

**SB0683/443726/1**

BY: Budget and Taxation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 683  
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, at the top of the page, insert “EMERGENCY BILL”; in the sponsor line, strike “**Jackson**” and substitute “**M. Jackson**”; in the same line, strike “**and Kagan**” and substitute “**Kagan, Ferguson, Guzzone, Hettleman, King, Lewis Young, McCray, and Zucker**”; in line 3, after “**Fund**” insert “**, Protection of Federal Benefits, and Powers of the Attorney General**”; in line 10, after “Fund;” insert “authorizing the Maryland Department of Labor to disclose certain information to a third-party vendor for a certain purpose and to forgive a loan from the Fund; expanding the authority of the Attorney General to take certain actions under certain circumstances; increasing the amount the Governor is required to appropriate in the proposed budget each year to the Attorney General to be used for certain purposes; altering a requirement that the Attorney General use a certain appropriation to employ a certain number of attorneys; authorizing the disclosure of certain tax information to the Maryland Department of Labor for certain purposes; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to conduct certain research and make a certain report; authorizing the Governor to make certain transfers of funds subject to the review and comment of the Legislative Policy Committee;”; in line 11, strike “and” and substitute a comma; in line 12, after “Fund” insert “, and the powers of the Attorney General”; and after line 22, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – State Government

Section 6–106.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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Article – Tax – General  
Section 13–203(c)(17) and (18)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Tax – General  
Section 13–203(c)(19)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 4, in line 2, strike “[are]” and substitute “are”; in line 4, strike the first “ARE”; in the same line, after “GOVERNMENT” insert “, REQUIRED TO REPORT TO WORK, AND”; in line 6, after “appropriations” insert “AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025”; in line 7, after “MONTHS” insert “, AND ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025,”; in line 10, after “CONTROL” insert “, AND WHO ARE EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AS DETERMINED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR”; after line 16, insert:

**“(3) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR IS AUTHORIZED TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION TO THIRD-PARTY VENDORS TO VERIFY FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUND, SUBJECT TO PRIVACY CONSIDERATIONS.”;**

in line 26, strike “[are]” and substitute “are”; in line 28, strike the first “ARE”; in the same line, after “GOVERNMENT” insert “, REQUIRED TO REPORT TO WORK, AND”; and in line 30, after “appropriations” insert “AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025”.

On page 5, in line 1, after “MONTHS” insert “, AND ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025,”; in line 4, after “CONTROL” insert “, AND WHO ARE EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AS DETERMINED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF

LABOR"; in line 16, after "is" insert "A RESIDENT OF THE STATE WHO IS"; strike line 17 in its entirety; in line 18, strike "**2. A.**" and substitute "1."; in the same line, strike "WHO IS" and substitute ", REQUIRED TO REPORT TO WORK, AND"; in line 20, after "APPROPRIATIONS" insert "AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025"; in line 25, strike "**B.**" and substitute "2."; in line 27, after "APPLICATION" insert ", AND ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025"; in line 30, after "CONTROL" insert ", AND WHO IS EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AS DETERMINED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

(3) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR MAY ESTABLISH OTHER CRITERIA TO BEST ASSIST FEDERAL EMPLOYEES FACING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP";

and in line 31, strike "(3)" and substitute "(4)".

On page 6, in line 3, after "(iii)" insert "IF REPAYMENT IS REQUIRED,"; and after line 4, insert:

(5) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR MAY FORGIVE A LOAN PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION.

### Article – State Government

6–106.1.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) the federal government’s action or failure to take action may pose a threat to the health and welfare of the residents of the State; and

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(2) the State should investigate and obtain relief from any arbitrary, unlawful, or unconstitutional federal action or inaction and prevent such action or inaction from harming the residents of the State.

(b) (1) In addition to any other powers and duties and subject to the requirements of this subsection, the Attorney General may investigate, commence, and prosecute or defend any civil or criminal suit or action that is based on the federal government's action or inaction that threatens the public interest and welfare of the residents of the State with respect to:

(i) protecting the health of the residents of the State and ensuring the availability of affordable health care;

(ii) safeguarding public safety and security;

(iii) protecting civil liberties;

(iv) preserving and enhancing the economic security of workers and retirees;

(v) protecting financial security of the residents of the State, including their pensions, savings, and investments, and ensuring fairness in mortgages, student loans, and the marketplace;

(vi) protecting the residents of the State against fraud and other deceptive and predatory practices;

(vii) protecting the natural resources and environment of the State;

(viii) protecting the residents of the State against illegal and unconstitutional federal immigration and travel restrictions; [or]

(IX) PROTECTING RESIDENTS OF THE STATE WHO ARE EMPLOYEES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WHO ARE NOT BEING PAID BECAUSE OF A FULL OR PARTIAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN DUE TO A LAPSE IN APPROPRIATIONS;

(X) PROTECTING RESIDENTS OF THE STATE WHO WERE EMPLOYEES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2025:

1. WERE TERMINATED FROM EMPLOYMENT BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DUE TO THE CLOSURE, RELOCATION, OR MASS LAYOFF OF A UNIT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, OR OTHER SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THE EMPLOYEES' CONTROL; OR

2. SEPARATED FROM EMPLOYMENT BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS A RESULT OF A VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENT;

(XI) PROTECTING RESIDENTS OF THE STATE WHO ARE INAPPROPRIATELY DENIED FEDERAL BENEFITS THAT THEY HAVE EARNED, INCLUDING SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS, MEDICARE, AND VETERANS AFFAIRS BENEFITS;

(XII) PROTECTING RESIDENTS OF THE STATE WHO ARE INAPPROPRIATELY DENIED FEDERAL ENTITLEMENTS, INCLUDING MEDICAID; OR

[(ix)] (XIII) otherwise protecting, as parens patriae, the State's interest in the general health and well-being of its residents.

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(2) Except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, before commencing a suit or an action under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Attorney General shall provide to the Governor:

- (i) written notice of the intended suit or action; and
- (ii) an opportunity to review and comment on the intended suit or action.

(3) If the Governor objects to the intended suit or action for which notice was provided under this subsection:

(i) the Governor shall provide in writing to the Attorney General the reasons for the objection within 10 days after receiving the notice; and

(ii) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, the Attorney General shall consider the Governor's objection before commencing the suit or action.

(4) If the Attorney General determines that emergency circumstances require the immediate commencement of a suit or an action under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Attorney General shall provide to the Governor notice of the suit or action as soon as reasonably practicable.

(c) The Governor's proposed budget for fiscal year 2019, and for each fiscal year thereafter, shall appropriate at least [\$1,000,000] **\$2,500,000** to the Attorney General to be used only for:

- (1) carrying out this section; and
- (2) employing [five] attorneys in the Office of the Attorney General.

Article – Tax – General

13–203.

(c) Subject to subsections (f) and (g) of this section, tax information may be disclosed to:

(17) the Maryland Cannabis Administration; [and]

(18) a person, governmental entity, or tax compliance organization for the purpose of assisting the Comptroller in tax compliance activity; AND

(19) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY TO:

(I) ADMINISTER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE LOAN FUND UNDER § 7–327 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE; OR

(II) DETECT AND PREVENT FRAUDULENT CLAIMS FOR RELIEF OR AVOIDANCE OF REPAYMENT REQUIRED UNDER § 7–327 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 6, strike in their entirety lines 5 and 6 and substitute:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(1) the Maryland Department of Labor shall conduct research and analysis on foreclosure activity in Maryland, particularly as it relates to federal

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workers, to include, to the extent practicable, federal contractors impacted by layoffs since January 1, 2025; and

(2) on or before December 31, 2025, the Maryland Department of Labor shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, on any data findings or trend analysis as it relates to foreclosures in Maryland for this worker population.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) Notwithstanding § 7–311(i) of the State Finance and Procurement Article, after providing the Legislative Policy Committee with at least 7 days to review and comment, the Governor may transfer up to \$5,000,000 from the Revenue Stabilization Account under § 7–311 of the State Finance and Procurement Article to the Federal Government Employee Assistance Loan Fund under § 7–327 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding § 7–311(i) of the State Finance and Procurement Article, after providing the Legislative Policy Committee with at least 7 days to review and comment, the Governor may transfer up to \$1,500,000 from the Revenue Stabilization Account under § 7–311 of the State Finance and Procurement Article to the expenditure accounts of the Attorney General to fund costs associated with carrying out § 6–106.1 of the State Government Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three–fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted. Section 3 of this Act shall remain effective through March 30, 2026, and at the end of March 30, 2026, Section 3 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.