

# HOUSE BILL 2

P1, P5

(PRE-FILED)

5lr1796  
CF SB 24

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By: **Delegate Stewart**

Requested: August 13, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Annotated Code – Terminology – Clergy and Churches, Faith Institutions, and**  
3 **Places of Worship**

4 FOR the purpose of altering certain terminology throughout the Annotated Code that refers  
5 to a clergyman to refer to a member of the clergy and churches to refer to faith  
6 institutions and places of worship; and generally relating to clergy, churches, faith  
7 institutions, and places of worship.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
10 Section 16–405(b)(1)(iii) and 26–904(d)(2)(ix)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2024 Replacement Volume)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Business Regulation  
15 Section 5–602(a)(2) and 17–1803(e)(1)(i)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2024 Replacement Volume)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
19 Article – Commercial Law  
20 Section 13–104(1), 14–401(l)(3), and 23–101(e)(2)(vi)  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
24 Article – Corporations and Associations  
25 Section 5–301(b), 5–301.1, 5–302, 5–304(b), 5–305, 5–307(b) and (c), 5–310(a)(1),  
26 5–311, and 5–312(a) and (b)(1)

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 Annotated Code of Maryland  
2 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
4 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
5 Section 3–2A–01(f)(2) and 9–111  
6 Annotated Code of Maryland  
7 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Criminal Law  
10 Section 4–209(b)(1)(iii)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Economic Development  
15 Section 10–301(k)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
19 Article – Education  
20 Section 2–206(e)(4), 2–304(b)(1), 7–108(b)(1)(iv), 7–404(g), and 11–202.1(h)(2)(i)  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
24 Article – Environment  
25 Section 6–401(g)(2)(ix)  
26 Annotated Code of Maryland  
27 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 28 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
29 Article – Environment  
30 Section 14–108(4), 15–505(b)(2)(v), and 15–810(b)(4)  
31 Annotated Code of Maryland  
32 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 33 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
34 Article – Family Law  
35 Section 2–403(a)(1) and 5–705(a)(3)  
36 Annotated Code of Maryland  
37 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)
- 38 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
39 Article – Health – General

1 Section 7–1003(i), 10–703, 19–301(o)(2), 19–403(3), and 19–4A–02(2)  
2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
3 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

4 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
5 Article – Health Occupations  
6 Section 1–401(a)(4)(ii) and 9–307(a) and (c)  
7 Annotated Code of Maryland  
8 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Labor and Employment  
11 Section 8–208(b) and (c)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15 Article – Natural Resources  
16 Section 10–410(g)(1), (3), (5), and (6)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
20 Article – Public Safety  
21 Section 6–307(a)(1)(ii), 10–204(a)(1)(i), and 14–1001(a)(1)  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

24 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
25 Article – Real Property  
26 Section 12–104(d)  
27 Annotated Code of Maryland  
28 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

29 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
30 Article – State Government  
31 Section 9–1010(a)(1)  
32 Annotated Code of Maryland  
33 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

34 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
35 Article – Tax – General  
36 Section 11–204(b)(1) and (7) and 11–206(d)(1)(ii)  
37 Annotated Code of Maryland  
38 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

39 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

1 Article – Transportation  
2 Section 8–714(b)(3)(ii), 8–742, 11–117(a), and 21–703(a)(3) and (g)(2)  
3 Annotated Code of Maryland  
4 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

5 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
6 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

7 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

8 16–405.

9 (b) (1) In this subsection, “protected building” means:

10 (iii) a [church or other] place of worship.

11 26–904.

12 (d) (2) A license holder that obtains an entertainment permit under § 26–1103  
13 of this title may allow an individual under 21 years of age to be present on the premises  
14 while an alcoholic beverage is being served during any of the following events:

15 (ix) [church] event **HELD BY A FAITH INSTITUTION;**

16 **Article – Business Regulation**

17 5–602.

