



# SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions  
2015 Maryland General Assembly Session

March 2, 2015  
Schedule 33

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## SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED March 2, 2015

**SB 875**     **Senator Benson, et al**

REAL PROPERTY – FORECLOSURE – OWNER–OCCUPIED  
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY – PROHIBITION ON COLLECTION OF  
DEFICIENCY

Prohibiting a secured party from obtaining a deficiency judgment or taking any other action to collect a deficiency in an action to foreclose a mortgage or deed of trust on owner–occupied residential property that was recorded on or after October 1, 2015; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

RP, § 7-105.13 - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 876**     **Senator Benson, et al**

FORECLOSURE – INDORSEMENT OF DEBT INSTRUMENT, LOST  
NOTE AFFIDAVIT, AND PENALTIES FOR FALSE STATEMENTS

Altering the requirements for the debt instrument required to be filed with an order to docket or complaint to foreclose a mortgage or deed of trust on residential property; altering the requirements for a lost note affidavit in a residential foreclosure action; providing that a person who knowingly makes a false statement in specified documents required to be filed with a court is guilty of a misdemeanor and if convicted is subject to imprisonment not to exceed 1 year or a fine not to exceed \$10,000 or both; applying the Act prospectively.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

RP, § 7-105.1(e) and (f) - amended and § 7-105.1(t) - added

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**Department of Legislative Services**

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401–1991

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**SB 877**     **Senator Benson, et al****FAIR FORECLOSURE ACT OF 2015**

Requiring an action to foreclose a mortgage or deed of trust on residential property to be commenced by filing a complaint; requiring practice and procedure in an action to foreclose a mortgage or deed of trust on residential property to be governed by Title 2 of the Maryland Rules; prohibiting a foreclosure sale of residential property from occurring until at least 30 days after the court enters judgment in favor of the secured party; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

RP, § 7-105.1 - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 878**     **Harford County Senators****CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – HARFORD COUNTY – REGIONAL FIRE AND RESCUE BOAT**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$100,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Havre de Grace and the Board of Directors of the Susquehanna Hose Company, Inc. for a fire and rescue boat for the Lower Susquehanna River and Upper Chesapeake Bay and their tributaries, including site improvements to and construction, repair, and renovation of a boat dock and boat launch for the fire and rescue boat, located in Harford County and Cecil County; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 879**     **Senator Bates****OPEN MEETINGS ACT – REQUIREMENTS FOR PROVIDING AGENDAS**

Requiring a public body to provide an agenda containing specified information if the agenda has been determined at the time the public body gives notice of a specified meeting or, if an agenda has not been determined at the time of the meeting notice, provide the agenda at least 24 hours before the meeting; providing that specified information does not need to be included in a specified agenda; and authorizing methods by which a public body may provide a specified agenda.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

GP, § 3-302.1 - added

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 880**     **Senator Bates****INCOME TAX – EXPENSING OF BUSINESS PROPERTY AND BONUS DEPRECIATION**

Limiting to property placed in service before January 1, 2015, the applicability of Maryland income tax modifications for specified deductions for the cost of business property that is treated as an expense for federal income tax purposes; limiting to property placed in service before January 1, 2015, the applicability of Maryland income tax modifications for a specified additional depreciation allowance under the federal income tax for specified business property; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

TG, § 10-210.1(b)(1) and (3) - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 881**     **Senator McFadden****CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – BALTIMORE CITY – MEN AND FAMILIES CENTER**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of The Men and Families Center, Inc. for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Men and Families Center, located in Baltimore City; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 882**     **Senator Conway, et al****BALTIMORE CITY CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD**

Altering the definition of “law enforcement unit” as it relates to the Baltimore City Civilian Review Board so as to increase the number of law enforcement units that are subject to review by the Board; altering the composition of the Board; requiring the Board to hold a minimum number of meetings in locations rotated throughout different police districts in Baltimore City; and altering specified definitions.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

PLL of Baltimore City, Art. 4, §§ 16-41 and 16-43 - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 883 Senator Nathan–Pulliam****CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – BALTIMORE COUNTY – NATIONAL CENTER ON INSTITUTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES EXPANSION**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$350,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the National Center on Institutions and Alternatives, Inc. for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, capital equipping, and expansion of the National Center on Institutions and Alternatives, located in Baltimore County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 884 Senator Serafini****INCOME TAX – FLAT TAX**

