

HOUSE BILL 554

P5

6lr2431

By: **The Speaker**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Assembly – Legislative Committees – Renaming and Legislative Policy**
3 **Committee Membership**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the Legislative Policy Committee; updating
5 the names of certain committees of the General Assembly that receive certain
6 required reports and notices; and generally relating to legislative committees and
7 the membership of the Legislative Policy Committee.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Health – General

10 Section 13–1002(e)(3)(iii) and (g), 13–1102(f)(3)(iii) and (h), 15–146(b), 19–1409(b)(3),
11 19–14C–02(a), and 20–1701(c)

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

15 Article – Health – General

16 Section 19–1409(a)

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

20 Article – Insurance

21 Section 31–106(c)(2) and 31–110(g)(1)

22 Annotated Code of Maryland

23 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

24 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

25 Article – Labor and Employment

26 Section 5–308.1(b)

27 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2025 Replacement Volume)

2 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
3 Article – State Government
4 Section 2–403(a)(2) and (b)(2) and 9–1007(b)
5 Annotated Code of Maryland
6 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

9 **Article – Health – General**

10 13–1002.

11 (e) (3) (iii) If the Department transfers any money among the components
12 of the Program as authorized under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Department
13 shall report the transfer to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, Senate Finance
14 Committee, House Appropriations Committee, and House Health [and Government
15 Operations] Committee within 60 days of the transfer.

16 (g) No later than January 31 of each year, the Department shall report to the
17 Governor and, subject to § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the Senate Budget and
18 Taxation Committee, Senate Finance Committee, House Appropriations Committee, and
19 House Health [and Government Operations] Committee:

20 (1) The amount of money that was allocated to each component of the
21 Program during:

22 (i) The prior fiscal year that remained unspent and unobligated at
23 the end of that year; and

24 (ii) The current fiscal year that remained unspent and unobligated
25 as of December 31 of the preceding calendar year; and

26 (2) The amount of money that was distributed to a county as a Local Public
27 Health Tobacco Grant during:

28 (i) The prior fiscal year that remained unspent and unobligated at
29 the end of that year; and

30 (ii) The current fiscal year that remained unspent and unobligated
31 as of December 31 of the preceding calendar year.

32 13–1102.

1 (f) (3) (iii) If the Department transfers any money among the components
2 of the Program as authorized under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Department
3 shall report the transfer to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, Senate Finance
4 Committee, House Appropriations Committee, and House Health [and Government
5 Operations] Committee within 60 days after the transfer.

6 (h) No later than January 31 of each year, the Department shall report to the
7 Governor and, subject to § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, Senate Budget and
8 Taxation Committee, Senate Finance Committee, House Appropriations Committee, and
9 House Health [and Government Operations] Committee:

10 (1) The amount of money that was allocated to each component of the
11 Program during:

12 (i) The prior fiscal year that remained unspent and unobligated at
13 the end of that year; and

14 (ii) The current fiscal year that remained unspent and unobligated
15 as of December 31 of the preceding calendar year; and

16 (2) The amount of money that was distributed to a county as a Local Public
17 Health Cancer Grant during:

18 (i) The prior fiscal year that remained unspent and unobligated at
19 the end of that year; and

20 (ii) The current fiscal year that remained unspent and unobligated
21 as of December 31 of the preceding calendar year.

22 15–146.

23 (b) At least 90 days prior to making any change to medical eligibility for Program
24 long–term care services, including nursing facility services, home– and community–based
25 waiver services, and other services that require a nursing facility level of care, the
26 Department shall provide a report to:

27 (1) The Senate Finance Committee and the House Health [and
28 Government Operations] Committee, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government
29 Article; and

30 (2) The Medicaid Advisory Committee.

31 19–1409.

32 (a) There is an Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and
33 Assisted Living Facilities.

1 (b) The Oversight Committee shall consist of the following members:

2 (3) Two members of the House Health [and Government Operations]
3 Committee, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

4 19–14C–02.

5 (a) (1) If a State–owned nursing home that is operated by a contractor receives
6 a deficiency from or is subject to an enforcement action by a monitoring agency, within 15
7 days after the final survey finding, the department charged with oversight of the nursing
8 home shall provide notice of the deficiency or enforcement action to:

9 (i) The Governor;

10 (ii) In accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the
11 Senate Finance Committee, the House Health [and Government Operations] Committee,
12 and the members of the General Assembly who represent the district in which the nursing
13 home is located; and

14 (iii) The local governing body of the county in which the nursing home
15 is located.