18 (a) This subtitle does not apply to a cemetery that:

19 (2) is owned and operated by:

20 (i) a county;

21 (ii) a municipal corporation;

22 (iii) [a church;

23 (iv) a synagogue;] **A FAITH INSTITUTION;**

24 [(v)] **(IV)** a religious organization;

25 [(vi)] **(V)** a nonprofit organization created before 1900 by an act of  
26 the General Assembly;

27 [(vii)] **(VI)** a family and does not conduct public sales; or

1 [(viii)] **(VII)** a State veterans agency.

2 17–1803.

3 (e) (1) An exhibitor need not get a trader’s license for a show if the show is  
4 promoted by:

5 (i) a [church] **FAITH INSTITUTION**, as defined in § 5–301(b) of the  
6 Corporations and Associations Article;

7 **Article – Commercial Law**

8 13–104.

9 This title does not apply to:

10 (1) The professional services of a certified public accountant, architect,  
11 [clergyman] **MEMBER OF THE CLERGY**, professional engineer, lawyer, veterinarian,  
12 insurance company authorized to do business in the State, insurance producer licensed by  
13 the State, Christian Science practitioner, land surveyor, property line surveyor,  
14 chiropractor, optometrist, physical therapist, podiatrist, real estate broker, associate real  
15 estate broker, or real estate salesperson, or medical or dental practitioner;

16 14–401.

17 (l) (3) “Services” does not include the professional services of an accountant,  
18 architect, [clergyman] **MEMBER OF THE CLERGY**, engineer, lawyer, or medical or dental  
19 practitioner.

20 23–101.

21 (e) (2) “Retirement community” does not include:

22 (vi) A retirement community that is owned by or affiliated with a  
23 [church] **FAITH INSTITUTION** or religious organization;

24 **Article – Corporations and Associations**

25 5–301.

26 (b) [“Church”] **“FAITH INSTITUTION”** means any [church] **FAITH**  
27 **INSTITUTION**, religious society, or congregation of any sect, order, or denomination.

28 5–301.1.

1 Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle or in any other provision of law, this  
2 part applies to every religious corporation formed in this State by any [church] FAITH  
3 INSTITUTION.

4 5–302.

5 (a) The adult members of a [church] FAITH INSTITUTION may form a religious  
6 corporation as provided in this part.

7 (b) The members shall:

8 (1) Elect at least four individuals to act as trustees in the name of and on  
9 behalf of the [church] FAITH INSTITUTION; and

10 (2) Prepare a plan of the [church] FAITH INSTITUTION.

11 (c) The plan shall include:

12 (1) The purposes for which the religious corporation is formed;

13 (2) The name of the religious corporation and the [church] FAITH  
14 INSTITUTION;

15 (3) The time and manner for election and succession of trustees; and

16 (4) The exact qualifications of individuals eligible:

17 (i) To vote at elections; and

18 (ii) To be elected to office.

19 5–304.

20 (b) The articles of incorporation shall contain:

21 (1) The plan of the [church] FAITH INSTITUTION;

22 (2) The address of the principal place of worship of the [church] FAITH  
23 INSTITUTION; and

24 (3) The name and address of the resident agent of the [church] FAITH  
25 INSTITUTION.

26 5–305.

1 If a [church] FAITH INSTITUTION forms a religious corporation, any assets held in  
2 trust for the [church] FAITH INSTITUTION by any person shall be conveyed immediately  
3 to the religious corporation.

4 5–307.

5 (b) Unless the plan provides otherwise, the trustees shall be elected and their  
6 successors continued at the time and place ordinarily used for public meetings of the  
7 [church] FAITH INSTITUTION, by the individuals who, according to the custom and usage  
8 of the [church] FAITH INSTITUTION, have a voice in the management and direction of  
9 congregational or temporal affairs.

10 (c) Unless the plan permits otherwise, the minister of the [church] FAITH  
11 INSTITUTION or, if there is more than one minister, the senior minister shall be a trustee  
12 of the religious corporation, in addition to the trustees required by § 5–302(b)(1) of this  
13 subtitle.

14 5–310.

15 (a) If any contest arises over the voting rights or the fair conduct of an election:

16 (1) Each contending party shall appoint one individual from among the  
17 members of a neighboring [church] FAITH INSTITUTION of the same religious persuasion  
18 or, if there is no such [church] FAITH INSTITUTION, from among the members of any other  
19 [church] FAITH INSTITUTION; and

20 5–311.

21 (a) Members of a [church] FAITH INSTITUTION may separate from the [church]  
22 FAITH INSTITUTION, form a house of worship, and employ a minister if:

23 (1) They are of sufficient number to form a house of worship and maintain  
24 a minister; and

25 (2) All debts and contracts incurred by them as members of the original  
26 [church] FAITH INSTITUTION are discharged.

27 (b) When incorporated, the new [church] FAITH INSTITUTION is entitled to the  
28 benefits of this subtitle relating to religious corporations.

29 5–312.

30 (a) If any [church] FAITH INSTITUTION organized since 1800 as a religious  
31 corporation under any law of the State did not file its plan or articles of incorporation for  
32 record in the proper office within the time required by law, but subsequently files its plan  
33 or articles of incorporation in the proper office:

1 (1) The [church] **FAITH INSTITUTION** is a lawful religious corporation;

2 (2) The date of incorporation is the date of the plan or articles of  
3 incorporation; and

4 (3) If otherwise lawful, every action of the [church] **FAITH INSTITUTION**  
5 from the date of incorporation is valid.

6 (b) There is a conclusive presumption in every court of the State that a plan or  
7 articles of incorporation of a religious corporation were properly filed for record in the  
8 appropriate office and that these records were lost or destroyed, if:

9 (1) It appears from the record book of the religious corporation or from any  
10 other source that the [church] **FAITH INSTITUTION** adopted a valid plan or articles of  
11 incorporation; and

## 12 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

13 3–2A–01.

14 (f) (2) “Health care provider” does not include any nursing institution  
15 conducted by and for those who rely upon treatment by spiritual means through prayer  
16 alone in accordance with the tenets and practices of a recognized [church or religious  
17 denomination] **FAITH INSTITUTION**.

18 9–111.

19 A minister of the gospel, [clergyman] **MEMBER OF THE CLERGY**, or priest of an  
20 established [church of any denomination] **FAITH INSTITUTION** may not be compelled to  
21 testify on any matter in relation to any confession or communication made to him in  
22 confidence by a person seeking his spiritual advice or consolation.

## 23 **Article – Criminal Law**

24 4–209.

25 (b) (1) A county, municipal corporation, or special taxing district may regulate  
26 the purchase, sale, transfer, ownership, possession, and transportation of the items listed  
27 in subsection (a) of this section:

28 (iii) except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, within 100  
29 yards of or in a park, [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, school, public building, and other place  
30 of public assembly.



Article – Economic Development

10-301.

(k) “Noncollegiate educational institution” means a noncollegiate educational institution as defined in § 2–206 of the Education Article that:

(1) has received a certificate of approval from the State Board of Education; or

(2) is an institution operated by a bona fide [church organization] FAITH INSTITUTION.

Article – Education

2-206.

(e) (4) This subsection does not apply to [an] A NONCOLLEGIATE EDUCATIONAL institution operated by a bona fide [church organization] FAITH INSTITUTION, including the Amish and Mennonite church parochial schools. However, [an] A NONCOLLEGIATE EDUCATIONAL institution that does not have a certificate of approval from the State Board may not receive State funds, except that [an] A NONCOLLEGIATE EDUCATIONAL institution operated by a bona fide [church organization] FAITH INSTITUTION is not required to have a certificate to receive State funds for eligible students in the food service program who are enrolled in nursery school through the eighth grade.

