child and an attorney under the Act be confidential; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
CJ, § 3-8A-14 and CP, § 2-108 - amended and CJ, § 3-8A-14.2 and CP, § 2-405 - added
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 594  Senator Lee
CHILD CUSTODY AND VISITATION – ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF CHILD

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 finding that there is no likelihood of further child abuse or neglect by a certain party; and altering the conditions of a certain supervised visitation arrangement that a court is authorized to approve to include neutral and physically present supervision.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
FL, § 9-101 - amended
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings
SB 595  Senator Lee, et al
FAMILY LAW – PROTECTIVE ORDER – RESCISSION
Requiring a petition to rescind a protective order to establish with particularity the basis for the rescission; authorizing a judge to deny a petition to rescind a protective order without a hearing if a certain party objects to the rescission; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
FL, §§ 4-506(b)(2)(iii), 4-506.1(b)(2)(i), and 4-507 - amended
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 596  Senator Kelley, et al
JUDGES – SELECTION, ELECTION, TENURE, AND CONTINUANCE IN OFFICE
Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution relating to the selection, election, tenure, and continuance in office of a judge of an appellate court or a circuit court; altering the methods for filling vacancies in the offices of such judges; altering provisions relating to the term of office of such judges; altering provisions for the continuance in office of such judges on the expiration of their terms under certain circumstances; submitting the amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection; etc.
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT
Maryland Constitution, Art. IV, §§ 3, 5, 5A, 14B, and 41D - repealed, § 3 - added, and §§ 11, 12, and 18B - amended
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 597  Senator Young, et al
AGRICULTURE – COST-SHARING PROGRAM – FIXED NATURAL FILTER PRACTICES
Prohibiting the use of certain cost-sharing funds to fund a conservation practice that does not meet certain requirements; authorizing certain cost-sharing funds to be made available for certain fixed natural filter practices; prohibiting basing a reduction in certain cost-sharing rates on tons of soil saved or an amortization formula; requiring that certain cost-sharing funds be based on a certain rate; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
AG, §§ 8-701, 8-703(b)(2), and 8-704 and EN, § 9-1605.2(h)(2)(ii) and (i)(2)(xi) - amended
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
SB 598  Senators Cassilly and Ready

CRIMINAL LAW – ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT

Providing that multiple thefts committed by the same person in multiple counties under one scheme or continuing course of conduct may be aggregated and prosecuted in a certain county; altering a certain provision relating to sentencing of a person who has four or more prior theft convictions and is convicted of theft of property or services with a certain value to prohibit a person who has three or more prior theft convictions from committing theft of property or services with a certain value; applying certain penalties; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
CR, §§ 7-103(f) and 7-104(g) and CP, § 2-203 - amended and CP, § 6-235 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 599  Harford County Senators

SHERIFF OF HARFORD COUNTY – SALARY

Altering the annual salary of the Sheriff of Harford County to be equal to the salary of the Department of State Police lieutenant colonel, at the highest available step for a lieutenant colonel under the Department of State Police pay plan in effect on the day prior to the day that the Sheriff begins a term of office; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
CJ, § 2-326(b) - repealed and added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 600  Senator Reilly

HEALTH INSURANCE – REIMBURSEMENT OF PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS – BONUS PAYMENTS – APPLICABILITY

Defining the term “primary care provider” for purposes of provisions of law requiring health insurance carriers to pay to certain individuals bonus payments for services provided under certain circumstances; and requiring a carrier to pay a bonus to primary care providers for services provided in nonhospital settings under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
IN, § 15-136 - amended

Assigned to: Finance
SB 601  Senator Reilly

BUSINESS REGULATION – MICRO MARKETS – REGULATION AS FOOD SERVICE FACILITY – REPEAL

Altering the definition of “food service facility” to exclude the regulation of certain micro markets as food service facilities by the Maryland Department of Health.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
BR, § 17-1701 and HG, § 21-301(h) - amended
Assigned to: Finance

SB 602  Senator Feldman

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Establishing the Maryland Technology Partnership Program in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to facilitate strategic planning, manage a Maryland Technology Partnership Fund, and coordinate economic development service delivery; requiring the Corporation, under certain circumstances, to award capital and operating financial assistance from the Fund to support certain purposes; establishing the Maryland Technology Partnership Authority in the Corporation; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
EC, §§ 10-495.1 through 10-495.12 - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)121. and 122. - amended and § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)123. - added
Assigned to: Finance

SB 603  Senator Feldman

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – ELECTRICITY AND GAS SUPPLIERS – TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Requiring the Public Service Commission to develop a training and educational program for certain licensed energy suppliers; requiring the Commission to develop the program in consultation with interested stakeholders, including electricity suppliers and gas suppliers; requiring designated representatives to demonstrate a thorough understanding of certain Commission regulations; requiring the Commission to conduct an examination at the conclusion of training and provide certification on a satisfactory score; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
PU, § 7-311 - added
Assigned to: Finance
SB 604  Senator Feldman, et al
PUBLIC AND NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS – MEDICAL CANNABIS – POLICY FOR ADMINISTRATION DURING SCHOOL HOURS AND EVENTS

Authorizing a parent or legal guardian of a medical cannabis patient under the age of 18 years to designate an adult to be a caregiver, in addition to the parent or legal guardian; increasing the number of caregivers a patient may be assigned; repealing a limitation on the number of qualifying patients that a caregiver may serve; requiring the State Department of Education and the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission jointly to develop guidelines for public schools regarding the administration of medical cannabis to students; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
HG, §§ 13-3301(c) and 13-3304(g)(6) - amended and ED, § 7-446 - added
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Finance