16 (2) Within 30 days after the contractor’s final acceptance of a plan of
17 correction or completion of an informal dispute resolution, the department charged with
18 oversight of the nursing home shall provide to the Governor and, in accordance with §
19 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Health
20 [and Government Operations] Committee, and the members of the General Assembly who
21 represent the district in which the nursing home is located:

22 (i) A statement of the deficiencies found by the monitoring agency;

23 (ii) The plan of correction or results of the informal dispute
24 resolution; and

25 (iii) All communications from the monitoring agency regarding
26 survey activities conducted at the nursing home.

27 20–1701.

28 (c) The Department shall provide written notice to the Senate Finance
29 Committee and the House Health [and Government Operations] Committee before
30 submitting any proposed regulation under subsection (b) of this section to the Maryland
31 Register for publication.

32 **Article – Insurance**

33 31–106.

1 (c) (2) Unless waived by the chairs of the committees, at least 30 days before
2 submitting any proposed regulation to the Maryland Register for publication, the Board
3 shall submit the proposed regulation to the Senate Finance Committee and the House
4 Health [and Government Operations] Committee.

5 31–110.

6 (g) Before employing an alternative contracting option or active purchasing
7 strategy, the Exchange:

8 (1) on or after December 1, but not later than the first day of the next
9 regular session of the General Assembly, shall submit to the Senate Finance Committee
10 and the House Health [and Government Operations] Committee, in accordance with §
11 2–1257 of the State Government Article, a plan for the use of the alternative contracting
12 option or active purchasing strategy, including an analysis of:

13 (i) the objectives to be achieved through use of the alternative
14 contracting option or active purchasing strategy; and

15 (ii) the impact on the insurance markets inside and outside the
16 Exchange and on consumers; and

17 **Article – Labor and Employment**

18 5–308.1.

19 (b) The Commissioner shall submit notice regarding any modifications made to,
20 or directives issued interpreting, the federal Bloodborne Pathogen Standard after
21 November 5, 1999 and, subject to § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, make
22 recommendations for any legislative changes to the House Health [and Government
23 Operations] Committee, the Senate [Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs]
24 FINANCE Committee, and the General Assembly within 30 days of the issuance of
25 modifications to the Bloodborne Pathogen Standard.

26 **Article – State Government**

27 2–403.

28 (a) The Legislative Policy Committee consists of the following 28 members:

29 (2) from the House:

30 (i) the Speaker;

31 (ii) the Speaker Pro Tem;

- 1 (iii) the Majority Leader;
- 2 (iv) the Chair of the Appropriations Committee;
- 3 (v) the Chair of the Health [and Government Operations]
4 Committee;
- 5 (vi) the Chair of the Economic Matters Committee;
- 6 (vii) the Chair of the Environment and Transportation Committee;
- 7 **(VIII) THE CHAIR OF THE GOVERNMENT, LABOR, AND ELECTIONS**
8 **COMMITTEE;**
- 9 ~~[(viii)]~~ **(IX)** the Chair of the Judiciary Committee;
- 10 ~~[(ix)]~~ **(X)** the Chair of the Ways and Means Committee;
- 11 ~~[(x)]~~ **(XI)** the Minority Leader; and

12 ~~[(xi)]~~ **(XII)** 1. ~~[4]~~ **3** other Delegates, appointed by the Speaker and
13 approved by majority vote of the House; or

14 2. if a Delegate simultaneously serves in 2 of the positions
15 set forth in items (ii) through ~~[(ix)]~~ **(X)**, inclusive, of this item, ~~[5]~~ **4** other Delegates,
16 appointed by the Speaker and approved by majority vote of the House.

17 (b) (2) As far as possible, the Delegates appointed by the Speaker, under
18 subsection ~~[(a)(2)(xi)]~~ **(A)(2)(XII)** of this section, shall be representative of the various
19 sections and interests of the State.

20 9–1007.

21 (b) At the request of the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the
22 Chair of the Senate [Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs] Committee **ON**
23 **EDUCATION, ENERGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT**, or the Chair of the House [Health and]
24 Government [Operations], **LABOR, AND ELECTIONS** Committee, the State Archivist shall
25 review, evaluate, and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding State
26 designations under Title 7 of the General Provisions Article.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
28 1, 2026.