2-304.

(b) (1) Before a private noncollegiate educational institution that operates in this State ends operations, including those operated by bona fide [church organizations] FAITH INSTITUTIONS, the chief administrative officer of the PRIVATE NONCOLLEGIATE EDUCATIONAL institution shall file with the State Superintendent the original or a legible copy of all essential records of the academic achievements of each former student of the PRIVATE NONCOLLEGIATE EDUCATIONAL institution who received instruction in any combination of grades 9 through 12 or their equivalents.

7-108.

(b) (1) If written application is made to the county superintendent, the county board shall provide for the use of a public school facility for:

(iv) Other civic, educational, social, or recreational purposes or [church] FAITH INSTITUTION affiliated civic purposes.

7-404.

1 (g) A student whose parent or guardian objects in writing to hearing and vision  
2 screening on the ground that it conflicts with the tenets and practice of a recognized [church  
3 or religious denomination] **FAITH INSTITUTION** of which he is an adherent or member may  
4 not be required to take these screenings.

5 11-202.1.

6 (h) With regard to a religious educational institution authorized to operate  
7 without a certificate of approval under subsection (b) of this section, a person may not:

8 (2) Enroll a student in the institution unless, before enrollment, the person  
9 gives written notice to and obtains a written acknowledgment from the student that:

10 (i) The institution's instructional program is only designed for and  
11 aimed at persons who hold or seek to learn the particular religious faith or beliefs of the  
12 [church] **FAITH INSTITUTION** or religious institution, and provides only educational  
13 programs for religious vocations or purposes;

#### 14 **Article – Environment**

15 6-401.

16 (g) (2) "Public and commercial building" includes:

17 (ix) [Churches] **PLACES OF WORSHIP**;

18 14-108.

19 The Department shall deny the permit if the Department determines that:

20 (4) The operation will constitute a significant physical hazard to a  
21 neighboring dwelling unit, school, [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, hospital, commercial or  
22 industrial building, public road, or other public or private property in existence at the time  
23 of the application for the permit;

24 15-505.

25 (b) (2) Subject to valid existing rights, as that term is used in the federal  
26 Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, the Department may not issue,  
27 extend or renew any permit:

28 (v) Within 300 feet of any public building, school, public park,  
29 [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, community or institutional building; or

30 15-810.

1 (b) The Department may deny the permit on finding that:

2 (4) The operation will constitute a substantial physical hazard to a  
3 neighboring dwelling house, school, [church] PLACE OF WORSHIP, hospital, commercial  
4 or industrial building, public road, or other public or private property in existence at the  
5 time of application for the permit;

6 Article – Family Law

7 2–403.

8 (a) (1) A license shall read substantially as follows:

9 “State of Maryland and County of ..... To any individual authorized by the laws  
10 of this State to perform a marriage ceremony. You are hereby authorized to join together  
11 in matrimony according to the rules and ceremonies of your [church] FAITH INSTITUTION,  
12 society or religious sect and the laws of this State, or according to the laws of this State,  
13 the following individuals:

14 .....  
15 (state here name of intended party one)  
16 .....  
17 (state here name of intended party two)

18 Given under my hand and seal of the Circuit Court for ....., this ..... day of  
19 ..... (state here month and year).”

20 5–705.

21 (a) (3) A minister of the gospel, [clergyman] MEMBER OF THE CLERGY, or  
22 priest of an established [church of any denomination] FAITH INSTITUTION is not required  
23 to provide notice under paragraph (1) of this subsection if the notice would disclose matter  
24 in relation to any communication described in § 9–111 of the Courts Article and:

25 (i) the communication was made to the minister, [clergyman]  
26 MEMBER OF THE CLERGY, or priest in a professional character in the course of discipline  
27 enjoined by the [church] FAITH INSTITUTION to which the minister, [clergyman]  
28 MEMBER OF THE CLERGY, or priest belongs; and

29 (ii) the minister, [clergyman] MEMBER OF THE CLERGY, or priest  
30 is bound to maintain the confidentiality of that communication under canon law, [church]  
31 THE doctrine OF THE FAITH INSTITUTION, or practice.

32 Article – Health – General

33 7–1003.

- 1           (i)   (1)   An individual shall be entitled to receive visits:
- 2                           (i)    From a lawyer that the individual chooses;
- 3                           (ii)   From a [clergyman] **MEMBER OF THE CLERGY** that the  
4 individual chooses; and
- 5                           (iii)   During reasonable visiting hours that the licensee sets, from any  
6 other visitor.
- 7           (2)   Each married individual in a licensed residential facility shall have  
8 privacy during a visit by the spouse.
- 9           (3)   If, for the welfare of the individual, visits are restricted, the restriction  
10 shall be:
- 11                           (i)    Signed by the executive officer or administrative head of the  
12 licensee; and
- 13                           (ii)   Made a permanent part of the individual's record.
- 14           (4)   Visits of an individual's lawyer or [clergyman] **MEMBER OF THE**  
15 **CLERGY** may not be restricted.
- 16 10-703.
- 17           (a)   Each individual in a facility shall be entitled to converse privately with and  
18 receive visits:
- 19                           (1)   At all reasonable hours, from a lawyer that the individual chooses;
- 20                           (2)   At all reasonable hours, from a [clergyman] **MEMBER OF THE CLERGY**  
21 that the individual chooses; and
- 22                           (3)   During reasonable visiting hours that the facility sets, from any other  
23 visitor if the individual wishes to see the visitor.
- 24           (b)   If an individual refuses to see a visitor, the refusal shall be made a permanent  
25 part of the individual's record.
- 26           (c)   (1)   If, for medically justified reasons, visits or private conversations are  
27 restricted, the restriction and the reasons for the restriction shall be:
- 28                           (i)    Signed by a physician;
- 29                           (ii)   Dated as to when the restriction expires;

1 (iii) Made a permanent part of the individual's record; and

2 (iv) Reviewed every 30 days if the restriction remains in effect.

3 (2) Visits of an individual's lawyer or [clergyman] **MEMBER OF THE**  
4 **CLERGY** may not be restricted during reasonable hours.

5 19-301.

6 (o) (2) "Related institution" does not include a nursing facility or visiting nurse  
7 service that is conducted only by or for adherents of a bona fide [church] **FAITH**  
8 **INSTITUTION** or religious organization, in accordance with tenets and practices that  
9 include reliance on treatment by spiritual means alone for healing.

10 19-403.

11 This subtitle does not:

12 (3) Prohibit the care of an individual who relies on treatment in accordance  
13 with the tenets and practices of a recognized [church or religious denomination] **FAITH**  
14 **INSTITUTION** and, with or without compensation, is cared for in accordance with those  
15 tenets and practices.

16 19-4A-02.

17 This subtitle does not:

18 (2) Prohibit the care of an individual who relies on treatment in accordance  
19 with the tenets and practices of a recognized [church or religious denomination] **FAITH**  
20 **INSTITUTION** and, with or without compensation, is provided care in accordance with those  
21 tenets and practices.

## 22 **Article – Health Occupations**

23 1-401.

24 (a) (4) (ii) "Provider of health care" does not include any nursing institution  
25 that is conducted by and for those who rely on treatment by spiritual means through prayer  
26 alone in accordance with the tenets and practices of a recognized [church or religious  
27 denomination] **FAITH INSTITUTION**.

28 9-307.

29 (a) In this section, "certified institution" means an institution that:

1 (1) Cares for and treats the sick in accordance with the teachings of any  
2 recognized [church or religious denomination] **FAITH INSTITUTION** that teaches reliance  
3 on spiritual means through prayer alone for healing; and

4 (2) Is certified by that [church or religious denomination] **FAITH**  
5 **INSTITUTION** to provide this care and treatment.

6 (c) An applicant qualifies for a limited license only if a recognized [church or  
7 religious denomination] **FAITH INSTITUTION** that teaches reliance on spiritual means  
8 through prayer alone for healing approves the applicant as qualified to administer certified  
9 institutions.

### 10 **Article – Labor and Employment**

11 8–208.

12 (b) Employment is not covered employment if the employment is performed for:

13 (1) a [church or an association or convention of churches] **FAITH**  
14 **INSTITUTION OR AN ASSOCIATION OR CONVENTION OF FAITH INSTITUTIONS**; or

15 (2) an organization that is:

16 (i) operated primarily for religious purposes; and

17 (ii) controlled, operated, principally supported, or supervised by a  
18 [church or an association or convention of churches] **FAITH INSTITUTION OR AN**  
19 **ASSOCIATION OR CONVENTION OF FAITH INSTITUTIONS**.

20 (c) Employment is not covered employment if the employment is performed by:

21 (1) a commissioned, licensed, or ordained minister of a [church] **FAITH**  
22 **INSTITUTION** in the exercise of the ministry; or

23 (2) a member of a religious order in the exercise of duties required by the  
24 order.

### 25 **Article – Natural Resources**

26 10–410.

27 (g) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a  
28 person, other than the owner or occupant, while hunting for any wild bird or mammal may  
29 not shoot or discharge any firearm or other deadly weapon within 150 yards, known as the  
30 “safety zone”, of a dwelling house, residence, [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, or other

1 building or camp occupied by human beings, or shoot at any wild bird or mammal while it  
2 is within this area, without the specific advance permission of the owner or occupant.

3 (3) (i) For archery hunters in Allegany County, Calvert County, Carroll  
4 County, Cecil County, Frederick County, Garrett County, Harford County, Montgomery  
5 County, St. Mary's County, Washington County, Worcester County, or Wicomico County,  
6 the safety zone described in paragraph (1) of this subsection extends for 50 yards from a  
7 dwelling house, residence, [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, or any other building or camp  
8 occupied by human beings.

9 (ii) For archery hunters in Anne Arundel County, the safety zone  
10 described in paragraph (1) of this subsection extends for 100 yards from a dwelling house,  
11 residence, [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, or any other building or camp occupied by human  
12 beings.

13 (iii) In Howard County, for archery hunters who are hunting under  
14 the authority of a deer management permit, or who are actively participating in a hunting  
15 program administered by the county, the safety zone described in paragraph (1) of this  
16 subsection extends for 50 yards from a dwelling house, residence, [church] **PLACE OF**  
17 **WORSHIP**, or any other building or camp occupied by humans.

18 (5) In Harford County, an archery hunter shall use a tree stand when  
19 hunting any wild bird or mammal within 50 to 100 yards of a dwelling house, residence,  
20 [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, public or nonpublic school, or other building or camp  
21 occupied by human beings.

22 (6) (i) In Montgomery County or Washington County, an archery  
23 hunter shall be in an elevated position that allows the hunter to shoot in a downward  
24 trajectory when hunting any wild bird or mammal within 50 to 100 yards of a dwelling  
25 house, residence, [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, public or nonpublic school, or other  
26 building or camp occupied by human beings.

27 (ii) In Howard County, for archery hunters who are hunting under  
28 the authority of a deer management permit, or who are actively participating in a hunting  
29 program administered by the county, shall be in an elevated position that allows the  
30 hunters to shoot in a downward trajectory when hunting any wild bird or mammal within  
31 50 to 150 yards of a dwelling house, residence, [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, public or  
32 nonpublic school, or other building or camp occupied by human beings.

### 33 **Article – Public Safety**

34 6–307.

35 (a) (1) The State Fire Marshal shall inspect for fire exits and reasonable safety  
36 standards:

1 (ii) all schools, theaters, [churches] **PLACES OF WORSHIP**, and  
2 other places of public assembly.

3 10–204.

4 (a) (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a mixing building  
5 or storage building of a fireworks plant shall be located at least:

6 (i) 1,000 feet from a school, [church] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, hospital,  
7 place of public assembly, or gasoline or fuel oil storage building or service station; and

8 14–1001.

9 (a) In this section, “structure” means:

10 (1) a [church, chapel,] **PLACE OF WORSHIP** or convent;

#### 11 **Article – Real Property**

12 12–104.

13 (d) The damages to be awarded for the taking of a structure, such as a [church or  
14 place of religious worship] **PLACE OF WORSHIP**, held in fee simple, or under a lease  
15 renewable forever, by or for the benefit of a religious body and regularly used by the  
16 religious body, are the cost of reproducing or replacing the improvements, adjusted for  
17 physical and functional depreciation, to which shall be added the fair market value of the  
18 land.

#### 19 **Article – State Government**

20 9–1010.

21 (a) The Archives:

22 (1) shall collect public and private records and other information that  
23 relate to the history of the province and State of Maryland from the earliest times, including  
24 [church] records **OF FAITH INSTITUTIONS** and newspapers;

#### 25 **Article – Tax – General**

26 11–204.

27 (b) The sales and use tax does not apply to a sale by:



1 (1) a bona fide [church] FAITH INSTITUTION or religious organization, if  
 2 the sale is made for the general purposes of the [church] FAITH INSTITUTION or  
 3 organization;

4 (7) subject to subsection (e) of this section, a bona fide [church] FAITH  
 5 INSTITUTION, religious organization, or other nonprofit organization exempt from taxation  
 6 under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code if:

7 (i) the sale is made at an auction sale; and

8 (ii) the proceeds of the sale are used to carry on the exempt purposes  
 9 of the [church] FAITH INSTITUTION or organization; or

10 11–206.

11 (d) The sales and use tax does not apply to:

12 (1) a sale of food:

13 (ii) by a [church] FAITH INSTITUTION or religious organization;

#### 14 Article – Transportation

15 8–714.

16 (b) A permit is not required under this section to erect or maintain any outdoor  
 17 sign:

18 (3) That is used only to advertise:

19 (ii) A county [or church] fair held in this State **OR A FAIR HELD IN**  
 20 **THIS STATE BY A FAITH INSTITUTION;**

21 8–742.

22 This part does not prohibit the erection or maintenance of:

23 (1) Any on premise outdoor sign that complies with § 8–744 of this subtitle;

24 (2) Any outdoor sign used to identify a [church] PLACE OF WORSHIP or a  
 25 historical monument or location, if the sign is erected in accordance with the rules and  
 26 regulations of the Administration; or

27 (3) Any outdoor sign along a highway that is not an expressway, even if the  
 28 highway runs parallel or partially parallel to an expressway, if the sign faces that highway.

1 11–117.

2 (a) “Educational purposes” includes those activities of schools certified by the  
3 Department of Education, activities of centers for individuals with an intellectual disability  
4 and physically handicapped individuals, [church schools] **SCHOOLS OPERATED BY A**  
5 **FAITH INSTITUTION**, Sunday schools and [church] **FAITH INSTITUTION** related  
6 functions, child care centers, day camps, or summer camps, or any other activity that  
7 provides some educational experience for its participants.

8 21–703.

9 (a) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, this section applies to:

10 (3) Every bus that is owned or operated by a [church] **FAITH INSTITUTION**  
11 and carrying any passenger;

12 (g) (2) This section does not apply to school buses and [church] buses **THAT**  
13 **ARE OWNED OR OPERATED BY A FAITH INSTITUTION**, as described in subsection (a)(2)  
14 and (3) of this section, at locations within Baltimore City where complying with the  
15 provision of this section would conflict with the existing traffic signal indications.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
17 October 1, 2025.