Altering the State income tax rate to 3.8% for individuals with Maryland taxable income in excess of \$30,000; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

TG, § 10-105 - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 885 Senator Conway****EDUCATION FUNDING AND FORMULAS – AMENDMENT – SUPERMAJORITY VOTE**

Prohibiting the alteration of specified education related formulas, distributions, and funds unless approved by the General Assembly through legislation passed by a three–fifths majority vote of the full standing committee assigned the legislation in each of the two Houses of the General Assembly and enacted into law; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

ED, §§ 5-219, 8-320, 8-420, and 8-711 and SG, § 9-1A-30(e) - added

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 886**     **Senators Hough and Young**FREDERICK COUNTY PROPERTY TAX FAIRNESS ACT OF 2015  
(STRENGTHENING FREDERICK MUNICIPALITIES)

Removing Frederick County from the list of counties required to grant specified property tax setoffs to municipal corporations within the county in a specified manner; requiring the governing body of Frederick County to annually meet and discuss with the governing body of each municipal corporation in the county the county property tax rate to be set for assessments of property in the municipal corporation; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

TP, § 6-305 - amended and § 6-305.1 - added

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 887**     **Senator Conway**HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – DENTISTRY – SCOPE OF PRACTICE AND  
LICENSURE EXCEPTION

Prohibiting the State Board of Dental Examiners from requiring a person to be licensed by the Board in order to engage in specified activities in the State; and altering the definition of “practice dentistry”.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

HO, §§ 4-101(l) and 4-301 - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 888**     **Senator Conway**TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE ISSUANCE OF BEER AND WINE  
LICENSES TO CHAIN STORES

Establishing the Task Force to Study the Issuance of Beer and Wine Licenses to Chain Stores; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; providing that the purpose of the Task Force is to study the costs, benefits, and feasibility of issuing beer and wine licenses to chain stores, how other states have implemented similar programs, and other specified issues; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2016; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 889**     **Senators Conway and Muse****GENERAL PROVISIONS – COMMEMORATIVE DAYS – THURGOOD MARSHALL DAY**

Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim July 2 as Thurgood Marshall Day; and requiring the proclamation to urge educational and cultural organizations to observe Thurgood Marshall Day properly.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

GP, § 7-411 - added

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 890**     **Senator Currie****CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – PARK BERKSHIRE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of concession stands, storage facilities, and restroom buildings at Park Berkshire Neighborhood Park, located in Prince George’s County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a specified requirement; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 891**     **Senator Pugh****CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – BALTIMORE CITY – CENTER STAGE**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$200,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Trustees of the Center Stage Associates, Inc. for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Center Stage, located in Baltimore City; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SB 892**     **Senator Nathan–Pulliam****ENVIRONMENT – NITROGEN OXIDE EMISSIONS – POLLUTION AND COMBUSTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES**

Prohibiting specified nitrogen oxide emissions rates for specified affected electric generating units from exceeding specified amounts; requiring the owner or operator of an affected electric generating unit to submit a specified plan for approval to the Department of the Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on or before November 15, 2015; requiring that the plan include specified information; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

EN, §§ 2-10A-01 through 2-10A-07 - added

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED March 2, 2015****SJ 6**     **Senator Mathias, et al****BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – NASA WALLOPS FLIGHT FACILITY – COMMERCIAL ROCKET BOOSTERS AND SPACECRAFT**

Urging the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to conduct an environmental impact study related to landing commercial booster rockets and spacecraft at its Wallops Flight Facility; recognizing the enormous economic potential value in the State of the Wallops Flight Facility; and providing that a copy of the resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to specified individuals.

Assigned to: Senate Rules

**SENATE BILL REASSIGNED February 27, 2015**

**SB 793 Senator Middleton**

STATE PERSONNEL – AUTOMATIC STEP INCREASES – STANDARD PAY PLAN

Requiring that regulations adopted by the Secretary of Budget and Management provide for automatic increases from minimum to maximum steps in a pay grade of pay rates in the Standard Pay Plan for State employees for an employee who is rated “outstanding” or “satisfactory” on the employee’s midyear or final performance appraisal forms; and making the Act an emergency measure.

EMERGENCY BILL

SP, § 8-106 - amended

Reassigned to: Finance and Budget and Taxation