

# SENATE BILL 298

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SB 766/25 – JPR

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CF HB 338

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By: **Senator Henson**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of General Services – Maryland Capitol Police – Statewide**  
3 **Jurisdiction**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the jurisdiction of the Maryland Capitol Police of the  
5 Department of General Services; and generally relating to the Maryland Capitol  
6 Police and the Department of General Services.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
9 Section 4–601 and 4–605  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

15 4–601.

16 (a) Subject to subsection ~~[(b)]~~ **(C)** of this section, the Department has  
17 **STATEWIDE** jurisdiction over and full police authority for the enforcement of the criminal  
18 laws and the parking and motor vehicle laws as to the operation, maintenance, and  
19 protection of:

20 (1) ~~[buildings and grounds that, on June 30, 1984, were administered by~~  
21 ~~the Office of Annapolis Public Buildings and Grounds, and extending to the surrounding~~  
22 ~~area that encompasses 1,000 feet in any direction from the boundary of those buildings and~~  
23 ~~grounds;~~

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) buildings and grounds that, on June 30, 1984, were administered by the Office of Baltimore Public Buildings and Grounds, and extending to the surrounding area that encompasses 1,000 feet in any direction from the boundary of those buildings and grounds;

(3) multiservice centers designated by law or by the Board of Public Works and extending to the surrounding area that encompasses 1,000 feet in any direction from the boundary of those multiservice centers;

(4) buildings and grounds that, on June 30, 2019, were administered by the Maryland Department of Labor, and extending to the surrounding area that encompasses 1,000 feet in any direction from the boundary of those buildings;

(5) State-owned or State-leased buildings and grounds and extending to the surrounding area that encompasses [1,000] **2,000** feet in any direction from the boundary of those buildings and grounds; and

[(6)] (2) other public improvements or grounds designated by law or by the Board of Public Works.

**(B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AND IN ADDITION TO THE POWERS CONFERRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, A POLICE OFFICER OF THE MARYLAND CAPITOL POLICE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT MAY INVESTIGATE AND OTHERWISE ENFORCE STATEWIDE THE CRIMINAL LAWS, TITLE 12 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE, AND PARKING AND MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS.**

**(2) IF A POLICE OFFICER OF THE MARYLAND CAPITOL POLICE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT EXERCISES THE POWERS GRANTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, NOTIFICATION OF THE INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT SHALL BE PROVIDED AS SOON AS REASONABLY PRACTICABLE AND AS APPLICABLE TO:**

**(I) THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY LISTED IN § 1-101(C)(1)(II) OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OR THE DESIGNEE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE;**

**(II) IN A COUNTY IN WHICH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE PROVIDES GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT:**

**1. THE COMMANDER OF THE LOCAL BARRACKS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE OR THE DESIGNEE OF THE COMMANDER; AND**

**2. THE SECRETARY OF STATE POLICE OR THE DESIGNEE OF THE SECRETARY;**

(III) IN BALTIMORE CITY:

1. THE POLICE COMMISSIONER OR THE DESIGNEE OF  
THE POLICE COMMISSIONER; AND

2. THE SHERIFF OR THE DESIGNEE OF THE SHERIFF;  
AND

(IV) 1. THE SECRETARY OF STATE POLICE OR THE  
DESIGNEE OF THE SECRETARY;

2. THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE MARYLAND TRANSIT  
ADMINISTRATION POLICE FORCE OR THE DESIGNEE OF THE CHIEF;

3. THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SECURED TRANSPORT AND INVESTIGATION UNIT OR  
THE DESIGNEE OF THE CHIEF; AND

4. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES POLICE OR THE DESIGNEE OF THE  
SUPERINTENDENT.

(3) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS  
SUBSECTION SHALL BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ADOPTED STATE  
REGULATIONS, POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.

[(b)] (C) Consistent with Article 8 of the Maryland Declaration of Rights, with  
respect to State legislative buildings in the City of Annapolis, the presiding officers of the  
General Assembly shall have final authority over the use of and access to the buildings by  
the members of the General Assembly, their staff, and Department of Legislative Services  
personnel.

4–605.

(a) (1) In accordance with the provisions of the State Personnel and Pensions  
Article, the Secretary may establish a police and security force, known as the Maryland  
Capitol Police of the Department of General Services, **WITH STATEWIDE JURISDICTION**  
to protect **PUBLIC OFFICIALS**, people, and property [on or about improvements, grounds,  
and multiservice centers under the jurisdiction of the Department, and in the surrounding  
areas of the buildings and grounds in the State as described] in **ACCORDANCE WITH §**  
4–601 of this subtitle.

(2) (i) The Secretary shall appoint the Chief of the Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services.

(ii) The Chief of the Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services serves at the pleasure of the Secretary.

(iii) The Chief of the Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services shall supervise and direct the affairs and operations of the Maryland Capitol Police.

(3) The Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services may include sworn police officers.

(b) A member of the Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services may not be involuntarily transferred from a site to another site.

(c) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, a Maryland Capitol Police officer has all the powers granted to a peace officer and a police officer of the State.

(d) A Maryland Capitol Police officer may exercise the powers described in subsection (c) of this section within the Department's jurisdiction as specified in § 4–601 of this subtitle provided the police officer:

(1) meets the legal requirements set forth by the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission; and

(2) is designated by the Department as a police officer.

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