SB 605  Senator Feldman
PUBLIC SCHOOLS – MEDICAL CANNABIS – GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTRATION TO STUDENTS

Requiring, on or before December 1, 2020, the State Department of Education and the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission jointly to develop guidelines for public schools regarding the administration of medical cannabis to certain students during school hours and school-sponsored after-school activities; providing for the contents of the guidelines; requiring, on or before December 1, 2020, the Department and the Commission jointly to provide certain technical assistance to schools; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
ED, § 7-446 - added
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Finance
SB 606  Senator Benson, et al
CRIMINAL LAW – HATE CRIMES – BASIS (2ND LIEUTENANT RICHARD COLLINS, III’S LAW)

Altering the basis on which a person is prohibited from taking certain actions against a certain person or group, to include certain actions motivated either in whole or in part by another person’s or group’s race, color, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, gender, disability, or national origin, or because another person or group is homeless.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
CR, § 10-304 - amended
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 607  Senator Benson, et al
MOTOR AND ELECTRIC SCOOTER SHARING COMPANIES – NONVISUAL ACCESS

Requiring that motor scooter sharing companies include on each motor scooter or electric low speed scooter made available to the public an embossed tactile phone number through which an individual who is blind or visually impaired may contact the company; requiring that motor or electric scooter sharing companies provide individuals with disabilities nonvisual access to their websites and mobile applications in a way that provides full and equal accessibility to individuals and is consistent with certain federal standards; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
TR, §§ 18.7-101 and 18.7-102 - added
Assigned to: Finance

SB 608  Senator King, et al
COMMUNITY COLLEGES – STATE FUNDING – REVISION

Specifying that a certain appropriation calculated under the Senator John A. Cade Funding Formula and a certain appropriation for Baltimore City Community College include appropriations, regardless of where they are budgeted, designated for the general operation of 4–year public institutions of higher education in the State.
This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
ED, §§ 16-305(c)(1)(ii) and 16-512(a)(2) - amended
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation
SB 609  Senator King, et al
HIGHER EDUCATION – ST. MARY’S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND – COST–OF–LIVING ADJUSTMENT

Altering the percentage of the cost–of–living adjustment provided to certain State–supported employees of St. Mary’s College of Maryland from 50% to 100% for the fiscal years in which the State provides a cost–of–living adjustment for State employees. This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
ED, § 14-405(b)(3) - amended
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 610  Senator King, et al
COMMUNITY COLLEGES – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES GRANT PROGRAM

Requiring certain guidelines or regulations for a grant program for supplemental services and supports for students with disabilities in community colleges; requiring the guidelines adopted to require students to provide documentation from a licensed physician or mental health professional; requiring, beginning in fiscal year 2022, that the Governor include in the annual budget bill a general fund appropriation of at least $2,500,000 to the Commission on Higher Education to be used to award grants under the program; etc.

This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
ED, § 16-319 - amended
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Budget and Taxation
SB 611  Senator Augustine

HEALTH – MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL DISORDERS – CONSENT (MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS INITIATIVE)

Providing that all minors, rather than only minors who are 16 years old or older, have the same capacity as an adult to consent to consultation, diagnosis, and treatment of a mental or emotional disorder by a health care provider or clinic; and providing that a health care provider may decide to provide certain information to a certain parent, guardian, or custodian under certain provisions of law unless the health care provider believes that the disclosure will lead to harm to the minor or deter the minor from seeking care.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
HG, § 20-104 - amended
Assigned to: Finance

SB 612  Senators Hough and Young

FREDERICK COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – CINEMA/THEATER LICENSE

Repealing certain time and area restrictions on the consumption of beer, wine, and liquor in a cinema or theater for which a Class CT (cinema/theater) license has been issued in Frederick County; and authorizing the on-premises consumption of beer, wine, and liquor in the lobby or a screening room or performance hall in the licensed premises of the cinema or theater.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020
AB, § 20-1003.1 - amended
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
SB 613 Senator Pinsky, et al

PUBLIC FINANCING ACT – CANDIDATE AND MATCHING FUND REVISIONS (MARYLAND FAIR ELECTIONS ACT)

Altering the candidates authorized to receive public contributions from the Fair Campaign Financing Fund to include candidates for Attorney General of the State and State Comptroller; requiring the Comptroller to distribute public contributions to a certain campaign finance entity established to receive public contributions for certain eligible candidates; requiring the State Board of Elections to make a certain determination regarding the balance of the Fund on or before a certain date in certain years; etc.
This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020
EL, Various Sections - amended, repealed, and added
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Budget and Taxation

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED January 31, 2020

SJ 3 Senator Guzzone, et al

NATURAL RESOURCES – FISHING – WILD-CAUGHT BLUE CATFISH

Opposing certain inspection rules promulgated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that have drastically impeded the harvest and sale of blue catfish and thus rendered the State unable to adequately use the commercial harvest as a form of control over the invasive blue catfish species; urging the U.S. Congress to amend 21 U.S.C. § 601(w) to exempt the wild catch of domestic catfish from certain inspection requirements; and requiring a copy of the Resolution to be forwarded to certain elected officials.
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs