



SYNOPSIS

House Bills and Joint Resolutions
2015 Maryland General Assembly Session

February 2, 2015
Schedule 11

PLEASE NOTE: February 13 – Bill introduction deadline.
All bills must be given to the Chief Clerk by 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 12.
As required by House Rule 32(b), bills introduced after this date will be referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED JANUARY 30, 2015

HB 214 Delegate Metzgar, et al

MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY – FRANCIS SCOTT KEY BRIDGE – TOLL DISCOUNT PLANS

Requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority to offer to users of the Francis Scott Key Bridge the same toll discount plans that the Authority offered to users of the Thomas J. Hatem Memorial Bridge on January 1, 2015.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

TR, § 4-312(c) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Department of Legislative Services

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Baltimore Area: 410-946-5400 — Washington Area: 301-970-5400

Other Maryland Areas: 1-800-492-7122 — Maryland Relay Service: 1-800-735-2258

HB 215 Delegate Luedtke, et al

EDUCATION – GEOGRAPHIC COST OF EDUCATION – REQUIREMENT

Requiring that the county boards of education receive a specified grant to reflect regional differences in the cost of education that are due to factors outside of the control of the local jurisdiction; and repealing a provision that allowed for the reduction of a grant under specified circumstances.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

ED, § 5-202(f) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 2, 2015**HB 216 Delegate Morhaim, et al**

ENVIRONMENT – PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS CONTAINING SYNTHETIC PLASTIC MICROBEADS – PROHIBITION ON MANUFACTURING OR SALE

Prohibiting a person from manufacturing for sale or accepting for sale a personal care product or an over-the-counter drug that contains synthetic plastic microbeads on or after specified dates.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

EN, §§ 9-2001 and 9-2002 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 217 Delegate B. Barnes (Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions)

STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – CREDIT FOR UNUSED SICK LEAVE – CLARIFICATION

Clarifying that a member of the State Retirement and Pension System may not receive creditable service for unused sick leave at retirement unless the leave was available to the member to be used as sick leave during employment; and clarifying the definition of “unused sick leave” to specify that the leave must have been available to be used as sick leave during employment.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

SP, § 20-206 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 218 Delegate Morhaim, et al

ELECTION LAW – DAYS OF EARLY VOTING

Altering the days on which early voting centers are required to be open to the Thursday before a primary or general election through the Sunday before the election.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

EL, § 10-301.1 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 219 Delegate Morhaim, et al

INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES AND ELECTIONEERING COMMUNICATIONS – REGISTRATION AND REPORTING

Decreasing the aggregate amount to \$1,000 of independent expenditures or disbursements for electioneering communications that a person may make before being required to file a specified registration form and a specified report; requiring a specified registration form and a specified report to be filed with the State Board of Elections within 48 hours after a day on which a person makes the aggregate disbursements; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

EL, §§ 13-306(b), (c), and (d) and 13-307(b), (c), and (d) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 220 Delegate Dumais, et al

MARYLAND COLLABORATIVE REPRODUCTION ACT

Establishing the Maryland Collaborative Reproduction Act; establishing the purposes of the Act; establishing rights and obligations of specified intended parents who use gamete or embryo donors to conceive a child through collaborative reproduction; establishing specified rights of a child conceived through collaborative reproduction; establishing that a gamete or an embryo donor is not a parent of a child conceived through collaborative reproduction under specified circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

FL, §§ 5-901 through 5-914 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 221 Delegate Dumais, et al**COMMISSION ON TAX POLICY, REFORM, AND FAIRNESS**

Establishing the Commission on Tax Policy, Reform, and Fairness; specifying the membership of the Commission; providing for the appointment of a Senate cochair and House cochair of the Commission; providing for the staffing of the Commission; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving compensation but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Commission to study, consider, and make recommendations regarding specified matters; requiring a report on or before December 1, 2016; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 222 Delegate Dumais, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – DISTRIBUTION OF HEROIN OR FENTANYL RESULTING IN DEATH**

Prohibiting a person from distributing heroin or fentanyl, the use of which is a contributing cause of the death of another; establishing penalties for a violation of the Act of up to 30 years in prison; providing that it is not a defense that the defendant did not directly distribute the heroin or fentanyl to the decedent; establishing a specified immunity; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

CR, § 5-602.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 223 Delegate Hammen**PILOTS – RECREATIONAL VESSELS – EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENT**

Requiring that a recreational vessel that meets specified parameters employ a licensed pilot to pilot the vessel when it is underway on the navigable waters of the State; defining a certain term; and making the Act an emergency measure.

EMERGENCY BILL

BOP, § 11-501 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 224 Delegate Dumais, et al

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – 2–YEAR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Specifying that a court may issue a protective order for a period not to exceed 2 years by consent of the respondent under specified circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

FL, § 4-506(j) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 225 Delegate Dumais, et al

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – ADDITIONAL RELIEF

Expanding the relief that may be awarded in an interim protective order to include any other relief that a District Court commissioner determines is appropriate; and expanding the relief that may be awarded in a temporary protective order and a final protective order to include any other relief that a judge determines is appropriate.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

FL, §§ 4-504.1(c), 4-505(a)(2), and 4-506(d) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 226 Delegate Morhaim, et al

ELECTION LAW – CASTING OF BALLOT BY MAIL – PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Requiring the State Board of Elections and local boards of elections to emphasize in public communications specified information about casting a ballot by mail; and specifying public communications that are subject to the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

EL, § 9-311.1 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 227 Delegate Angel, et al**FAMILY LAW – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – DEFINITION OF ABUSE**

Altering the definition of “abuse” for purposes of provisions of law relating to domestic violence to include harassment, trespass, and malicious destruction of property under specified provisions of law if the person eligible for relief has not resided with the respondent for at least 7 days before the filing of the petition.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

FL, § 4-501(b) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 228 Delegate Anderson (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)**PUBLIC HEALTH – EXPEDITED PARTNER THERAPY PROGRAM – REPEAL OF TERMINATION DATE**

Establishing the Expedited Partner Therapy Program in the Baltimore City Health Department as a permanent program; authorizing a specified advanced practice nurse instead of a certified nurse practitioner to dispense or otherwise provide antibiotic therapy under specified circumstances; repealing a specified reporting requirement; repealing the termination date of the Program; making conforming and clarifying changes; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

HG, § 18-214.1 and Chapter 146 of the Acts of 2007, § 2, as amended - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 229 Delegate Dumais, et al**HUMAN RELATIONS – EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION – PROTECTION FOR INTERNS**

Establishing specified protections for interns and applicants for internships from specified discriminatory acts; providing that a specified intern has access to a specified complaint resolution procedure or, under specified circumstances, may file a complaint with the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights for specified administrative remedies; providing that the Act does not create an employment relationship between an employer and an intern for the purposes of specified remedies or specified provisions of law; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

SG, § 20-610 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 230 Delegate Hammen**HEALTH INSURANCE – ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS AND REIMBURSEMENT OF NONPREFERRED PROVIDERS – REPEAL OF TERMINATION DATE**

Repealing the termination date of September 30, 2015, of specified provisions of law relating to the assignment of benefits and reimbursement of nonpreferred providers.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Chapter 537 of the Acts of 2010, § 7 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 231 Delegate Hammen**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION – LOW INTENSITY SUPPORT SERVICES – DEFINITION**

Altering the definition of “low intensity support services” as it relates to the Low Intensity Support Services Program in the Developmental Disabilities Administration to include a child or an adult who is living in the home, or an adult who is living in the community, and who has a severe chronic disability that is attributable to a physical or mental impairment, other than the sole diagnosis of mental illness, or to a combination of physical and mental impairments and is likely to continue indefinitely; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

HG, § 7-717 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 232 Delegate Bromwell (By Request – Departmental – State Acupuncture Board)**STATE ACUPUNCTURE BOARD – DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES – JUDICIAL APPEALS AND PROHIBITION ON STAYS**

Prohibiting a hearing of charges filed by the State Acupuncture Board from being stayed or challenged by specified procedural defects; prohibiting an order of the Board from being stayed pending judicial review; authorizing the Board to appeal from any decision that reverses or modifies a specified order; and clarifying the circumstances under which a specified person may take a direct judicial appeal.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

HO, §§ 1A-310 and 1A-311 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 233 Delegate Beidle**MOTOR VEHICLES – CALCULATION OF LENGTH – LOADING DEVICES**

Excluding specified cargo loading devices from the calculation of the length of a motor vehicle or combination of vehicles for the purposes of compliance with maximum motor vehicle or combination of vehicles length requirements; clarifying that specified factors included in the calculation of the length of a motor vehicle apply to the calculation of the length of a combination of vehicles; extending the application of the calculation to specified provisions of law; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

TR, § 24-104.1(b) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 234 Delegate Tarlau, et al**ETHICS – EXECUTIVE BRANCH – LOBBYING BY FORMER OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Altering the time period during which former members of the General Assembly are prohibited from assisting or representing specified parties for compensation in a matter that is subject to legislative action; prohibiting specified former State officials and specified former public officials of the Executive Branch from assisting or representing specified parties for compensation, for a specified period of time, in specified matters; providing an exception; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

GP, § 5-504(d) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 235 Delegate Reznik, et al**VEHICLE LAWS – MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS – SALE OF ELECTRIC OR NONFOSSIL-FUEL BURNING VEHICLES**

Authorizing a manufacturer or distributor to be licensed as a vehicle dealer if the manufacturer or distributor deals only in electric or nonfossil-fuel burning vehicles and if no dealer in the State holds a franchise from the manufacturer or distributor; authorizing specified manufacturers or distributors who deal only in electric or nonfossil-fuel burning vehicles to operate a specified dealership located in an enclosed shopping mall.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

TR, § 15-305 - amended and § 15-305.2 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 236 Delegate Jalisi, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – ASSAULT – FIRST RESPONDERS**

Prohibiting a person from intentionally causing physical injury to another if the person knows or has reason to know that the other is a firefighter, an emergency medical technician, a rescue squad member, or any other first responder engaged in providing emergency medical care or rescue services; and applying specified penalties.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

CR, § 3-203 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 237 Delegate Jameson**WORKERS' COMPENSATION – CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Workers' Compensation Children's Scholarship Fund; requiring the Workers' Compensation Commission to impose, in addition to payment of specified compensation, a \$5000 assessment against an employer or its insurer per award of compensation; providing that assessments under the Act shall be paid to the Fund; authorizing the Joint Committee on Workers' Compensation Benefit and Insurance Oversight to award specified scholarship assistance to individuals who meet specified requirements; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

LE, §§ 9-751 and 10-401 through 10-403 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)83. - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)81. and 82. - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 238 Delegates Szeliga and Cassilly**FOREST CONSERVATION ACT – EXEMPTION – HAZARDS TO AIR NAVIGATION**

Creating an exemption under the Forest Conservation Act for the cutting or clearing of trees to comply with a specified provision of law, under specified circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

NR, § 5-1602 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 239 Delegate C. Howard, et al**ELECTION LAW – USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR MEETING AND CONFERENCE EXPENSES**

Including as an allowable expenditure of funds from a campaign account under the State election law a disbursement to pay for travel, lodging, meals, and registration expenses associated with attendance of an office holder or a candidate at meetings or conferences focused on legislative issues, process, or public policy analysis pertinent to the office the elected official holds or that the candidate seeks.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

EL, § 1-101(aa) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 240 Delegate Tarlau, et al**STATE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX – RATE CHANGES**

Altering the State income tax rates for specified income of individuals; requiring the Comptroller to waive, under specified circumstances, interest and penalties imposed on an individual relating to payment of estimated income tax for calendar year 2015; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2014; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

TG, § 10-105(a) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 241 Delegate Aumann, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – HUMAN TRAFFICKING – ADULT VICTIM – PENALTY**

Making the crime of human trafficking in a case in which the victim of the crime is an adult a felony, rather than a misdemeanor; and making a conforming change.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

CR, § 11-303 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 242 Frederick County Delegation**FREDERICK COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – MULTIPLE
EVENT LICENSES AND PROMOTER’S LICENSE**

Authorizing an applicant in Frederick County to purchase specified single-day or multiday alcoholic beverages licenses; specifying the licenses may be issued for a maximum of 50 days to a single applicant in a calendar year; providing for specified license fees; establishing a promoter’s license in the County; requiring a for-profit organization to obtain a promoter’s license from the Board of License Commissioners before the organization may conduct specified activities; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

Art. 2B, § 7-101(b)(7) and (d)(8) - amended and § 7-102 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 243 Delegate Carozza, et al**PROCUREMENT – VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS
ENTERPRISES – PARTICIPATION GOAL**

Increasing the participation goal from 0.5% to 5% for specified veteran-owned business enterprises for specified procurement contracts.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

SF, § 14-602 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 244 Delegate Anderson, et al**MARYLAND SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2015**

Authorizing a person to petition the court to shield court records and police records relating to shieldable convictions no earlier than 3 years after the person satisfies the sentence imposed for all convictions; providing that, if a person is convicted of a new crime during a specified time period, the original conviction is not eligible for shielding unless the new conviction becomes eligible for shielding; providing that a person is not eligible for shielding if the person is a defendant in a pending criminal proceeding; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

CP, §§ 10-301 through 10-306 and GP, § 4-327 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 245 Frederick County Delegation**FREDERICK COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – SUNDAY PERMIT – HOURS OF SALE**

Authorizing a holder of a specified alcoholic beverages license in Frederick County who has been granted a Sunday opening permit to sell specified alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption at a specified event that the Frederick County Board of License Commissioners has approved; providing that the Board set the hours for the event; and making the Act an emergency measure.

EMERGENCY BILL

Art. 2B, § 11-511(c) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 246 Frederick County Delegation**FREDERICK COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – NOTICE FOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS, FEES, AND INSPECTORS**

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Frederick County to fulfill a notice requirement for license applications by posting online a completed application with all submitted documents on or before a specified date; eliminating the fees for a specified certificate of permission and a specified license; repealing the requirement that the Governor appoint a full-time inspector; authorizing the Board to appoint a chief inspector and one full-time or two part-time inspectors; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

Art. 2B, §§ 10-202(a)(1), 10-506(a), and 15-103 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters