



Report of the
House Appropriations Committee
To the Maryland House of Delegates

2023 SESSION

Recommendations, Reductions, and Summary of
Action Pertaining to:
House Bill 200

For further information concerning this document contact:

Library and Information Services
Office of Policy Analysis
Department of Legislative Services
90 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Baltimore Area: 410-946-5400 • Washington Area: 301-970-5400
Other Areas: 1-800-492-7122, Extension 5400
TTY: 410-946-5401 • 301-970-5401
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Sara J. Baker

Maryland Higher Education Commission
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University of Maryland, College Park Campus
Towson University

Jacob C. Cash

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Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Administration and Offices
Community Supervision
Corrections
Division of Pretrial Detention
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Police and Correctional Training Commissions

Carrie Cook

Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority
Department of Planning
Maryland Environmental Service
Maryland Department of Transportation
Maryland Aviation Administration
Maryland Transit Administration
Motor Vehicle Administration
Maryland Transportation Authority

Patrick S. Frank

Board of Public Works
Department of General Services
Department of Information Technology
General Assembly of Maryland
Maryland Stadium Authority
Public Debt
State Treasurer
West North Avenue Development Authority

Andrew D. Gray

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Department of Agriculture
Department of Natural Resources
Department of the Environment

Ryan Green

Comptroller of Maryland
Executive Department – Governor
Military Department
Property Tax Assessment Appeals
State Board of Elections
State Department of Assessments and Taxation
State Lottery and Gaming Control

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Department of Commerce
Department of Housing and Community Development
Maryland Department of Labor
Maryland Economic Development Corporation
Maryland Technology Development Corporation

Laura H. Hyde

Accountability and Implementation Board
Interagency Commission on School Construction
Maryland State Department of Education
 Aid to Education
 Funding for Educational Organizations
 Headquarters
Maryland School for the Deaf
Maryland State Library Agency

Matthew D. Klein

Capital Fiscal Briefing

Naomi Komuro

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Department of Disabilities
Department of Human Services
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Jason A. Kramer

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Subsequent Injury Fund
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Workers’ Compensation Commission

Steven D. McCulloch

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Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Madelyn C. Miller

Department of Juvenile Services
Department of State Police
Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services
Maryland Emergency Medical System Operations Fund
Secretary of State

Kelly K. Norton

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Jacob L. Pollicove

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Office of Administrative Hearings
State Archives

Samuel M. Quist

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Office of People's Counsel
Public Service Commission

Rebecca J. Ruff

State Reserve Fund

Morgan T. Smith

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Samantha M. Tapia

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Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund
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Anne P. Wagner

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Office of Health Care Quality
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Early Childhood Development

Tonya D. Zimmerman

Department of Human Services
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House Appropriations Committee – Net Changes

Agency	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Higher Ed Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
2024 Budget Request						
Maryland Energy Administration	\$ 0	\$ -9,458,465	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ -9,458,465	
Executive Dept – Boards, Commissions and Offices	-5,000,000	0	0	0	-5,000,000	
Military Department	-5,000,000	0	0	0	-5,000,000	
State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency	0	-1,175,000	0	0	-1,175,000	
Department of Budget and Management - Personnel	-65,000,000	0	0	0	-65,000,000	
Department of Information Technology	-2,425,421	0	0	0	-2,425,421	
Department of Agriculture	-6,000,000	0	0	0	-6,000,000	
Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Administration	-109,116,644	0	-97,591,710	0	-206,708,354	
MDH Office of Health Care Quality	-1,229,405	0	-530,325	0	-1,759,730	
MDH Behavioral Health Administration	-40,000,000	0	0	0	-40,000,000	
MDH Medical Care Programs Administration	-130,000,000	0	-45,000,000	0	-175,000,000	
Department of Human Services Family Investment	0	0	-100,000,000	0	-100,000,000	
Maryland Department of Transportation (MSDE) Aid to Education	-15,000,000	0	0	0	-15,000,000	
MSDE Early Childhood Development	-10,000,000	0	0	0	-10,000,000	
Accountability and Implementation Board	0	-250,000	0	0	-250,000	
Maryland Higher Education Commission – Student Financial Assistance	-3,500,000	0	0	0	-3,500,000	
State Reserve Fund	-751,428,921	0	0	0	-751,428,921	
Legislative Additions to the Budget	902,375,000	9,250,000	0	0	911,625,000	1.0
Subtotal Fiscal 2024 Regular Budget	\$ -241,325,391	\$ -1,633,465	\$ -243,122,035	\$ 0	\$ -486,080,891	1.0
Fiscal 2024 Total Budget	\$ -241,325,391	\$ -1,633,465	\$ -243,122,035	\$ 0	\$ -486,080,891	1.0
Fiscal 2023 Deficiency Budget						
Department of Budget and Management - Personnel	-25,000,000				-25,000,000	
MDH Behavioral Health Administration	-100,000,000	0	0	0	-100,000,000	
MDH Medical Care Programs Administration	-15,000,000	0	0	0	-15,000,000	
Total Fiscal 2023 Deficiency Budget	\$ -140,000,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ -140,000,000	
Grand Total Budget Bill	\$ -381,325,391	\$ -1,633,465	\$ -243,122,035	\$ 0	\$ -626,080,891	1.0

Note: The negative numbers are reductions to the budget and the positive numbers are additions to the budget.

C00A00
Judiciary

Budget Amendments

C00A00.04 District Court

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$9,250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of providing attorneys for required representation at initial appearances before District Court Commissioners consistent with the holding of the Supreme Court of Maryland in DeWolfe v. Richmond may be expended only for that purpose. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This action restricts the use of \$9.25 million of the Judiciary’s general fund appropriation for the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond.

Amendment No.

1

Committee Narrative

Appointed Attorney Program Costs and Utilization: The committees remain interested in the costs and operations of the Appointed Attorney Program. The committees request a report, to be submitted by October 1, 2023, detailing the fiscal 2023 costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program. This report should include the results of appearances before District Court commissioners where attorneys were appointed to represent indigent defendants.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Appointed Attorney Program costs and utilization	Judiciary	October 1, 2023

Judgeship Need for Fiscal 2025: The committees remain interested in the judgeship needs at the Judiciary. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 1, 2023, detailing the fiscal 2025 judgeship needs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Judgeship need for fiscal 2025	Judiciary	December 1, 2023

C00A00

Judiciary Status Report on Major Information Technology Development Projects (MITDP): The committees remain interested in the Judiciary's MITDPs. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2023, detailing MITDPs being undertaken by the Judiciary.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Judiciary status report on MITDPs	Judiciary	December 15, 2023

Annual Court Performance Measures: The committees remain interested in evaluating the performance of the circuit and District courts, with a particular attention given to the courts' progress in responding to COVID-19 backlogs. The committees request that the Judiciary submit a report to the committees with annual court performance measures data for the circuit and District courts no later than November 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual court performance measures	Judiciary	November 1, 2023

C80B00
Office of the Public Defender

Committee Narrative

Caseload Standards Report: The committees are concerned about the high caseloads in the Office of the Public Defender (OPD), which exceed the current standards for cases per attorney. The committees request a report, to be submitted by November 1, 2023, detailing the average caseloads for attorneys in all of OPD’s tracked case types between fiscal 2019 to 2023, using the caseload standards that OPD expects to adopt in calendar 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Caseload standards report	OPD	November 1, 2023

C81C
Office of the Attorney General

Committee Narrative

Independent Investigations Division (IID): The committees remain interested in the work of IID within the Office of the Attorney General (OAG). The committees request a report, to be submitted by October 1, 2023, detailing the work of the division during fiscal 2023. At a minimum, the report should include:

- monthly data on the number of potential investigations;
- the number of completed investigations;
- the outcomes of the investigations; and
- the average number of hours required to investigate a case or potential case.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
IID report	OAG	October 1, 2023

Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) Quarterly Reports: The committees remain interested in the progress of the implementation of the ACE program. The committees request quarterly reports on the progress of the rollout of the program. The first report should be submitted no later than October 15, 2023. Each report should provide, at a minimum, the following information:

- quarterly expenditures by purpose of expense;
- the number of cases with representation by attorneys in the program;
- the amount of funds paid to attorneys per case; and
- the number of tenants rejected by the program and the reason for rejection.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ACE quarterly reports	Maryland Legal Services Corporation	October 15, 2023 January 15, 2024 April 15, 2024 July 15, 2024

C90G00
Public Service Commission

Committee Narrative

Procedures Related to Court Filings on Behalf of the Public Service Commission (PSC) in Court Proceedings: Appeals of decisions issued by PSC may be elevated to the circuit court or appellate court level. The committees are concerned about issues with a filing made on behalf of PSC in PSC case 9673 in Montgomery County Circuit Court as part of the appeals process in that case. The committees request that PSC submit a report providing information on the steps that PSC has taken to ensure that correct versions of filings are submitted to the circuit courts by its general counsel office. The committees also request that the report include a discussion of the review process for filings made on behalf of the commission in circuit court and appellate court proceedings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on procedures implemented to ensure correct versions of filings are submitted in court proceedings	PSC	December 1, 2023

Outcomes of Appeals of the Public Service Commission (PSC) Decisions: The committees are interested in decisions issued by PSC that are appealed at the circuit court and appellate court levels and the outcomes of those appeals. The committees request that PSC submit a report that provides data from the 10 most recently completed fiscal years on the number of cases appealed to the circuit court level, the outcomes of those appeals, and the number of cases that are subsequently appealed to the appellate court level and the outcomes for those appeals.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on outcomes of appeals of PSC decisions through the judicial process	PSC	November 1, 2023

Enforcement Actions Against Third-party Energy Suppliers: The committees are interested in enforcement action taken by the Public Service Commission (PSC) against third-party energy suppliers resulting from complaints filed against these entities related to prohibited marketing practices. The committees request that PSC submit a report discussing enforcement actions taken between calendar 2018 and 2022, including:

- the total number of enforcement actions by PSC as a result of prohibited marketing practices conducted by third-party energy suppliers;

C90G00

- the types of prohibited marketing practices energy suppliers were found to have engaged in separately for gas and electric suppliers;
- the outcomes of these enforcement actions, including the amount of fines levied;
- the current status of ongoing enforcement proceedings;
- the average length of time from when an initial complaint is filed with PSC to when PSC begins enforcement action; and
- the average length of time from when PSC begins an enforcement action to the final case resolution.

The report should also discuss whether these enforcement actions have deterred prohibited marketing practices and options for additional enforcement actions not currently authorized that could be taken in the future. The report should also discuss efforts that are being taken or could be taken in the future to improve consumer education relating to electric choice.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on enforcement actions against third-party energy suppliers	PSC	December 1, 2023

D05E01
Board of Public Works

Committee Narrative

Maryland Zoo Operational Reporting: In continuance of the practice that began in July 2008, the committees request that the Maryland Zoological Society submit audited financial statements for fiscal 2023 and quarterly reports showing monthly attendance figures for the zoo for fiscal 2024 by visitor group. This should include a breakdown of the kinds of passes allocated.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Audited financials	Maryland Zoological Society	November 1, 2023
Quarterly reports showing monthly attendance	Maryland Zoological Society	Quarterly report by July 15, 2023 October 15, 2023 January 15, 2024 April 15, 2024

D11A0401
Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Committee Narrative

D11A04.01 Executive Direction

Cost Estimates for Regulation of Interpreters: Fraudulent American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation inhibits deaf and hard of hearing individuals’ ability to access complete and accurate information critical to enable them to live safely and independently. Maryland lacks a statewide certification or registration requirement for ASL interpreters working in the State. Policy options put forth by the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) in response to committee narrative in the 2020 Joint Chairmen’s Report were to enact legislation that establishes a State licensing board managed by ODHH to ensure that interpreters working in Maryland hold proper certifications, amend existing statute to require ODHH to regulate ASL interpreters, develop a Maryland State quality assurance program or participate in the existing State of Texas Board for Evaluation of Interpreters certification program to assess interpreters’ skills and knowledge (a quality assurance effort rather than a licensing or regulatory program), or authorize through statute a right to action as a mechanism to hold fraudulent interpreters accountable.

The committees request that ODHH submit a report with the following information for each of the policy recommendations listed previously:

- the State agency that would lead or participate in implementation and management of any related functions;
- estimated costs to the State for each policy option; and
- potential challenges or drawbacks to implementing the recommended policies.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Cost estimates for options to regulate interpreters	ODHH	August 31, 2023

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

Budget Amendments

D13A13.01 General Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Increase turnover expectancy for 10 new positions from 0% to 25% to be consistent with budgeted turnover for new positions.	-208,465	SF
 Total Change	 -208,465	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	41.00	41.00		0.00
Special Fund	6,813,316	6,604,851	-208,465	
Federal Fund	1,388,336	1,388,336	0	
Total Funds	8,201,652	7,993,187	-208,465	

Amendment No.

2

Committee Narrative

Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenue, Spending, and Fund Balance: The committees are interested in ensuring transparency in Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) revenue assumptions and spending included in the budget as well as available fund balance. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) provide an annual report on the revenue from the RGGI carbon dioxide emissions allowance auctions, set-aside allowances, and interest income in conjunction with the submission of the fiscal 2025 budget as an appendix to the Governor’s Fiscal 2025 Budget Books. The report shall include information on the actual fiscal 2023 budget, the fiscal 2024 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2025 allowance. The report shall detail:

- revenue assumptions used to calculate the available SEIF from RGGI auctions for each fiscal year, including the number of auctions, the number of allowances sold, the allowance price in each auction, and the anticipated revenue from set-aside allowances;
- interest income received on the SEIF;

D13A13

- amount of the SEIF from RGGI auction revenue available to each agency that receives funding through each required statutory allocation; dues owed to RGGI, Inc.; and transfers or diversions of revenue made to other funds; and
- fund balances for each SEIF subaccount, reflecting funds available to spend, for the fiscal 2023 actual, the fiscal 2024 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2025 allowance.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on revenue assumptions and use of RGGI auction revenue	DBM	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2025 Budget Books

Implementation of Residential-focused Rebate Programs Funded through the Federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA): The committees are interested in better understanding the two new residential rebate programs that will be implemented by the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) under federal stimulus funds available to Maryland under the IRA and the timelines for the implementation of these programs. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has announced a total funding allocation of \$138.6 million available to the State for the Home Energy Performance-Based, Whole-House Rebate Program and the High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program. Following issuance of federal guidance by DOE, MEA will be required to submit an application outlining a State plan for program implementation in order to be able to access funding. The committees request that MEA submit a report that includes a discussion of the timeline for submitting a State plan application to DOE to access federal IRA funding and the anticipated steps needed to implement the programs. If available at the time of report submission, the report should include a discussion of components of both programs and any estimates for the total number of households who will be eligible to receive benefits as well as benefit size.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the status of implementation of residential-focused rebate programs through federal stimulus funding	MEA	December 15, 2023

D13A13

Budget Amendments

D13A13.08 Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funding for the Maryland Energy Infrastructure Grant Program, including the Contributions in Aid of Construction Dispensation Fund, the Anchor Customer Program, the Local Distribution Company Program, and technical assistance from the Maryland Gas Expansion Fund.	-9,250,000 SF	
Total Change	-9,250,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Fund	103,350,000	94,100,000	-9,250,000	
Total Funds	103,350,000	94,100,000	-9,250,000	

Amendment No.

3

D15A05
Boards, Commissions, and Offices

Committee Narrative

D15A05.03 Governor’s Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs

Agency Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Participation Attainment and Liaison Surveys: The committees are concerned by the continued low MBE attainment in State procurement and that Small Business Reserve and MBE program liaison positions remain vacant in some State agencies. The committees request that the Governor’s Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA), in consultation with the Department of General Services (DGS), continue to administer the agency MBE participation and liaison surveys and report the results, by agency, to the committees on December 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Agency MBE participation attainment and liaison surveys	GOSBA DGS	December 1, 2023

Budget Amendments

D15A05.26 The Maryland Corps Program

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete general funds for the Maryland Corps program, as this is duplicative of the funding and mission established within the new Department of Service and Civic Innovation.	-5,000,000	GF
 Total Change	 -5,000,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	5.00	5.00		0.00
General Fund	5,000,000	0	-5,000,000	
Total Funds	5,000,000	0	-5,000,000	

Amendment No.

4

D17B0151
Historic St. Mary's City Commission

Budget Amendments

D17B01.51 Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Historic St. Mary's City Commission (HSMCC) may not be expended until the agency submits a report to the budget committees and the St. Mary's County Delegation on the results of a performance audit. The report shall include all findings from a performance audit consistent with professional auditing standards of the administrative and financial offices of HSMCC to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the financial management practices, including procurement by HSMCC. The audit shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) the audit shall be conducted by an independent entity that has expertise in nonprofit corporate government selected after a competitive bidding process for a certified public accounting firm;
- (2) on the award of the contract, and prior to the commencement of the audit, the certified public accounting firm shall consult with the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee and the Office of Legislative Audits in the development of the scope and objectives of the performance audit; and
- (3) a certified public accounting firm that provides services to HSMCC is not eligible to bid on the performance audit.

The report shall be submitted July 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language is repeated from the fiscal 2023 Budget Bill as the report has not been submitted as of February 1, 2023. The committees continue to be concerned about the financial management practices at HSMCC. This audit would provide the committees and the St. Mary's County Delegation with information on the financial management practices of HSMCC. This language restricts funds pending submission of an audit conducted by an independent third party on the financial management practices of HSMCC.

D17B0151

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Performance audit on
efficiency and effectiveness
of financial management
systems at HSMCC

HSMCC

August 1, 2023

Amendment No.

5

D21

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

Budget Amendments

Administrative Headquarters

D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration may not be expended until the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS) submits a report to the Governor and the budget committees on the fiscal audit of the GOCPYVS grants management processes and all grants budgeted within its fiscal 2020, 2021, and 2022 legislative appropriations detailing the following:

- (1) the findings of this audit;
- (2) an explanation of the corrective actions taken by GOCPYVS to address the findings of the audit identified in item (1);
- (3) the fiscal 2020 legislative appropriation and fiscal 2020 actual expenditure for all general, special, and federal fund grants budgeted within GOCPYVS;
- (4) the fiscal 2021 legislative appropriation and fiscal 2021 actual expenditure for all general, special, and federal fund grants budgeted within GOCPYVS; and
- (5) the fiscal 2022 legislative appropriation and fiscal 2022 actual expenditure for all general, special, and federal fund grants budgeted within GOCPYVS.

The report shall be submitted by July 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: A report on the grants management audit of GOCPYVS was due on December 31, 2021, following significant erroneous grant reversions in fiscal 2020. This report was delayed multiple times and is now expected to be complete by the end of fiscal 2023. GOCPYVS expanded the fiscal years audited to include fiscal 2022 given the delays that it experienced in contracting with an accounting firm and ongoing mistaken reversion of grant funds. This language requires submission of the report to the Governor and the budget committees discussing the findings of this audit, the corrective actions taken by the office to address the findings, and the actual expenditures for all grants budgeted within GOCPYVS in fiscal 2020, 2021, and 2022.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Fiscal 2020, 2021, and 2022 audit report	GOCPYVS	July 1, 2023

Amendment No.

6

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that total awards provided to service providers through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant program through the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS) in fiscal 2024 should be at least the same amount that was made available to all non-State service providers combined during fiscal 2023. No funding may be awarded to State agencies or programs until the total funding awarded to non-State victim services providers combined is no less than the fiscal 2023 level. For the purposes of identifying a State agency or program, it is the intent of the budget committees that higher education institutions, the Baltimore Police Department, and other quasi-State entities be excluded from that definition and be included in the category of non-State victim services providers.

Further provided that \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation for GOCPYVS made for the purposes of general administration may not be expended until, prior to providing fiscal 2024 awards and no later than August 1, 2023, GOCPYVS reports to the budget committees on:

- (1) each proposed grant award;
- (2) how priority has been given to non-State victim services providers; and
- (3) the amount of VOCA funding held in reserve.

In addition to the official report, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services (DLS). The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Further provided that \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation for the purposes of administration may not be expended until GOCPYVS submits a report by November 1, 2023, regarding the federal VOCA funding. The report shall include:

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- (1) total active VOCA grant awards as of January 1, 2023, including grant number, implementing agency, project title, start date, end date, amount of award, jurisdiction of implementation, and the brief description/abstract of the grant;
- (2) for each VOCA grant award in item (1) and for any other VOCA grant awards made subsequently, a description of whether for the federal fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023, the award was continued, awarded, or otherwise funded, including the grant number, implementing agency, project title, start date, end date, amount of award, jurisdiction of implementation, and the brief description/abstract of the grant;
- (3) the amount of unexpended funds for each open 3-year VOCA grant and the reason funds are unexpended, including whether they are held in reserve for future grants;
- (4) identification of the respective amount of funds expended for the purpose of direct provision of services, administration, and that which went unobligated for the federal fiscal 2019 and 2020 3-year funding cycles;
- (5) comparison of aggregate-level performance measures or outcome measures of the State's VOCA program for fiscal 2017 through 2023 or as many recent years that GOCPYVS is able to provide;
- (6) identification of the legislative appropriation for VOCA and the actual level of spending for each State fiscal year, beginning with State fiscal 2016 through 2023; and
- (7) identification of any decrease or other change between the legislative appropriation for VOCA and the actual level of spending for VOCA for each State fiscal year identified in item (6), and the reason for any and all disparities that may exist between the legislative appropriation and the actual spending level.

In addition to the official report, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of DLS. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: This language requires the State fiscal 2024 VOCA awards to be awarded at a level equal to that of fiscal 2023. Priority shall be given to non-State service providers. The language restricts \$500,000 pending the submission of a report by GOCPYVS detailing how non-State providers were given funding priority and proposed VOCA awards for the fiscal 2024 grant cycle.

The language restricts an additional \$500,000 pending the submission of information for all active VOCA grants as of January 1, 2023. The report should detail whether each of the grant

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recipients received the same level of VOCA funding during the federal fiscal 2022 VOCA grant cycle and the information on each of the grant programs receiving such funds. For each open three-year grant cycle (federal fiscal 2021, 2022, and 2023), GOCYVVS should report the amount of currently unexpended funds, the reason these funds remain unspent, and whether they will be held in reserve.

The report should provide further detail regarding the expenditure of funds for the two most recently completed funding cycles – federal fiscal 2019 and 2020. The report should provide a comparison of the program’s aggregate outcome or performance measure in recent fiscal years.

Finally, the report should identify any differences between the legislative appropriation and actual spending levels for each closed out fiscal year, beginning with State fiscal 2017: State fiscal 2017; 2018; 2019; 2020; 2021; 2022; and 2023. For any differences between the authorized and actual spending levels during the aforementioned State fiscal years, the report should identify and discuss the reasons for these disparities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on proposed VOCA grant awards	GOCYVVS	August 1, 2023
Report of VOCA funding and expenditures	GOCYVVS	November 1, 2023

Amendment No.

7

D21A01.03 State Aid for Police Protection

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

. provided that \$45,878,143 of this appropriation made for the purpose of State Aid for Police Protection funding made for the purpose of enhancing public safety aid and increasing funding for the counties and Baltimore City may be distributed only in a manner that allocates funds proportionally based on the number of reported total violent crime offenses in the 2021 Maryland Uniform Crime Report. The 2020 Maryland Uniform Crime Report may be used instead if publication of the 2021 report is unavailable by June 1, 2023. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: Enhanced public safety aid through the State Aid for Police Protection Program (SAPP) from fiscal 2023 continues in the allowance. This language requires that the enhanced portion of the SAPP funding be distributed to jurisdictions in proportion to the number of reported violent crimes per the most recent official crime report for the State – the

D21

2021 Maryland Uniform Crime Report. The 2020 report may be used instead if the 2021 report is unavailable by June 1, 2023.

Amendment No.

8

D26A07
Department of Aging

Committee Narrative

D26A07.01 General Administration

Program Participation and Waitlists: Preliminary fiscal 2023 data suggests that during the first half of the fiscal year, waitlists in Senior Care, the Senior Assisted Living Subsidy (SALS), and the Congregate Housing Services Program (CHSP) increased, and participation in each program decreased despite increased funding for each program. The committees are interested in continuing to monitor the waitlists in these programs. The Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA) should submit a report with data as of June 30, 2023, with the following information:

- the number of individuals on waitlists for Senior Care, SALS, and CHSP in each of the local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) that provide these services;
- the number of individuals participating in Senior Care, SALS, and CHSP in each of the local AAAs that provide these services;
- amount of funding allocated to each local AAA for each program with waitlists (Senior Care, SALS, CHSP) in fiscal 2023;
- actual local AAA expenditures on each program in fiscal 2023, including funding that may have been realigned between programs;
- MDOA-approved fiscal 2024 spending plans by jurisdiction for these programs; and
- strategies MDOA will adopt to support AAAs to reduce waitlists and how fiscal 2024 funding will support these efforts.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on waitlists and program participation	MDOA	September 29, 2023

Update on Federal Stimulus Spending: As of December 2023, the Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA) reports that the local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) had spent 60% of its Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation (CRRSA) award, which expires September 2023. As of December 2022, MDOA has not shared its spending plan or actual expenditures of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, which expires September 2024. The committees are interested in monitoring MDOA’s ongoing efforts to ensure that these funds are spent prior to expiration. As a result, the committees request that MDOA submit two reports with an update on MDOA’s spending plan for the remaining stimulus funding. MDOA should

D26A07

submit a report with data as of August 1, 2023, and February 1, 2024, with the following information:

- expenditures to date by source of federal stimulus funding for the CRRSA and the ARPA by AAA; and
- fiscal 2024 spending timelines by local AAA and MDOA administrative costs of CRRSA and ARPA funds.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Update on federal stimulus spending	MDOA	September 1, 2023 March 1, 2024

D27L00
Maryland Commission on Civil Rights

Committee Narrative

D27L00.01 General Administration

Employee Recruitment and Retention Update: The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (MCCR) indicates that high workloads and inability to offer competitive salaries to investigative staff impede recruitment and retention efforts. The committees request that MCCR submit a report providing the following information:

- number of individuals by classification that have left the agency fiscal 2020 through the close of fiscal 2023;
- length of tenure in dates;
- analysis of the reasons given by employee for leaving, if available;
- number of these individuals by fiscal year leaving the agency that took a comparable position, if available; and
- description of recruitment and retention efforts undertaken in fiscal 2022.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Employee recruitment and retention update	MCCR	September 15, 2023

Update on Backlogged and Open Cases: The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (MCCR) most recently reported a backlog of 273 cases that have yet to be assigned to an investigator. As of October 2022, there were 435 open cases, 431 of which were unresolved for more than one year. The committees request a report providing an update with the following data as of July 1, 2023:

- current number of open and pending cases, by case type;
- number of cases that have been unresolved for more than one year;
- average case processing times by case type for fiscal 2023;
- number of filled investigator staff positions and caseload size by unit; and

D27L00

- current average staff to caseload ratios by case type and a comparison to the staff to caseload ratios held at similar offices in other jurisdictions.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Update on backlogged and open cases	MCCR	September 15, 2023

D28A03
Maryland Stadium Authority

Budget Amendments

D28A03.69 Racing and Community Development Financing Fund

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

. provided that \$17,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of appropriations to the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund is contingent on the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA) entering into (1) eight memoranda of understanding (MOU) regarding the Pimlico racing facility site, as defined in Section 10-601 of the Economic Development Article and (2) all MOUs for the Laurel Park site that are deemed necessary by MSA to begin design, by September 30, 2023. The eight Pimlico MOUs are those identified in the MSA Report on the Pimlico and Laurel Park Facilities Redevelopment as required by HB 897 submitted to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Ways and Means Committee on January 1, 2023. Further provided that MSA will report to the budget committees on the status of the Pimlico MOUs by October 27, 2023. This report should include an updated schedule that outlines key planning, construction, and financing milestones for Pimlico and Laurel Park.

Explanation: Chapter 590 of 2020 created the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund to support improvements to the Pimlico and Laurel Park. When the legislation was enacted, Laurel Park was expected to be completed in 2022 so that racing could begin in February 2023. The project is three years behind schedule as no agreements have been signed and no design or construction has begun. MSA, in its January 1, 2023 report, noted that only one of the eight MOUs for Pimlico has been completed. The fund's debt service payments are supported by \$17 million annually in lottery revenues. Increased interest rates since 2020 have reduced the proceeds expected from these bonds. Construction inflation and increasing the scope beyond what was authorized in 2020 have increased costs. MSA estimates that available funds to renovate the facilities, as proposed by the expanded scope, are \$160 million to \$350 million less than available resources. The expectation is that the State will have to fund this, leaving less resources for other priorities. Further delays could further erode the value of the bonds and add to costs through increased inflation and an expanded scope. This contingent language requires MSA to enter into MOUs by September 30, 2023, and is intended to encourage the parties to enter into MOUs and keep State costs down. The language also requires a report by MSA on or before October 27, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Update on MOUs and plan for Pimlico and Laurel Park renovation	MSA	October 27, 2023

Amendment No.

9

D38I01
State Board of Elections

Committee Narrative

D38I01.03 Major Information Technology Development Projects

Scope and Schedule for Major Information Technology Development Projects (MITDP):

The committees are concerned that no information has been provided for two significant new MITDPs beginning in fiscal 2024. The committees request that the State Board of Elections (SBE) submit a report on the Voting System Solution and Campaign Reporting Information System MITDPs, including information on the scope, timelines, and need for the projects. The report should include whether SBE is considering ranked-choice voting capabilities for the new voting system solution.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Voting System Solution and Campaign Reporting Information System MITDPs	SBE	July 15, 2023

Quarterly Reports on Major Information Technology Development Projects (MITDP):

The committees remain interested in monitoring the progress on the State Board of Elections' (SBE) MITDPs. The committees request that SBE submit quarterly reports on all MITDP activities and expenditures, separately for each of the three projects. Each report should include for each project the following:

- a description of activities undertaken in the quarter, complete with dates identifying whether project milestones were achieved or if delays were experienced, and an assessment of the resulting effect any delays experienced in the quarter have on the project's overall timeline;
- actual project spending in each month of the quarter; and
- an assessment of future risks to the project's timeline and how SBE plans to mitigate those risks.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly report on all MITDPs	SBE	July 15, 2023 October 15, 2023 January 15, 2024 April 15, 2024

D50H01 Military Department

Budget Amendments

D50H01.05 State Operations

Strike the following language on the general fund appropriation:

~~, provided that \$5,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent on the enactment of legislation to establish a program that provides health benefits to national guard members~~

Explanation: This action is a technical amendment to strike language making funding contingent on the enactment of legislation. A separate action deletes funding for the program.

Amendment No. **10**

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funds budgeted for the Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program.	-5,000,000	GF
Total Change	-5,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	60.50	60.50		0.00
General Fund	8,278,714	3,278,714	-5,000,000	
Federal Fund	3,815,615	3,815,615	0	
Total Funds	12,094,329	7,094,329	-5,000,000	

Amendment No. **11**

Committee Narrative

Health Insurance for National Guard Members: The committees are interested in health insurance for National Guard members. The committees request that the Military Department submit a report by December 15, 2023, including the number of National Guard members with health insurance separated by health insurance available due to their service in the National Guard; insurance provided due to employment by the federal government, insurance provided due to

D50H01

employment by State government, or other governmental health insurance; and private insurance. For those receiving health insurance due to their service in the National Guard through Tricare Reserve Select, the report should also detail information on the number of participants for each of the regular and dental programs, including whether the individuals are in single or family plans, as well as the average premium for each.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on health benefits for National Guard members	Military Department	December 15, 2023

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Committee Narrative

D52A01.01 Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Mesonet Project Status and Future Budget and Operations: The Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) has reported that it has a two-phase plan to complete an initial small group of Mesonet towers by the end of summer 2023 before completing the remaining towers by the end of fiscal 2024. Information about this project is important in understanding Maryland’s preparation for impacts of weather-related disasters. The committees are interested in understanding the status of the project including the timeline for completed towers and any new towers to be built as well as operational costs for these towers. The committees request that MDEM submit a report with the following information:

- the status of the Mesonet build as of the end of fiscal 2023, including what the physical and budgetary goals were as of January 2023, and whether these goals were met or are forecasted to be met by a specific date;
- physical and budgetary goals through the end of fiscal 2024, including any contracted or estimated milestone dates;
- future estimated construction and ongoing operational costs; and
- the types of information about and through the Mesonet system that will be shared with the public, when it will be available, and how it will be made available to the public.

The report shall be provided by October 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Mesonet project status and future budget and operations	MDEM	October 1, 2023

D55P00
Department of Veteran Affairs

Committee Narrative

D55P00.05 Veterans Home Program

Update on Charlotte Hall Veterans Home (CHVH) Contractor Funding: Given the reduced census numbers at CHVH and the challenges it poses to the revenues of the contractor tasked with day-to-day operations, the committees request that the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs submit a report in collaboration with the CHVH contractor that outlines efforts taken to increase the resident census at CHVH and how the contractor has or is planning to adjust operations to accommodate the continued low revenue levels given the end of the operating grant.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Update on CHVH population and funding	MDVA	August 1, 2023

D70J00
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund

Committee Narrative

Policy Options to Address Surplus Decay: The committees are concerned about the long-standing issues related to the surplus of the Insured Division and the secondary and contributing difficulties that exist related to policy cancellation and rate inadequacy. Although it is too soon to determine the impact of the recent changes to the installment plan option, the committees request that the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto) prepare a report summarizing:

- reasons for the long-running decline in the surplus, including discussion of any changes in the insurance market that have contributed;
- past efforts to address the decline in surplus;
- information on the number of policyholders choosing Maryland Auto’s installment plan by calendar year since calendar 2014; and
- policy or funding changes that may be considered to target the problem of surplus decline; any necessary change to statute, law, or funding; and an estimated level of impact.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Policy options to address surplus decline	Maryland Auto	November 1, 2023

Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto) Surplus and Activities: The committees are concerned about the decline in the surplus in Maryland Auto and funding adequacy in the insured and uninsured divisions, respectively. The committees request that Maryland Auto submit a report providing a 10-year history of the surplus and surplus-to-assessment ratio for the insured division and a 10-year history of the surplus for the uninsured division. It is the intent of the committees that Maryland Auto work with the Motor Vehicle Administration to consider an amnesty program for outstanding uninsured motorist fines for the purpose of raising revenue. It is the intent of the committees that Maryland Auto not pay staff bonuses during any year in which a surplus deficit is projected within 2 years.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Maryland Auto surplus history	Maryland Auto	November 1, 2023

D78Y01
Maryland Health Benefit Exchange

Committee Narrative

D78Y01.01 Maryland Health Benefit Exchange

State Innovation Waiver Applications: The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) has indicated that it is considering submitting additional State Innovation Waiver applications, including to extend the State Reinsurance Program. Given the implications of these waivers on the activities of the agency and the budget for the agency, the committees are interested in remaining informed of MHBE’s activities in these areas. The committees request that MHBE notify the committees of any applications for State Innovation Waivers that it submits during fiscal 2024 and the financial decision of those applications.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Notification of applications for State Innovation Waivers and decisions on those applications	MHBE	As needed, within 20 days of any application and decision on any application

Reinsurance Program Costs and Forecasts: The committees are interested in monitoring the costs of the State Reinsurance Program and future funding needs. The committees request that the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) submit a report that provides an updated forecast of spending and funding needs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reinsurance program costs and forecast	MHBE	September 30, 2023

D80Z01
Maryland Insurance Administration

Committee Narrative

D80Z01.01 Administration and Operations

Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto) and the Private Insurance Market: The committees are interested in evaluating the current Maryland Auto rating methodology as part of an effort to address the problem of declining surplus in Maryland Auto. In 2004, the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) produced a report on the methodology used by Maryland Auto to determine rates. The committees request that MIA submit a report evaluating whether the current Maryland Auto rating methodology is producing rates that are adequate and whether any changes need to be made to the methodology to ensure adequate rates. The report should also address the sustainability of Maryland Auto, given declining market shares. The report should also discuss the advantages and disadvantages of alternative models for insuring substandard business (such as Assigned Risk) and make a recommendation as to whether the General Assembly should consider a different model for Maryland Auto.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Evaluation of the Maryland Auto rate-setting and model	MIA	December 1, 2023

Insurance Tracking System (ITS) Project History and Future Management Plans: With significant new funding for the ITS project provided in the fiscal 2024 allowance, the committees are interested in better understanding the steps that the agency will take to prevent future delays in the project, similar to the defaulting of the prior contractor. The committees are also concerned that funding has been provided with no updated information on the project timeline and plans for the project. The committees request that the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) submit a report summarizing and including:

- the reasons for contractor default in March 2022 and how MIA will prevent contractor default on this project in the future;
- a detailed project spending history through fiscal 2023 or why this is not possible; and
- how MIA plans to track and report spending on this project through the completion of the project.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ITS project history and future management plans	MIA	July 31, 2023

D91
West North Avenue Development Authority

Committee Narrative

D91A01.01 General Administration

Managing for Results (MFR): MFR is imbedded in the State budget process. MFR has agencies develop a mission statement, a vision statement, key goals, objectives, and performance indicators linked to the key goals. MFR measures for agencies are included with the State budget in the Governor’s budget books. As a new agency, the West North Avenue Development Authority (WNADA) has not yet developed MFR measures. WNADA should develop MFR mission, vision, key goals, objectives, and performance indicators and report them with the fiscal 2025 budget.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR mission, vision, key goals, objectives, and performance measures	WNADA	With the fiscal 2025 budget submission

Grants Manual: The West North Avenue Development Authority’s (WNADA) fiscal 2024 budget includes \$10 million for grant awards. WNADA has identified development zones that will receive funding, but the authority has not yet determined the process for awarding specific grants. WNADA advises that it expects to have a process like the competitive grant processes used by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). For its neighborhood revitalization program, DHCD has a 25-page manual to provide guidance about the application process, review process, post-award requirements, contract information, and special considerations. The manual also includes checklists to simplify the process. By December 29, 2023, WNADA should prepare a manual to provide a simpler and transparent review process.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
WNADA grants manual	WNADA	December 29, 2023

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

Committee Narrative

E00A04.02 Major Information Technology Development Projects

Quarterly Report on the Integrated Tax System (ITS): The committees remain interested in the progress and development of the ITS Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP). The committees request that the Comptroller of Maryland submit a report each quarter providing an update on the project’s current status, cost projections, and timeline. The report should detail the use of the fiscal 2024 budget, project development costs, and any changes in scope or timeline.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly report on the status of the ITS MITDP	Comptroller of Maryland	July 15, 2023 October 15, 2023 January 15, 2024 April 15, 2024

E20B
State Treasurer’s Office

Committee Narrative

E20B01.01 Treasury Management

Rating Agency Reports: Prior to each bond sale, State agencies meet with rating agencies to report on the fiscal strength of the revenues supporting each issuance. Rating agencies then rate the issuance. This rating is reported on the bond sale’s preliminary official statement. These reports contain the rating agencies’ assessment of the quality of the issuance. Reports can also identify concerns and actions that would lead to a ratings downgrade. As staff to the Capital Debt Affordability Committee (CDAC), the State Treasurer’s Office (STO) should collect ratings reports from debt issuances of debt reviewed by CDAC. This includes the general obligation bonds and bonds supporting the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Maryland Transportation Authority, the Bay Restoration Fund, Maryland Stadium Authority capital projects, the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, and St. Mary’s College of Maryland. It is the intent of the budget committees that STO submit the ratings reports to the Department of Legislative Services on or before each bond sale.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Bond rating reports	STO	Prior to bond sale issuance

E50C
State Department of Assessments and Taxation

Committee Narrative

E50C00.02 Real Property Valuation

Real Property Valuation: The committees continue to be concerned about the number of vacancies within the Real Property Valuation Program. While the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) has reported on this issue quarterly, the committees wish to remain briefed on this situation. The committees request that SDAT continue to submit quarterly reports, which should outline SDAT’s efforts to increase hiring, improve training processes, as well as the following for the quarter preceding the due date of the report:

- the number of employees in the program that have left State service (by employee class title and jurisdiction);
- the number of new hires (by employee class title and jurisdiction);
- the number of positions posted;
- the number of qualifying applicants received in response to each posting;
- the length of time from the posting of each position to the acceptance of an offer of employment;
- the amount of time it takes for the average hire to finish the training and probationary period;
- the average and median salaries for listed positions; and
- average and median salaries for comparable positions in other surrounding states.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status updates on staffing in the Real Property Valuation Program	SDAT	July 15, 2023 October 15, 2023 January 15, 2024 April 15, 2024

E50C

E50C00.08 Property Tax Credit Programs

Homeowners' Tax Credit (HTC) and Renters' Tax Credit (RTC) Eligibility: The committees are concerned that the significant amount of time since eligibility requirements for the HTC and RTC were last altered is impacting the effectiveness of these programs by limiting eligibility because of the failure to keep up with inflation. The committees request that the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) submit a report detailing recommendations for new requirements, including potential estimates of how altering the requirements will impact applications.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on HTC and RTC eligibility requirements	SDAT	September 1, 2023

Adopt the following narrative:

Tax Credit Programs Processing and Compliance Efforts: The committees are interested in better understanding the enforcement efforts of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) related to the tax credit programs and are concerned that SDAT is unable to estimate revenue loss from fraud. The committees request that SDAT submit a report on enforcement efforts that includes its plan for a proactive monitoring solution to identify lost revenue from the Homestead Tax Credit, Homeowner Tax Credit Program, Renters' Tax Credit, and the Income Tax Offset Credit Programs. The report should include information on:

- agency plans to implement a continual proactive monitoring solution to identify revenue loss due to fraud;
- steps taken to estimate revenue loss due to fraud and any available estimate of revenue loss due to fraud separately for each tax credit program;
- the system(s) and/or partner(s) SDAT uses to identify and resolve fraudulent uses of the tax credit programs;
- a discussion of any delays regarding submitting or receiving Internal Revenue Service verification of income information and any impacts delays have on potentially qualified participants getting the tax credit;
- the efforts of the agency to increase program participation for the tax credit programs as well as data on participation within the programs; and

E50C

- the agency's recent Homestead Tax Credit anti-fraud pilot program and any plans to expand the program to other counties.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on fraud and lost revenue within the Homestead Tax Credit, Homeowner Tax Credit, and Income Tax Offset Credit programs	SDAT	October 1, 2023

E50C00.09 Major Information Technology Development Projects

Cloud Revenue Integrated System (CRIS) Status: The committees are concerned about how the impact of retention difficulties for technical staff may impact the completion of the CRIS project. The committees request that the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) submit quarterly reports on the project status that include a description of project milestones and the date that each milestone is planned to be achieved, and a description of anticipated contingency planning activities throughout the year. In addition, each report should include the following:

- any vacancies within the project and how long those vacancies have been open;
- any actions taken by SDAT to fill the vacancies specified above; and
- how or if the vacancies within the project have affected project progression.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CRIS quarterly status report	SDAT	July 15, 2023 October 15, 2023 January 15, 2024 April 15, 2024

E75D
Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency

Budget Amendments

E75D00.01 Administration and Operations

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funds budgeted for the televised lottery drawings. The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency has ended televised drawings.	-1,175,000	SF
 Total Change	 -1,175,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	163.10	163.10		0.00
Special Fund	95,554,950	94,379,950	-1,175,000	
Total Funds	95,554,950	94,379,950	-1,175,000	

Amendment No.

12

F10A02
Office of Personnel Services and Benefits
Department of Budget and Management

Committee Narrative

F10A02.01 Executive Direction

Health Insurance Account Closeout Report: The committees request a report on the fiscal 2023 closeout of the Employee and Retiree Health Insurance Account. This report shall include (1) closing fiscal 2023 fund balance; (2) actual provider payments due in the fiscal year broken out by medical payments for active employees, medical payments for non-Medicare-eligible retirees, medical payments for Medicare-eligible retirees, prescription drug payments for active employees, prescription drug payments for non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and prescription drug payments for Medicare-eligible retirees; (3) State employee and retiree contributions, broken out by active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees; (4) an accounting of rebates, recoveries, and other costs, broken out into rebates, recoveries, and other costs associated with active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees; (5) any closeout transactions processed after the fiscal year ended; and (6) actual incurred but not received costs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on fiscal 2023 closeout data for the Employee and Retiree Health Insurance Account	Department of Budget and Management	October 1, 2023

Quarterly Medical, Dental, and Prescription Plan Performance: In recent years, the State has implemented different strategies to contain medical and prescription costs. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit quarterly reports on plan performance of the State’s prescription, medical, and dental plans.

- Medical and dental reports should provide utilization and cost data broken out by plans as well as actives, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees. The reports should include utilization per 1,000 plan participants, unit cost and per member costs for hospital inpatient services, hospital outpatient services, professional inpatient services, professional outpatient services, and ancillary services provided by the State’s health plans.
- Prescription reports should provide information on the highest cost prescription drugs by category of treatment; the prescription drugs accounting for the largest increases in drug spending; the top 25 most costly individual prescription drugs in generic, brand, biologics, and specialty drug categories; recent drug patent expirations; and upcoming

F10A02

new drug patent approvals. Additionally, the reports should include data on the cost drivers and drug trends by actives, non-Medicare retirees, and Medicare retirees.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly State medical, dental, and prescription drug plan performance reports	DBM	September 15, 2023 December 15, 2023 March 15, 2024 June 15, 2024

Progress Report on Reducing the Vacancy Rate: The committees are interested in tracking the administration's progress in reducing the State's vacancy rate by half. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) should provide an update to the committees detailing:

- progress made toward reducing the vacancy rate;
- the status of the planned salary competitiveness survey; and
- steps that DBM has taken or plans to take to improve State recruitment and retention of employees.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Progress in recruitment and retention of State employees	DBM	December 1, 2023

Budget Amendments

F10A02.08 Statewide Expenses

Add the following language:

Provided that the Department of Budget and Management may not process a budget amendment transferring any portion of the funding to support the 2% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) prior to January 1, 2024.

It is the intent of the General Assembly that the funds to support the COLA are transferred only to those agencies that have made progress in filling vacant positions and require funding to provide the COLA.

F10A02

Explanation: Personnel costs are overfunded by approximately \$271 million based on the current vacancy and turnover rates, which will result in significant personnel cost savings. This language would delay the transfer of funds for a salary increase and express the intent of the General Assembly that funds are only provided to agencies that make progress in filling vacant positions.

Amendment No. **13**

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the fiscal 2024 general fund allowance for statewide salary increases to reflect excess funding for personnel, excluding Higher Education. The amount of the reduction is the equivalent of increasing the statewide budgeted turnover rate, excluding Higher Education, by 1.5 percentage points.	-65,000,000	GF
Total Change	-65,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	2.00	2.00		0.00
General Fund	310,131,927	245,131,927	-65,000,000	
Special Fund	53,439,220	53,439,220	0	
Federal Fund	27,157,374	27,157,374	0	
Total Funds	390,728,521	325,728,521	-65,000,000	

Amendment No. **14**

F10A05
Office of Budget Analysis
Department of Budget and Management

Committee Narrative

F10A05.01 Budget Analysis and Formulation

Submission of Select Budget Detail: The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit complete fiscal 2025 subobject detail by program for Comptroller Objects 08 and 12 by the third Wednesday of January 2024 in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Comptroller objects 08 and 12 budget detail	DBM	Third Wednesday of January 2024

F50
Department of Information Technology

Budget Amendments

MAJOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FUND

F50A01.01 Major Information Technology Development Project Fund

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds for the Maryland Department of Health’s (MDH) Maryland AIDS Drug Assistance Program (MADAP) major information technology (IT) project and authorize special funds. MADAP rebates that are appropriated as special funds have been used to support major IT projects. In recent years, spending has consistently been below projections, and the fund typically ends the fiscal year with a fund balance exceeding \$50 million. Fiscal 2022 ended with a \$50.2 million fund balance. This reduction deletes general funds proposed for the MADAP Case Management System project but does not reduce oversight costs. Should additional funding be needed, MDH is authorized to transfer MADAP special funds to support this project.	-2,215,421	GF
2. Delete funds for the Department of General Services’ AS400 replacement system major information technology (IT) project. This project’s first appropriation was \$1.6 million in fiscal 2023. Progress has been slow. The IT project request, which State law requires for all projects, was not submitted until February 2023. Documents show that the project has not yet onboarded a qualified project manager. The limited progress suggests that these funds are not needed and that the fiscal 2023 appropriation is sufficient through the end of fiscal 2024.	-210,000	GF
 Total Change	 -2,425,421	 0.00

F50

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	104,986,514	102,561,093	-2,425,421	
Special Fund	6,800,006	6,800,006	0	
Total Funds	111,786,520	109,361,099	-2,425,421	

Amendment No.

15

Committee Narrative

Managing for Results (MFR) Goals and Indicators for Services to State Agencies: The Department of Information Technology’s (DoIT) fourth MFR goal is to provide efficient and high-quality information technology services to State agencies. DoIT also has indicators that measure the workload and efficiency. However, the goal does not address value, and there are no indicators for costs. Many of the services that DoIT provides are comparable to services provided by the private sector and other organizations. DoIT should expand its MFR goals to include value and add indicators that measure costs and value. The department should report these indicators with the fiscal 2025 budget.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR indicators for value and costs of DoIT’s services to State agencies	DoIT	With the fiscal 2025 budget submission

Quarterly Report on the Financial Management Information System (FMIS) Replacement: FMIS is the State’s legacy accounting system of record that also includes purchasing, inventory, and reporting applications. The system will need to interface with other systems, like the eMaryland Marketplace Advantage procurement system. The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) is listed as the custodian of this project, but other key stakeholders include the Comptroller’s Office, the Treasurer’s Office, and the Maryland Department of Transportation. Replacing the system will require substantial funding and also agencies providing subject matter experts to support development. With so many key agencies, governance may also be a challenge. The committees are interested in the progress and development of the FMIS Replacement Major Information Technology Development Project. The committees request that DoIT submit a report each quarter providing an update on the project’s current status, cost projections, and timeline. The report should detail the use of the fiscal 2024 budget, project development costs, and any changes in scope or timeline.

F50

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly report on the status of the FMIS Replacement	DoIT	July 15, 2023 October 15, 2023 January 15, 2024 April 15, 2024

H00
Department of General Services

Committee Narrative

H00A01.01 Executive Direction

Managing for Results (MFR) Goals for Employee Training and Retention: In response to high employee vacancies and turnover rates, the Department of General Services' (DGS) fiscal 2022 budget included \$300,000 to create a training program for DGS employees. The training program will be a multitiered training program that is expected to have a tier for (1) supervisors and employees wanting to become supervisors; (2) managers such as unit chiefs, deputy directors, and directors; and (3) senior or executive-level staff and employees whose goal it is to move into such a role. DGS' first MFR goal is to provide best value for customer agencies and taxpayers. This training program is consistent with this goal. As such, DGS should add an objective to its first goal about employee retention and appropriate training. DGS should consider performance measures such as (1) the number of employees in the program; (2) retention rates of employees that do and do not participate in the program; (3) career paths of employees that do and do not participate in the program; and (4) other measures of the training program's effectiveness.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR indicators for employee training	DGS	With submission of the fiscal 2025 budget

State Center Status Report: The Department of General Services (DGS) is moving agencies out of State Center and into leased space in Baltimore City. The State also voided a public-private partnership agreement, which resulted in litigation. DGS should report on the status of the State Center moves, State Center litigation, and the uses and timing of State Center funds appropriated into the Dedicated Purpose Account to support State agency moves.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
State Center status report	DGS	December 15, 2023

H00

Budget Amendments

H00H01.03 Miscellaneous Grants – Capital Appropriation

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation is allocated as follows:

(1)	<u>Anne Arundel County – Joint 911 Public Safety Center.....</u>	<u>10,000,000</u>
(2)	<u>Baltimore City – Perkins Somerset Old Town Redevelopment</u>	<u>10,000,000</u>
(3)	<u>Baltimore County – Security Square Mall.....</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>
(4)	<u>Baltimore County – Sparrows Point Fire Academy</u>	<u>9,000,000</u>
(5)	<u>Montgomery County – Bus Rapid Transit Project.....</u>	<u>10,000,000</u>
(6)	<u>Prince George’s County – New Carrollton Metro</u>	<u>10,000,000</u>
(7)	<u>Washington County – Public Safety Training Center</u>	<u>2,250,000</u>

Explanation: This language allocates the appropriation consistent with the Governor’s intent.

Amendment No.

16

H0

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

. provided that this appropriation is allocated as follows:.....

- (1) Classroom Art Spaces in Baltimore City
Public Schools..... 5,000,000

Explanation: This language allocates the appropriation consistent with the Governor’s intent.

Amendment No. **17**

I00
Department of Service and Civic Innovation

Budget Amendments

I00A01.01 Service and Civic Innovation

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$11,353,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of supporting the Service Year Option Program is contingent on enactment of HB 546 or SB 551, which establishes the program.

Explanation: This action makes \$11,353,000 in funding for the Service Year Option Program contingent on the passage of HB 546 or SB 551.

Amendment No.

18

J00
Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that projects and funding levels appropriated for capital projects, as well as total estimated project costs within the Consolidated Transportation Program, shall be expended in accordance with the plan approved during the legislative session. The department shall prepare a report to notify the budget committees of the proposed changes in the event that the department modifies the program to:

- (1) add a new project to the construction program or development and evaluation program meeting the definition of a “major project” under Section 2-103.1 of the Transportation Article that was not previously contained within a plan reviewed in a prior year by the General Assembly and will result in the need to expend funds in the current budget year; or
- (2) change the scope of a project in the construction program or development and evaluation program meeting the definition of a “major project” under Section 2-103.1 of the Transportation Article that will result in an increase of more than 10% or \$1,000,000, whichever is greater, in the total project costs as reviewed by the General Assembly during a prior session.

For each change, the report shall identify the project title, justification for adding the new project or modifying the scope of the existing project, current year funding levels, and the total project cost as approved by the General Assembly during the prior session compared with the proposed current year funding and total project cost estimate resulting from the project addition or change in scope.

Further provided that notification of project additions, as outlined in paragraph (1) above; changes in the scope of a project, as outlined in paragraph (2) above; or moving projects from the development and evaluation program to the construction program shall be made to the General Assembly 45 days prior to the expenditure of funds or the submission of any contract for approval to the Board of Public Works.

Explanation: This annual budget bill language requires the department to notify the budget committees of proposed changes to the transportation capital program that will add a new project that was not in the fiscal 2023 to 2028 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) or will increase a total project’s cost by more than 10%, or \$1 million, due to a change in scope. Reports are to be submitted with the draft and final versions of the CTP with each using the 2023 session CTP as the basis for comparison. In addition, notification is required as needed throughout the budget year if certain changes to projects are made.

J00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Capital budget changes from one CTP version to the next	Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)	With draft CTP With final CTP
Capital budget changes throughout the year	MDOT	45 days prior to the expenditure of funds or seeking Board of Public Works approval

Amendment No.

19

Add the following language:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) may not expend funds on any job or position of employment approved in this budget in excess of 9,120.5 positions and 115.0 contractual full-time equivalent (FTE) positions paid through special payments payroll (defined as the quotient of the sum of the hours worked by all such employees in the fiscal year divided by 2,080 hours) of the total authorized amount established in the budget for MDOT at any one time during fiscal 2024. The level of contractual FTE positions may be exceeded only if MDOT notifies the budget committees of the need and justification for additional contractual personnel due to:

- (1) business growth at the Helen Delich Bentley Port of Baltimore or Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport that demands additional personnel; or
- (2) emergency needs that must be met, such as transit security or highway maintenance.

The Secretary shall use the authority under Sections 2-101 and 2-102 of the Transportation Article to implement this provision. However, any authorized job or position to be filled above the regular position ceiling approved by the Board of Public Works shall count against the Rule of 100 imposed by the General Assembly. The establishment of new jobs or positions of employment not authorized in the fiscal 2024 budget shall be subject to Section 7-236 of the State Finance and Procurement Article and the Rule of 100.

Explanation: This annual budget bill language establishes a position ceiling for MDOT each year to limit growth in regular positions and contractual FTEs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Need for additional regular or contractual positions	MDOT	As needed

Amendment No.

20

J00A01
The Secretary's Office
Department of Transportation

Committee Narrative

J00A01.01 Executive Direction

Fees for Zero- and Low-emission Vehicles: The committees request that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) submit a report on the fees that other states impose on zero- and low-emission (e.g. hybrid-electric) vehicles and the revenue raised by each fee, along with an identification of any studies that have been done on the impact such fees have had on zero- and low-emission vehicle purchases. The report should be submitted by September 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on fees imposed by other states on zero- and low-emission vehicles and the revenues raised from those fees	MDOT	September 1, 2023

Budget Amendments

J00A01.02 Operating Grants-In-Aid

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

. provided that no more than \$5,556,686 of this appropriation may be expended for operating grants-in-aid, except for:

- (1) any additional special funds necessary to match unanticipated federal fund attainments;
or
- (2) any proposed increase either to provide funds for a new grantee or to increase funds for an existing grantee.

Further provided that no expenditures in excess of \$5,556,686 may occur unless the department provides notification to the budget committees to justify the need for additional expenditures due to either item (1) or (2) above, and the committees provide review and comment or 45 days elapse from the date such notification is provided to the committees.

Explanation: This annual language caps the level of special funds provided for operating grants-in-aid. The cap may be increased to match unanticipated federal dollars or to provide new or expanded grant funding upon notification to the budget committees.

J00A01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Explanation of need for additional special funds for operating grants-in-aid	Maryland Department of Transportation	45 days prior to expenditure

Amendment No.

21

J00A01.03 Facilities and Capital Equipment

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that no funds may be expended by the Secretary's Office for any capital project or grant with a total project cost in excess of \$500,000 that is not currently included in the fiscal 2023 to 2028 Consolidated Transportation Program, except as outlined below:

- (1) the Secretary shall notify the budget committees of any proposed capital project or grant with a total cost in excess of \$500,000, including the need and justification for the project and its total cost; and
- (2) the budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment on the proposed capital project or grant.

Explanation: This language provides legislative oversight of capital projects and grants exceeding \$500,000 that are not listed in the current Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP).

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Notification of the intent to fund a capital project or grant exceeding \$500,000 that is not listed in the current CTP	Maryland Department of Transportation	45 days prior to expenditure

Amendment No.

22

Committee Narrative

Flexing of Federal Dollars from Highways to Transit: The committees are interested in learning about the department's ability to flex or transfer federal funding between highway and

J00A01

transit uses as allowed by federal law and the limitations related to that ability and request that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) submit a report with the following information for fiscal 2022 to 2024:

- the dollar amounts received or anticipated from the Surface Transportation Block Grant, National Highway Performance Program, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality formulas and how they were or will be spent according to MDOT's investment categories used in the Consolidated Transportation Program;
- the amount of funding from each federal formula program that went or is programmed to go to road diets, retrofitting of roadways to lower vehicle speeds, transit lanes or other bus priority treatments, protected bicycle lanes, narrowed crossings, and expanded pedestrian facilities;
- the percentage of funds from the Surface Transportation Block Grant, National Highway Performance Program, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, and any other eligible source of federal formula funds that were flexed/transferred or are programmed to be flexed/transferred to another program, agency, project, or use;
- a list and description of the projects and programs that received or will receive flexed/transferred dollars, including how they are categorized according to the department investment categories; and
- the maximum amount of funding under each formula that could have been or could be flexed/transferred under federal regulations compared with the amount actually flexed/transferred or programmed to be flexed/transferred.

The report should be submitted by September 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on flexing or transferring federal funding from highways to transit	MDOT	September 1, 2023

J00A01

J00A01.04 Washington Metropolitan Area Transit – Operating

Transit-oriented Development inside the Capital Beltway: During its budget hearing, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) cited a number of Metrorail stations at which it was looking to increase efforts to encourage development. Stations in the Blue Line Corridor were not mentioned as a focus for development, despite the corridor being a top development priority for Prince George’s County. The committees therefore request that WMATA provide a report summarizing its strategies for investing in transit-oriented development inside the Capital Beltway. The report should be submitted by December 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on strategies for investing in transit-oriented development inside the Capital Beltway	WMATA	December 1, 2023

J00A04
Debt Service Requirements
Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Consolidated Transportation Bonds may be issued in any amount, provided that the aggregate outstanding and unpaid balance of these bonds and bonds of prior issues may not exceed \$3,114,910,000 as of June 30, 2024.

Explanation: Section 3-202 of the Transportation Article requires the General Assembly to establish the maximum debt outstanding each year in the budget bill. The level is based on the outstanding debt as of June 30, 2022, plus projected debt to be issued during fiscal 2024 in support of the transportation capital program. No debt issuance is planned for fiscal 2023.

Amendment No. **23**

Add the following language:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) shall submit with its annual September and January financial forecasts information on:

- (1) anticipated and actual nontraditional debt outstanding as of June 30 of each year; and
- (2) anticipated and actual debt service payments for each outstanding nontraditional debt issuance from fiscal 2023 through 2033.

Nontraditional debt is defined as any debt instrument that is not a Consolidated Transportation Bond or a Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle bond; such debt includes, but is not limited to, Certificates of Participation; debt backed by customer facility charges, passenger facility charges or other revenues; and debt issued by the Maryland Economic Development Corporation or any other third party on behalf of MDOT.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in monitoring the use of nontraditional debt by MDOT. The information requested provides the budget committees with additional information on the usage and annual costs of nontraditional debt.

J00A04

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Nontraditional debt outstanding and anticipated debt service payments	MDOT	With the September forecast
Nontraditional debt outstanding and anticipated debt service payments	MDOT	With the January forecast

Amendment No.

24

Add the following language:

The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance of nontraditional debt, defined as any debt instrument that is not a Consolidated Transportation Bond or a Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle bond issued by the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), exclusive of debt for the Purple Line Light Rail Project, may not exceed \$748,925,000 as of June 30, 2024. The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance on debt for the Purple Line may not exceed \$2,522,912,000 as of June 30, 2024. Provided, however, that in addition to the limits established under this provision, MDOT may increase the aggregate outstanding unpaid and principal balance of nontraditional debt so long as:

- (1) MDOT provides notice to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee stating the specific reason for the additional issuance and providing specific information regarding the proposed issuance, including information specifying the total amount of nontraditional debt that would be outstanding on June 30, 2024, and the total amount by which the fiscal 2024 debt service payment for all nontraditional debt would increase following the additional issuance; and
- (2) the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee have 45 days to review and comment on the proposed additional issuance before the publication of a preliminary official statement. The Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee may hold a public hearing to discuss the proposed increase and shall signal their intent to hold a hearing within 45 days of receiving notice from MDOT.

Explanation: This language limits the amount of nontraditional debt outstanding at the end of fiscal 2024, exclusive of debt issued for the Purple Line Light Rail Transit project, to the total amount that was outstanding from all previous nontraditional debt issuances as of December 31, 2022, plus an anticipated issuance of \$75 million for a new fare collection system for the Maryland Transit Administration. Debt outstanding for the Purple Line Project is capped at the projected maximum debt outstanding level that will occur during the construction phase

J00A04

of the Purple Line Project. The language allows MDOT to increase the amount of nontraditional debt outstanding in fiscal 2024 by providing notification to the budget committees regarding the reason that the additional debt is required.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Justification for increasing nontraditional debt outstanding	MDOT	45 days prior to publication of a preliminary official statement

Amendment No.

25

J00H01
Maryland Transit Administration
Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

J00H01.01 Transit Administration

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration may not be expended until the Maryland Transit Administration submits five bimonthly construction status reports for the Purple Line Project to the budget committees. The status reports shall provide:

- (1) the completion percentages for the project as a whole and for each major category of work;
- (2) the running total amount expended for construction; and
- (3) an explanation of any material change to the total construction cost estimate or construction schedule as set forth in the revised public-private partnership agreement as amended to add Maryland Transit Solutions as the replacement design-build contractor for the project.

The first status report shall be submitted by July 1, 2023, and subsequent reports shall be submitted every second month thereafter, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the final report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending regular construction progress reports for the Purple Line Light Rail Project.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reports on Purple Line construction progress	Maryland Transit Administration	July 1, 2023, and bimonthly thereafter ending with the March 1, 2024 report

Amendment No.

26

J00I00
Maryland Aviation Administration
Department of Transportation

Committee Narrative

J00I00.02 Airport Operations

Solar Arrays at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI Marshall Airport): The committees are interested in the possibility of installing additional solar arrays at BWI Marshall Airport, particularly given a recent federal policy change that removes additional barriers to developing onsite solar systems. The committees request that the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) provide a report that describes the current deployment of solar at BWI Marshall Airport, including current locations and capacity, and considers the feasibility of additional solar installations at BWI Marshall Airport. The report should include details regarding space availability for solar infrastructure, procurement and funding needs, potential timelines, and any current plans or efforts in play to deploy solar.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Solar arrays at BWI Marshall Airport	MAA	December 1, 2023

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

Budget Amendments

CHESAPEAKE AND COASTAL SERVICE

K00A14.02 Chesapeake and Coastal Service

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Natural Resources submits the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans to the budget committees. The annual work and expenditure plans shall be submitted with the fiscal 2025 budget submission as required by Section 8-2A-03(d) of the Natural Resources Article, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the plans to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of annual work and expenditure plans may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the annual work and expenditure plans are not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Section 8-2A-03(d) of the Natural Resources Article requires the Governor to submit the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans to the General Assembly as part of the annual budget submission, but the Governor has not done so on a regular basis. This action restricts funding in the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) budget until the annual work and expenditure plans are submitted with the fiscal 2025 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans	DNR	Fiscal 2025 budget submission

Amendment No.

27

Committee Narrative

Summary of Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending: The budget committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) provide a report on Chesapeake Bay restoration spending. The report shall be drafted subject to the concurrence of the Department

K00A

of Legislative Services (DLS) in terms of both electronic format to be used and data to be included. The scope of the report is as follows: Chesapeake Bay restoration operating and capital expenditures by agency, fund type, and particular fund source based on programs that have over 50% of their activities directly related to Chesapeake Bay restoration for the fiscal 2023 actual; fiscal 2024 working appropriation; and fiscal 2025 allowance to be included as an appendix in the fiscal 2025 budget volumes and submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Summary of Chesapeake Bay restoration spending for programs that have over 50% of their activities directly related to Chesapeake Bay restoration	DBM DNR MDE	Fiscal 2025 budget submission

L00A
Department of Agriculture

Budget Amendments

OFFICE OF MARKETING, ANIMAL INDUSTRIES, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

L00A12.20 Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

Funds

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| <p>1. Reduce general fund appropriation for the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation's Next Generation Farmland Acquisition Program funding. The Governor's fiscal 2024 allowance included \$10,000,000 in general funds for the Next Generation Farmland Acquisition Program as mandated by Chapter 39 of 2022 (Natural Resources – Maryland Park Service and State Parks – Alterations (Great Maryland Outdoors Act)). This action reduces \$6,000,000 from the appropriation for the Next Generation Farmland Acquisition Program so that the funding can be added back to the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation's budget for its core loan programs, including the Maryland Resource-Based Industry Financing Fund, given the demand for loans in the high interest rate environment.</p> | <p>-6,000,000 GF</p> |
|--|----------------------|

Total Change	-6,000,000
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<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>
General Fund	15,235,000	9,235,000	-6,000,000
Total Funds	15,235,000	9,235,000	-6,000,000

Amendment No.

28

M00A01
Office of the Secretary
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

M00A01.01 Executive Direction

Amend the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that ~~\$218,233,288~~109,116,644 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation accelerating the implementation of Maryland's minimum wage law

Explanation: This action is a technical amendment to align the funding that is contingent on legislation with the action taken to reduce the appropriation to provide the provider rate increase on January 1, 2024.

Amendment No.

29

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of Executive Direction may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits a report to the budget committees on staffing vacancies throughout MDH. The report shall address barriers to attracting and maintaining staff, including:

- (1) a comparison of compensation at MDH and other comparable administrative positions at the federal and local levels;
- (2) a comparison of compensation of direct care staff to other private and nonprofit health care settings;
- (3) an evaluation of the impact of recent annual salary review adjustments and any other compensation benefits or incentives offered by MDH;
- (4) discussion of recruitment and retention strategies for the MDH workforce; and
- (5) the potential long-term impacts of the Facilities Master Plan on MDH staffing alignment.

The report shall be submitted by December 15, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purposes and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

M00A01

Explanation: The committees are concerned about the persistently high vacancy rates in MDH. Language in the fiscal 2023 Budget Bill restricted funds pending a report on the reasons for vacancies and efforts to recruit and retain employees, which was to be submitted October 1, 2022. As of February 2, 2023, the report had not been submitted. As of December 31, 2022, the vacancy rate in the MDH Administration was 13.32%, overall higher than the same period the prior year, with high vacancy rates found in both direct care institutions and administration. This language restricts funds pending a report on barriers to recruitment and retention throughout MDH, including salary comparisons to other similar positions elsewhere in government or in different private or nonprofit care settings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MDH staffing and salary study	MDH	December 15, 2023

Amendment No.

30

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of Executive Direction may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees on the time to placement for court-involved patients and efforts to improve the timeliness of placement to align with statutorily required timeframes. The report shall be submitted by July 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purposes and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The budget committees were concerned with the increasing delays seen in the placement for court-involved patients. Language in the fiscal 2023 Budget Bill restricted funds pending a report on this topic to be submitted by October 1, 2022, but as of February 13, 2023, had not been submitted. The legislative mandates have been in place since fiscal 2019 requiring individuals who are either incompetent to stand trial (IST) or not criminally responsible (NCR) to be admitted within 10 business days. While this mandate was largely met in the first year, subsequent years have had longer placement times for IST/NCR patients, and according to Managing for Results data, performance declined further in fiscal 2022. This language restricts funding pending a report on the reasons for placement delays and the efforts being made to improve the timeliness of placement for NCR/IST patients within the legislatively mandated 10-day period.

M00A01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Efforts made to improve timeliness of NCR/IST placements	Maryland Department of Health	July 1, 2023

Amendment No.

31

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of Executive Direction may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report on patient and staff safety, including how the Managing for Results data and measures are collected and calculated. The report shall be submitted by September 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purposes and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Committee narrative in the 2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report requested that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit a report on efforts to improve reporting on measures of patient and staff safety and recommendations for uniform measures of patient and staff safety. Although updated Managing for Results (MFR) data was submitted for fiscal 2024, as of February 13, 2023, MDH had not submitted the associated report, and there is no description of how the data for the measure is collected and processed to produce the reported rate data in the MFR.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Uniform reporting of patient and staff safety measures	MDH	September 1, 2023

Amendment No.

32

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits a report to the budget committees detailing ongoing operational impacts of the cybersecurity incident on agency operations including specifically the impacts on the licensing and renewal activities of the Health Professional Boards and Commissions. The report should include for the impact on

M00A01

Health Professional Boards and Commissions information on the number of licenses, renewals, and investigations that were delayed as a result of the incident as well as how MDH assisted the boards in addressing challenges in licensing processing and completing investigations that resulted from the impact of the incident on the systems of the Health Professional Boards and Commissions. The report shall be submitted by September 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be reverted if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The 2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report included committee narrative requesting a report on the impact of the cybersecurity incident on the Health Professional Boards and Commissions. As of February 15, 2023, this report has not been submitted. This language restricts funds in the Executive Direction Program of MDH pending a report on any ongoing impacts on agency operations of the incident as well as specific information on the impact on the Health Professional Boards and Commissions.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on ongoing operational impacts of the cybersecurity incident	MDH	September 1, 2023

Amendment No.

33

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>
1. Reduce funds for the acceleration of provider rate increases. The funding in the fiscal 2024 allowance was provided for the full fiscal year. This action reduces the funding for acceleration of provider rate increases by 50% to provide a January 1, 2024 date for the acceleration of the provider rate increase.	-109,116,644 GF -97,591,710 FF
Total Change	-206,708,354

M00A01

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>
Position	89.00	89.00	
General Fund	256,488,599	147,371,955	-109,116,644
Special Fund	29,554,816	29,554,816	0
Federal Fund	195,183,419	97,591,709	-97,591,710
Total Funds	481,226,834	274,518,480	-206,708,354

Amendment No.

34

Amend the following language on the federal fund appropriation:

, provided that ~~\$195,183,419~~\$97,591,709 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation accelerating the implementation of Maryland's minimum wage law

Explanation: This action is a technical amendment to align the funding that is contingent on legislation with the action taken to reduce the appropriation to provide the provider rate increase on January 1, 2024.

Amendment No.

35

Committee Narrative

Opioid Restitution Fund (ORF) Revenues and Expenditures: The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has reported a schedule of payments into the ORF and to local jurisdictions in fiscal 2023 resulting from the Janssen and Distributors lawsuit settlement. The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has also published a full schedule and table of distributed funds across jurisdictions for this specific settlement. However, there are several other lawsuits that have been settled, including the McKinsey & Company and Purdue Pharma lawsuits for which there are records of contribution to the ORF, including in information published by OAG. Therefore, the committees request that the MDH submit a report including the following:

- a summary history of settlements that have contributed to the ORF since its institution in 2019 and a schedule of settlement funds received and anticipated separately by settlement and fiscal year;

M00A01

- a breakdown of settlement fund distribution across local and State governments separately by settlement and fiscal year;
- how ORF funds, if any, were used by State agencies in fiscal 2019 through 2022. This description should include the program and subprogram where the described expenditures occurred; and
- actual and projected closing fund balances for fiscal 2022 through 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ORF revenues and expenditures	MDH	October 1, 2023

Security Attendant Training: The committees are interested in learning more about changes in the training provided to security attendants. The committees request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit a report on changes in training for security attendants, including:

- information on the types of training options provided for security attendants, any differences in the training options by types of curriculum, and reasons for any changes in training options in recent years;
- how many individuals select each training option;
- impacts of the differences in training on roles as a security attendant (if any); and
- the number of security attendants by facility MDH plans to hire in fiscal 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on correctional training for security attendants	MDH	July 1, 2023

M00A01

Budget Amendments

Office of the Secretary

M00A01.07 MDH Hospital System

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of hospital administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits a report on the number of applications and admissions for chronic care hospitals and the Holly Center, including the following information:

- (1) the number of applicants, by program, service line, and facility separately by year since calendar 2017;
- (2) the number of these applicants, by program, service line, and facility who were ultimately admitted to these facilities separately by year since calendar 2017;
- (3) for applicants not admitted, the top reasons for failure to admit, by program, service line, and facility, separately by year since calendar 2017;
- (4) efforts being made by MDH, if any, to increase program participation and number of applicants into programs at these facilities;
- (5) overall licensed bed capacity by program, service line, and facility annually and separately by year since calendar 2017; and
- (6) average daily staffed bed capacity by program, service line, and facility separately by year since calendar 2017.

The report shall be submitted by August 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purposes and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The committees are interested in the number of applicants seeking admission into either of the State's chronic care hospitals at Deer's Head Hospital Center (DHHC) and Western Maryland Hospital Center (WMHC) as well as the Holly Center. In particular, the committees are interested in the share of applicants to these facilities that ultimately receive services, the extent to which outstanding need exists for these services, and what efforts can be made to increase service utilization. Committee narrative in the 2022 Joint Chairmen's Report requested a report on this information, which was due on July 1, 2022. As of February 13, 2023, this report had not been submitted. This language restricts funds pending a report on the applications, admissions, and bed capacity for the chronic care hospitals and Holly Center.

M00A01

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on applicants and capacity at WMHC, DHHC, and Holly Center

MDH

August 1, 2023

Amendment No.

36

M00B0103
Office of Health Care Quality
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

REGULATORY SERVICES

M00B01.03 Office of Health Care Quality

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>
1. Reduce general funds and federal funds to reflect an increase in the budgeted turnover rate for existing positions from 0% to 7%.	-1,229,405 GF -530,325 FF
 Total Change	 -1,759,730

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>
Position	250.00	250.00	
General Fund	23,770,861	22,541,456	-1,229,405
Special Fund	620,245	620,245	0
Federal Fund	9,633,719	9,103,394	-530,325
Total Funds	34,024,825	32,265,095	-1,759,730

Amendment No. 37

Committee Narrative

Survey Activities and Reporting Following Ransomware Attack: The December 4, 2021 ransomware attack on the Maryland Department of Health significantly impacted the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) due to employees losing access to the database used to manage survey and certification activities until May 3, 2022. The committees are concerned that OHCQ is delayed in reporting fiscal 2022 actual survey activities through its annual Managing for Results (MFR) submission. Therefore, the committees request that OHCQ provide a status update and timeline for restoring office operations and meeting reporting requirements. This status update should include the fiscal 2022 actual survey data that is reported in OHCQ's annual MFR submission.

M00B0103

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on survey activities following ransomware attack	OHCQ	October 1, 2023

Medication and Diagnosis Reporting in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities: The committees are interested in medication and diagnosis reporting practices in nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Maryland. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit a report on data collection and reporting requirements related to medication and diagnosis. In the report, MDH should:

- review State and federal reporting requirements on diagnosis and medication usage and prescribing in Maryland nursing homes and assisted living facilities;
- provide data gathered by Maryland nursing homes and assisted living facilities on diagnosis and medication usage and prescribing for the latest three calendar years available;
- review statutory and regulatory changes in other states that allow for more transparency related to medication and diagnosis data and reporting in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, including changes to data reporting systems and any other operational changes; and
- offer recommendations for statutory, regulatory, and operational changes that would improve data collection and reporting on medication and diagnosis in Maryland nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on medication and diagnosis reporting in nursing homes and assisted living facilities	MDH	November 1, 2023

M00B0104
Health Professional Boards and Commissions
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

M00B01.04 Health Professionals Boards and Commissions

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$150,000 for the Board of Dental Examiners, made for the purposes of the Health Professional Boards and Commissions, may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report addressing steps being taken to ensure that the Board of Dental Examiners can meet its initial licensing, renewal, and investigation timeliness goals, including information on the specific actions being taken to improve performance in each of these years and, if applicable, revised data covering the fiscal 2018 through 2022 performance for each measure if the prior submitted data is determined to be inaccurate. The report shall be submitted by July 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The Board of Dental Examiners has not been able to meet their established timeliness goals for initial licensing and renewals and investigations over the last five fiscal years. This language restricts funding budgeted for the Board of Dental Examiners until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits a report to the budget committees on the steps being taken to assist the board in reaching their Managing for Results (MFR) goals and corrects any data that may be inaccurate.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the Board of Dental Examiners MFR goals	MDH	July 1, 2023

Amendment No.

38

M00F
Public Health Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

M00F01.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees on public health personnel recruitment and retention. The report shall include:

- (1) an analysis of the causes of public health staffing shortages at the State and local health department (LHD) levels;
- (2) LHD vacancy rates as of June 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023;
- (3) an evaluation of how the State's COVID-19 pandemic response activities impacted recruitment and retention of State and LHD personnel;
- (4) a discussion of salary enhancements, programs, and any other strategies that the department is implementing to recruit and retain public health staff;
- (5) an evaluation of how the department spent COVID-19-related federal funds to expand, recruit, and train the public health workforce, including any performance measures or data collected on how this funding filled vacant slots and improved retention; and
- (6) a discussion of any partnerships or programs with higher education institutions to recruit students and recent graduates to work for the department.

The report shall be submitted by December 15, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The budget committees are concerned by the vacancy rate in the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), specifically the vacancies among the public health workforce both at the State and local levels. This language restricts funding until MDH submits a report with data on MDH and LHD staffing levels and evaluations of how recent salary adjustments and COVID-19-related federal funds to strengthen the public health workforce have worked in filling vacant positions and improving retention, among other information.

M00F

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on public health personnel recruitment and retention	MDH	December 15, 2023

Amendment No.

39

Committee Narrative

Report on the Public Health Services Data Modernization Project: The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has funding for a new Public Health Services Data Modernization Project. MDH has said that the project will focus on delivering data-related initiatives that result in more relevant, accurate, timely, and efficient data to support the needs of day-to-day public health practice across four domains of health information system assessment; data exchange and interoperability; data governance; and data analytics, visualization, and reporting. As of this writing, additional details have not been submitted regarding the scope, timeline, and schedule for the project. Therefore, the committees request that MDH prepare an update on the project implementation, including:

- project objectives and goals;
- specifications of the project, such as intended product, output, functionality, and anticipated benefits;
- project timeline with major milestones; and
- intended users of the system, identifying MDH agencies and types of roles who will engage with the system.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the Public Health Services Data Modernization Project	MDH	August 1, 2023

M00F03
Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Committee Narrative

M00F03.01 Infectious Disease and Environmental Health Services

Operating Costs of Mobile COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics and Missions: The committees are interested in receiving information regarding the cost of contracting with third-party vendors – excluding State-affiliated, county, and local partners – for mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinics and missions to improve vaccine uptake. This information was also requested in the 2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report; however, a report had not been submitted as of February 8, 2023. The committees request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit a report to the committees and the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee on operating costs for vaccine clinics and missions held in calendar 2021, 2022, and 2023 year to date, including:

- the cost per mobile vaccine clinic/mission operated by third-party nongovernmental vendors in each calendar year, including costs by fund type, available federal fund sources used to support these vaccination efforts, and costs broken out by use of funds (such as personnel, vaccine supplies, transportation, contractual services, and any other costs); and
- the cost per COVID-19 vaccine dose administered at a mobile vaccine clinic/mission operated by third-party nongovernmental vendors by fund type.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinics and missions	MDH	August 1, 2023

Ready Reserve for Laboratory Testing: The committees requested in the 2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit a report regarding the State’s readiness to scale up laboratory testing in response to new COVID-19 variants and surges as well as potential other pandemics, disease outbreaks, or bioterrorism attacks. As of February 8, 2023, MDH had not provided a report. Therefore, the committees request that MDH submit a report on the feasibility of establishing a ready reserve of Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment licensed laboratories in the State, including how laboratories would maintain the following resources:

- laboratory testing equipment and facilities; and

M00F03

- laboratory personnel, including but not limited to, full- or part-time staff and on-call staff who periodically train, practice, and participate in drills and exercises to rapidly respond to emergencies that require a surge in clinical laboratory testing.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on ready reserve for laboratory testing	MDH	August 1, 2023

M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services

Medicaid Claiming in School-based Health Centers (SBHC): The committees are concerned that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) identified multiple structural barriers preventing SBHCs from successfully billing Medicaid for somatic and behavioral health services provided to students. Therefore, the committees request that MDH submit a report on Medicaid claims for SBHCs and SBHC grant allocations. The report should include:

- an analysis of Medicaid claims for SBHC services in calendar 2021, 2022, and 2023 year to date, including the number of SBHCs that bill through Medicaid;
- efforts by MDH to expand Medicaid claiming for SBHC services and specific program changes or activities that have limited the impact of barriers for SBHCs billing Medicaid;
- fiscal 2023 and 2024 SBHC grant allocations by jurisdiction and by use, specifying how many new SBHCs were established with grant funding in both fiscal years; and
- the number of SBHCs operating as of July 1, 2023, by jurisdiction.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Medicaid claiming in SBHCs	MDH	October 1, 2023

M00F05
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
Maryland Department of Health

Committee Narrative

M00F05.01 Post Mortem Examining Services

Report on Status of Accreditation and Autopsy Backlog: The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) holds full accreditation from the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) through May 2023. As of January 2023, OCME is in violation of NAME’s standard for a maximum medical examiner (ME) to caseload ratio of 325 autopsies per year, which puts maintaining OCME’s full accreditation in jeopardy. While not mandatory to conduct medical examinations, being accredited by NAME improves the public’s trust that the office is performing its work in a proper environment and limits questions about the validity of MEs’ findings at trials. Therefore, the committees request that OCME prepare a report with an update on its caseload to ME ratio and the office’s accreditation status as of July 15, 2023. The report should include:

- the outcome of NAME’s inspection, if it has taken place by the time of report deadline, or anticipated inspection date;
- the steps OCME has taken or plans to take to address the Phase II violation related to the high caseload ratio;
- the current ME to caseload ratio;
- the number of vacant ME positions; and
- an updated recruitment and retention strategy.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on status of accreditation and autopsy backlog	OCME	August 30, 2023

M00L
Behavioral Health Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

M00L01.01 Program Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of executive direction may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees on the recoupment of overpayments and forgiveness of overpayments to providers. The report shall be submitted by January 14, 2024, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The nearly eight-month estimated payments period required due to the failed launch of the new Administrative Services Organization resulted in overpayments to providers originally estimated to be \$360 million. The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has been managing the ongoing recoupment and forgiveness to providers for these overpayments, and the remaining balance to be recouped stands at \$112 million. MDH plans to complete recoupment in December 2023. This language restricts funding pending a report on the closeout status of recoupment and timeline data of total amount recouped per month for the full recoupment period lasting August 2020 through December 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on provider overpayment recoupment and forgiveness	MDH	January 14, 2024

Amendment No.

40

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of executive direction may not be expended until the Behavioral Health Administration submits statewide data on telebehavioral health utilization in the Public Behavioral Health System. The data shall be submitted with the Managing for Results (MFR) submission for the fiscal 2025 budget, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the MFR submission to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by

M00L

budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Telebehavioral health utilization in rural areas saw notable increases during the pandemic. In order to form a clearer picture of telebehavioral health service needs across the State, the budget committees included committee narrative in the 2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report requesting that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Behavioral Health Administration submit expanded MFR data for statewide utilization of telebehavioral health services. This language restricts funding pending the submission of statewide data on telebehavioral health utilization across the State.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Statewide telebehavioral health utilization	MDH	With the submission of the fiscal 2025 MFR data

Amendment No. **41**

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of program direction may not be expended until the Behavioral Health Administration submits a report to the budget committees on patient access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in the Public Behavioral Health System. The report should include detail on the prevalence of MAT providers by jurisdiction and a discussion of barriers to the access or further availability of MAT for individuals with substance use disorders. The report shall be submitted by September 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in information on the availability and prevalence of MAT statewide as well as any barriers to access to MAT. This language restricts funding pending a report on the prevalence of MAT providers by jurisdiction and any barriers to access.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Availability of access to MAT	Behavioral Health Administration	September 1, 2023

Amendment No. **42**

M00L

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of program direction may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits the report required under Section 7.5-209 of the Health-General Article on behavioral health services data for children and young adults that was due on December 1, 2022. The report shall be submitted by July 1, 2023, to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The committees are concerned that required data reports on children’s behavioral health services have not been submitted since 2019. This language restricts funding pending a report and submission of the report that was due on December 1, 2022, as required by Section 7.5-209 Health-General, on behavioral health services data for children and young adults.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual report on behavioral health services for children	BHA	July 1, 2023

Amendment No.

43

Committee Narrative

Provider Reimbursement Data: The committees are interested in better understanding the spending on provider reimbursements by service type for spending outside of the Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements program. The committees request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) provide reports including data on provider reimbursements by service type separately for provider reimbursement spending in M00L01.02 (Community Services) and M00L01.03 (Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients). The reports should include data through September 1 for the first report, December 31 for the second report, and March 31 for the third report. The data should be provided for fiscal 2024 and the same period for the two prior fiscal years. The first report should also include final fiscal 2023 data by service type separately for M00L01.02 and M00L01.03 along with the data for the prior two fiscal years.

M00L

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Non-Medicaid provider reimbursement	MDH	September 30, 2023 January 20, 2024 April 20, 2024

Budget Amendments

M00L01.02 Community Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Provided that these funds are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to programs M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts the entire appropriation for substance use disorder treatment, uninsured treatment, or other community service grants for that purpose or for provider reimbursements in M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements.

Amendment No.

44

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$70,000,000 of this appropriation for infrastructure investments may only be expended for one-time investments. Further provided that \$1,800,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of infrastructure improvements may be expended only for renovation and expansion of existing hospital services at Brook Lane Hospital to improve access to care of youth in need of inpatient hospitalization. Funds not expended for one-time infrastructure investments including for renovation and expansion of existing hospital services at Brook Lane Hospital may not be expended for any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This action restricts the use of the behavioral health infrastructure investments to one-time purposes. This action also specifically restricts \$1.8 million of these funds to be used for renovation and expansion of existing hospital services at Brook Lane Hospital.

Amendment No.

45

M00L

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$50,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of behavioral health investments may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees outlining specific one-time programmatic uses and corresponding allocations of the funds. The report should include details on how the one-time funds will be used to achieve the department's goals for behavioral health improvements. The report shall be submitted by July 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purposes and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The fiscal 2024 budget includes funding for unspecified behavioral health investments. The General Assembly is interested in understanding the use of this funding. This language restricts a portion of the funding for behavioral health investments pending submission of a report on the planned uses of the funds.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Planned uses of funding for behavioral health investments	Maryland Department of Health	July 1, 2023

Amendment No.

46

M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Provided that these funds are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to programs M00L01.02 Community Services or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts the entire appropriation for Medicaid State Funded Mental Health Services for that purpose or for provider reimbursements in M00L01.02 Community Services or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements.

Amendment No.

47

M00M
Developmental Disabilities Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

M00M01.01 Program Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees on the status of the people served by the Developmental Disabilities Administration’s (DDA) Community Services program who were enrolled in a DDA Medicaid waiver program. The report should include:

- (1) the number of individuals served in the Community Services program;
- (2) the number of those enrolled in the DDA waiver program separately by waiver;
- (3) the percentage of individuals served through DDA waivers;
- (4) a comparison of the fiscal 2024 Managing for Results data as submitted with the budget and any revised data showing changes to the total number of individuals served and the numbers enrolled in waivers, including explanations for the difference; and
- (5) a discussion of how the data is expected to be submitted going forward to ensure an accurate count.

Explanation: The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) reported that the Managing for Results (MFR) data that was provided to the Department of Legislative Services was incorrect and subsequently provided revised data. The committees remain interested in the status of individuals served across DDA’s waiver programs as well as the accuracy of the data provided. This language would restrict \$100,000 until MDH submits a report discussing the program and reconciles the data initially provided with any revised data.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on updated MFR data related to the community services waiver program	MDH	July 1, 2023

Amendment No.

48

M00M

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that since the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$100,000 of this agency's administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) DDA has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2022; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2024.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee has requested that budget bill language be added for each unit of State government that has four or more repeat audit findings in its most recent fiscal compliance audit. Each agency is to have a portion of its administrative budget withheld pending the adoption of corrective action by the agency, and a determination by OLA that each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit a report to the budget committees on the status of repeat findings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of corrective actions related to the most recent fiscal compliance audit	OLA	45 days before the release of funds

Amendment No.

49

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits a report each quarter to the budget committees regarding the ongoing transition to a fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursement system and spending forecasts for the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Community Services program transitions. The report shall include:

- (1) a timeline for forecasting general fund spending in the Community Services program based on actual utilization and reimbursement billed through the Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) system following the transition to an FFS model, including a discussion of how the spending will be forecast during the transition period;

M00M

- (2) utilization by service type, including the number of claims and claims spending in LTSS to support the general fund forecasting;
- (3) if available, MDH spending forecasts by year;
- (4) the number of individuals receiving DDA-funded services and providers transitioned to the LTSS system, including the timing of the transition including those transitioned in fiscal 2024 to date;
- (5) a cost analysis of the rates paid to providers that were transitioned to the LTSS system as part of the LTSS pilot program and how DDA's reimbursements compare to estimated payments that would have been made under the prospective payment model;
- (6) a breakdown of providers transitioned to LTSS by size of provider; and
- (7) an updated timeline for transition of individuals and providers to the LTSS system.

The reports shall be submitted quarterly, \$250,000 may be available to be released following the submission of each report, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of each report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending receipt of these reports may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: DDA is overhauling its Community Services system by implementing new service definitions, establishing new rates based on an FFS reimbursement model, and transitioning to Medicaid's existing LTSS system for billing and service authorization. These changes should improve DDA's data collection and spending forecast abilities compared to the current prospective payment model. This language restricts funds budgeted for administration until MDH submits quarterly reports to the budget committees on the transition to the system and spending forecasts following the transition to a new rate structure.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Community Services utilization data collection and spending forecasts	MDH	July 1, 2023 October 1, 2023 January 1, 2024 April 1, 2024

Amendment No.

50

M00M

M00M01.02 Community Services

Add the following language:

All appropriations provided for program M00M01.02 Community Services are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any other program or purpose.

Explanation: The Maryland Department of Health has previously reported increasing net general fund transfers out of the Developmental Disabilities Administration Community Services program, mainly to cover shortfalls elsewhere in the department. This annual language restricts funds appropriated to the Community Services program to that use only and prevents budgetary transfers.

Amendment No. **51**

Add the following language:

, provided that no funds in the Community Services program may be expended for the purpose of transitioning additional providers into the Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) system until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits a report to the budget committees detailing the number of providers and participants to be transitioned in fiscal 2024 and the estimated increase in payments to the providers if any forecast as a result of the transition to LTSS. MDH shall certify in the report that adequate funds are included in the fiscal 2024 budget to cover the expected increase in provider payments from the transition planned during the fiscal year. This report should include transition dates and expected costs by service type. The report shall be submitted by July 1, 2023.

Explanation: The budget committees continue to be concerned about the costs associated with the transition to LTSS and the timeline for transition. This language restricts funds in the Community Services program for the purpose of transitioning new providers into the LTSS system until a report has been submitted detailing the providers and participants to be transitioned in fiscal 2024 and the estimated increase in payments to providers.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the transition and cost of providers and participants transitioned to the LTSS system	MDH	July 1, 2023

Amendment No. **52**

M00Q01
Medical Care Programs Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

M00Q01.01 Deputy Secretary for Health Care Financing

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Office of the Deputy Secretary for Health Care Financing may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits quarterly reports on the Medicaid and Maryland Children’s Health Program eligibility redetermination process that will resume on April 1, 2023. Each report shall include the following data on a monthly basis and divided by eligibility category:

- (1) the number of eligibility renewals initiated;
- (2) the number of new individuals enrolled;
- (3) the number of individuals enrolled who received medical assistance and were subsequently disenrolled any time in the six months prior to reenrolling;
- (4) the number of individuals disenrolled along with the number disenrolled by reason for disenrollment, identifying disenrollments due to failure to apply for recertification, missing information/verifications, overscaled income, aging out of a Medicaid eligibility category, and other common reasons for disenrollment;
- (5) call center volume, average wait times, and any other data related to call center activities that are required to be submitted to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and
- (6) measures of application processing times and total numbers of applications processed for Modified Adjusted Gross Income eligibility groups and non-Modified Adjusted Gross Income eligibility groups shown separately.

The first report shall be submitted by July 15, 2023, and the other reports shall be submitted quarterly thereafter. The funds may be released in \$250,000 increments following the submission of each quarterly report. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of each report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the reports are not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds budgeted for administrative purposes until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits quarterly reports with data and status updates related to the Medicaid and Maryland Children’s Health Program eligibility redetermination process.

M00Q01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly reports on Medicaid and Maryland Children's Health Program eligibility redetermination	MDH	July 15, 2023 October 15, 2023 January 15, 2024 April 15, 2024

Amendment No.

53

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Office of the Deputy Secretary for Health Care Financing may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Medical Care Programs Administration submits a report, in consultation with the MDH Behavioral Health Administration and MDH Developmental Disabilities Administration, on current Medicaid rates, rate enhancements, and rate-setting studies. The report shall include the following information for each provider type:

- (1) a timeline for when the current rate structure and rates were determined;
- (2) the method for determining and establishing the current rate structure and rates, including whether a rate-setting study was conducted (and if not, the reason for a rate-setting study not being conducted), and a discussion of how actual provider expenditures were taken into account in setting rates;
- (3) a summary of recent rate increases and enhancements;
- (4) the status of any ongoing rate-setting studies and plans for future rate-setting studies; and
- (5) a description of any federal requirements affecting the rate structure, such as whether rates must be actuarially sound, must cover certain costs, or cannot differ across certain service types, geographic locations, or provider types.

The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds budgeted for administrative purposes until MDH submits a report on current Medicaid rate structures and rate-setting studies. The report shall provide information on rates for all provider types funded through the Medical Care Programs Administration (Medicaid), Behavioral Health Administration (BHA), and Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) separately, including disaggregating provider types within

M00Q01

each administration. Language in the fiscal 2023 Budget Bill also restricted funds pending the submission of a report on Medicaid rates and rate-setting studies, but MDH had not provided the requested report as of February 20, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Medicaid rates and rate-setting studies	Medicaid BHA DDA	October 1, 2023

Amendment No.

54

M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements

Add the following language:

Provided that all appropriations provided for program M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to program M00Q01.07 Maryland Children’s Health Program. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This budget language restricts funding for Medical Care Provider Reimbursements to that purpose only and prevents budgetary transfers to any program except M00Q01.07 Maryland Children’s Health Program.

Amendment No.

55

M00Q01

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	
1. Reduce general funds within the Medicaid program and authorize a budget amendment to be processed to replace these funds with special funds in recognition of available Cigarette Restitution Fund (CRF) support. This reduction in the CRF balance would maintain an estimated fiscal 2024 closing balance of \$4.2 million.	-15,000,000	GF
2. Reduce funding for Medicaid reimbursements based on reduced enrollment and hospital services spending expectations.	-115,000,000	GF
	-45,000,000	FF
 Total Change	 -175,000,000	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>
General Fund	4,151,018,544	4,021,018,544	-130,000,000
Special Fund	695,166,487	695,166,487	0
Federal Fund	6,955,945,003	6,910,945,003	-45,000,000
Total Funds	11,802,130,034	11,627,130,034	-175,000,000

Amendment No.

56

Committee Narrative

Community First Choice (CFC) Program and Home- and Community-based Options (Community Options) Waiver Financial and Registry Data: Recent efforts to expand home- and community-based services have led to significant increases in CFC program expenditures, including spending under the Community Options waiver. The committees request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit two reports on CFC program spending. The reports should include monthly enrollment, utilization, and cost data that aligns with actual budget expenditures under the CFC program, and the initial report should include data that reconciles to actual spending in fiscal 2022 and 2023. Each report should also provide:

- the number of Community Options waiver slots filled in fiscal 2023 and fiscal 2024 year to date;

M00Q01

- the number of Community Options waiver applications sent to individuals on the registry each month and the results of that outreach (including the number of applications returned and processed);
- updates on changes to registry operations to improve efficiency in taking individuals off of the registry and efforts to determine financial and medical eligibility for individuals while they remain on the registry;
- the number of individuals on the Community Options waiver registry; and
- an update on any activities or efforts to implement the plan to reduce the Community Options waiver registry by 50% submitted to the General Assembly in February 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on CFC program and Community Options waiver financial and registry data	MDH	August 1, 2023 December 1, 2023

Rate Adjustments for Dental Services under the Medical Assistance (Medicaid) Program:

The committees are interested in the Maryland Department of Health's (MDH) implementation of a reimbursement rate increase for dental services covered under Medicaid in fiscal 2023. The committees request that MDH submit a report by December 1, 2023, that includes:

- the percentage increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates for dental services overall and by service type budgeted in fiscal 2023 over fiscal 2022 dental rates and fiscal 2024 over fiscal 2023 dental rates;
- a comparison of fiscal 2024 Medicaid dental rates and commercial insurance rates for dental services in Maryland;
- a comparison of fiscal 2023 and 2024 rate increases for Medicaid dental services and recent rate increases for other Medicaid medical services; and
- additional adjustments to Medicaid dental rates that would need to be considered as part of the implementation of a permanent adult dental services benefit under the Medicaid program.

This report was also requested in the 2022 Joint Chairmen's Report, but as of February 20, 2023, MDH had not submitted a report.

M00Q01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on reimbursement rates for dental services under Medicaid	MDH	December 1, 2023

Employed Individuals with Disabilities (EID) Program Eligibility Requirements: The EID Program, also known as the Medicaid Buy-in, extends medical assistance to working Marylanders with disabilities. Individuals ages 18 to 64 are eligible if they meet certain work and income requirements, with the income of the individual's spouse included in eligibility determination. The fiscal 2023 budget included \$4.6 million to expand EID Program eligibility by removing the current income threshold of 300% of federal poverty guidelines and allowing both the income of an individual and individual's spouse to be disregarded during the eligibility determination process. Considering the eligibility expansion, the committees request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit a report on the EID Program including:

- the actual EID Program enrollment in fiscal 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 year to date, noting the number of participants enrolling and remaining enrolled in the program due to recent eligibility expansion and the number of participants by age grouping including 18 to 59 and 60 and older;
- the actual number of EID Program participants who were disenrolled and applicants who were denied due to turning 65 years old, not meeting maximum age requirements, surpassing the income eligibility threshold, and surpassing the asset threshold, reported separately by reason and by month in fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024 year to date;
- the actual number of EID Program participants that reported getting married or otherwise updated their income for eligibility determination to include their spouse's income, reported separately by month in fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024 year to date;
- the projected EID Program enrollment in fiscal 2024 for individuals ages 65 and older and ages 16 to 18, if program eligibility were extended to these groups;
- the actual EID Program expenditures in fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024 year to date, with expenditures for eligibility expansion labeled separately;
- the actual EID Program expenditures in fiscal 2023 and projected EID Program expenditures in fiscal 2024, with expenditures for eligibility expansion labeled separately in both years; and
- a timeline and description of how EID Program eligibility was expanded in fiscal 2022 and 2023.

M00Q01

This report was also requested in the 2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report, but as of February 20, 2023, MDH had not submitted a report.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on EID Program eligibility requirements	MDH	January 15, 2024

Home and Community-based Options (Community Options) Waiver Care Plan Backlog:

During the 2023 session, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) reported a backlog in reviewing and approving care plans for the Community Options Waiver. The committees are concerned about the impacts of this backlog on waiver participants and home- and community-based services (HCBS) providers, such as delays in receiving HCBS and increased risk of hospitalization. Therefore, the committees request that MDH submit monthly reports beginning July 1, 2023, on the progress in addressing the outstanding care plan backlog. The report should discuss current efforts underway and recommendations to address the care plan backlog, including the feasibility of allowing medical adult day care center and other HCBS nurses to temporarily review care plans. Additionally, the report should detail the following information by county:

- the average number of days to approve a care plan;
- the total number of pending care plans at the beginning of each month;
- the number of new care plans received in the prior month; and
- the number of care plans approved by the end of the prior month.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the Community Options Waiver care plan backlog	MDH	July 1, 2023, and monthly thereafter

Remote Services Model for Adult Medical Day Care: The committees are interested in understanding the Maryland Department of Health’s (MDH) efforts, in consultation with the Medical Adult Day Care Advisory Committee, to develop a remote services model for medical adult day care clients and centers. Therefore, the committees request that MDH submit a report on the progress in developing the remote services model for medical adult day care and applying for federal approval.

M00Q01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on a remote services model for adult medical day care	MDH	October 1, 2023

Budget Amendments

M00Q01.07 Maryland Children's Health Program

Add the following language:

Provided that all appropriations provided for program M00Q01.07 Maryland Children's Health Program are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to program M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This budget language restricts funding for the Maryland Children's Health Program to that purpose only and prevents budgetary transfers to any program except M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements.

Amendment No.

57

M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Provided that these funds are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to programs M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients or M00L01.02 Community Services. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts the entire appropriation for Medicaid behavioral health provider reimbursements for that purpose or for provider reimbursements in M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Funded Recipients or M00L01.02 Community Services.

Amendment No.

58

M00Q01

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation made for provider reimbursements due to enrollment trends.	-40,000,000 GF
Total Change	-40,000,000

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>
General Fund	778,964,951	738,964,951	-40,000,000
Special Fund	11,114,687	11,114,687	0
Federal Fund	1,365,921,559	1,365,921,559	0
Total Funds	2,156,001,197	2,116,001,197	-40,000,000

Amendment No. **59**

M00R01
Regulatory Commissions
Maryland Department of Health

Committee Narrative

M00R01.02 Health Services Cost Review Commission

Evaluation of the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP): Given the role of MDPCP in transforming care in the State under the Total Cost of Care (TCOC) model, the committees request information on the effectiveness of the program. In particular, this evaluation should focus on cost savings from MDPCP reducing unnecessary utilization or hospitalization for patients participating in MDPCP over the increased expenditures from provider incentives. The evaluation should include reporting on the racial and ethnic diversity of the program, any efforts to improve minority representation in the program, and improve data collection on racial and ethnic diversity of providers. The evaluation should also consider existing disparities in primary care access and ways in which the State can address these disparities. Further, given the anticipated benefits that the outcome-based credits have against MDPCP’s care management fees, the committees are interested in aggregate costs of the care management fees against TCOC, the amount that outcome-based credits have discounted these expenses, and MDPCP’s contribution to the achievement and maximization of the current and future outcome-based credits and other population health goals.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Evaluation of MDPCP	Health Services Cost Review Commission	October 1, 2023

MEMSOF
Maryland Emergency Medical System Operations Fund

Committee Narrative

Report on Potential Revenue Sources: The Maryland Emergency Medical System Operations Fund (MEMSOF), which uses Motor Vehicle Administration registration fees and other revenue sources to support the State’s emergency medical services system, is projected to become insolvent in fiscal 2024. The committees request a report from the fund’s board on potential revenue sources to support MEMSOF in future fiscal years. This report should particularly focus on the feasibility of using revenue associated with the legalization of cannabis in the State to support MEMSOF expenditures.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on potential revenue sources	Emergency Medical Services Board Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems	September 1, 2023

N00A01
Office of the Secretary
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendments

N00A01.01 Office of the Secretary

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the Office of the Secretary may not be expended until the Department of Human Services (DHS) submits a report to the budget committees detailing the department’s efforts to improve oversight of the local department of social services (LDSS) to ensure compliance with State law and regulations and DHS policy as well as improve oversight of procurement processes as included as a repeat finding in the fiscal compliance audit of Local Department Operations released by the Office of Legislative Audits in March 2022. The report shall also detail steps LDSS are taking to resolve repeat audit findings identified in the March 2022 fiscal compliance audit. The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Due to concern over repeat audit findings, the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee has requested language restricting funds until repeat audit findings are resolved. Given the unique nature of the Local Department Operations audit, which reviews DHS Office of Inspector General audit reports on each LDSS, this language represents a modification to the standard language. This language restricts funds within the Office of the Secretary pending information on efforts by the department to improve oversight of LDSS as well as information on the steps taken by LDSS to address the repeat audit findings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on efforts to improve oversight of LDSS	DHS	November 1, 2023

Amendment No.

60

N00B
Social Services Administration
Department of Human Services

Committee Narrative

N00B00.04 General Administration – State

Hospital Stays by Youth in Out-of-home Placements: The committees continue to be concerned about children and youth experiencing stays in emergency rooms or inpatient hospital settings longer than is medically necessary. Data has been requested on hospital stays by youth in out-of-home placement for several years. In an effort to continue to monitor this issue, the committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report that provides for each month of the period October 2022 through September 2023:

- the number of youths in out-of-home placements served in emergency rooms for psychiatric evaluation or crisis and the average length of stay (ALOS) by month;
- the number of youths in out-of-home placement served separately by medical hospitals and inpatient psychiatric hospitals and ALOS by month;
- the number of days that youth in out-of-home placements served in hospitals were in the hospital longer than was deemed medically necessary by either the hospital or a judicial finding separately by type of hospital; and
- the placement type after discharge separately by type of hospital, including identifying the number of youths placed out-of-state after discharge for fiscal 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on hospital stays, average length of stay, and placement after discharge	DHS	December 1, 2023

Implementation of Provisions of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA): The committees are interested in being updated on steps taken to continue efforts to implement evidence-based prevention practices and other services under provisions of the FFPSA and the outcomes of those programs and services for families served through the child welfare system. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report including:

- a list of all evidence-based practices being implemented through fiscal 2023, including data on jurisdiction and number of families or children served during the fiscal year, and any changes planned for evidence-based practices being implemented during fiscal 2024;

N00B

- a discussion of how DHS evaluates these programs, including the outcomes achieved and the effectiveness at preventing occurrences of maltreatment for each program;
- the current number of providers in the State that have received designation as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program to allow for federal reimbursement under the FFPSA, including if any additional providers received this designation during fiscal 2023;
- the status of the approval of the State’s revised Cost Allocation Plan; and
- a description of activities completed and outcomes achieved in fiscal 2023 in relation to the Center for Excellence for Foster Family Development.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Update on the implementation of provisions of the federal FFPSA	DHS	December 15, 2023

Implementation of the New Foster Care Provider Rate Structure: The committees are interested in receiving an update on steps taken during fiscal 2023 and 2024 as part of the development of the new foster care provider rate structure for providers who have rates set by the Interagency Rates Committee. In response to committee narrative included in the 2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report, the Department of Human Services (DHS) indicated that it had fully executed a contract with a vendor for actuarial services and that work on rate revision would begin in fiscal 2023, in preparation for implementation of the new provider rate structure in calendar 2025. The committees request that DHS submit a report on the status of implementation, including the status of any necessary amendments to the State Medicaid Plan to allow for clinical care costs to be eligible for reimbursement, and an update on the implementation timeline.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of implementation of the new provider rate structure	DHS	December 31, 2023

N00E01
Operations Office
Department of Human Services

Committee Narrative

N00E01.01 Division of Budget, Finance, and Personnel

Recruitment and Retention Strategy Update: The Department of Human Services (DHS) is experiencing departmentwide vacancy rates nearly double its vacancy rates from fiscal 2019. Given the agency’s recent adoption of multiple recruitment and retention efforts, the committees request that DHS submit a progress update on the impact of its strategy. The report should include the following information:

- a summary of DHS’ new recruitment marketing strategy, including recommendations from the marketing consultant;
- the status of the update to qualification requirements for the child support specialist job series;
- detail on how the department reallocated savings from higher than budgeted vacancies and how much of these savings were reverted or canceled; and
- a compensation comparison of similar jurisdictions of positions with the highest vacancy rates.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Recruitment and retention strategy update	DHS	November 1, 2023

N00F00
Office of Technology for Human Services
Department of Human Services

Committee Narrative

N00F00.04 General Administration

Report on External Utilization of the Maryland Total Human Services Integrated Network (MD THINK): The Department of Human Services (DHS) began the MD THINK project in fiscal 2017 and, as of December 2022, has completed the transition phase of the project for its department. Other State agencies, including agencies within the Maryland Department of Health, have also transitioned to using MD THINK as their information technology platform. To understand the extent agencies besides DHS could benefit from the new system, the committees request that DHS submit a summary of external agency participation with MD THINK. The report should include:

- list of non-DHS agencies that have transitioned, or plan to transition to, the MD THINK platform;
- implementation timeline for the identified potential transitions agencies, including the transition of the Department of Juvenile Services into the Child, Juvenile, and Adult Management System; and
- cost estimates for the transition phase for each agency.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on external utilization of MD THINK	DHS	September 1, 2023

N00G00
Local Department Operations
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendments

N00G00.01 Foster Care Maintenance Payments

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that these funds are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any other program or purpose. Funds not expended shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This annual language restricts general funds appropriated for foster care maintenance payments to that use only. This restriction prevents a transfer of general funds to other programs that might create or increase a deficit in spending in the Foster Care Maintenance Payments program (N00G00.01).

Amendment No.

61

Committee Narrative

N00G00.02 Local Family Investment Program

Contractual Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Transitioned to State Regular Positions: The Department of Human Services (DHS) used a portion of a three-year Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) administrative grant available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support contractual FTEs to assist in case processing. DHS indicated that those hired as contractual FTEs through this grant would have an opportunity to transition to State regular positions. Through January 6, 2023, DHS reported that 47 contractual FTEs had converted to State regular positions. The SNAP administrative grant funds are expected to be fully utilized by the end of fiscal 2023 and are required under the ARPA to be used by September 30, 2023. The committees are interested in the final number of those that transitioned. The committees request that DHS submit a report detailing the final number of unique contractual FTEs hired under this grant, the number that transitioned to State regular positions as family investment specialists, the number that transitioned to any other regular State regular positions within DHS, the number that left the role without transitioning to a State regular position, and a summary of reasons why those that left this role without transitioning failed to transition.

N00G00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on contractual FTE transitions to State regular positions	DHS	November 1, 2023

Budget Amendments

N00G00.03 Child Welfare Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that these funds are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to program N00G00.01 Foster Care Maintenance Payments. Funds not expended or transferred shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This annual language restricts general funds appropriated for the Child Welfare Services program to that use only or for transfer to N00G00.01 Foster Care Maintenance Payments.

Amendment No.

62

Committee Narrative

Child Welfare Caseload Data: The committees believe that maintaining an adequate child welfare workforce is essential to improving outcomes for children entering the State's care. Therefore, in order to maintain oversight of this important issue, the committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) report to the committees on the number of cases and positions required based on the caseload to meet the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) caseload standards, by jurisdiction, for the following caseload types current within 70 days:

- intake screening;
- child protective investigation;
- consolidated in-home services;
- interagency family preservation services;

N00G00

- services to families with children – intake;
- foster care;
- kinship care;
- family foster care;
- family foster homes – recruitment and new applications;
- family foster homes – ongoing and licensing;
- adoption;
- interstate compact for the placement of children; and
- caseworker supervision.

The committees also request that DHS discuss specific actions taken by the department and local departments of social services to reallocate positions, including the number of positions reallocated by type (caseworker or supervisor) between jurisdictions and identifying the jurisdictions that these positions were transferred from and to, in order to ensure that all jurisdictions can meet the standards for both caseworkers and supervisors. Specifically, DHS should discuss efforts to fill vacant positions in jurisdictions that had shortfalls in caseworker and supervisor positions, including Baltimore and Prince George’s counties, which had the largest shortfalls for caseworker positions among jurisdictions as of September 1, 2022.

In addition to caseload data, the committees also request that the report contain an update on the status of work done by CWLA to implement new workload standards for child welfare and the efforts by DHS to improve recruitment and retention of caseworkers.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on caseload data and filled positions assigned by jurisdiction for specified caseload types	DHS	December 1, 2023

N00G00

Budget Amendments

N00G00.08 Assistance Payments

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that these funds are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any other program or purpose. Funds not expended shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This language restricts the general funds appropriated for Assistance Payments, which support public benefit programs administered by the Department of Human Services, to that use only. This restriction prevents a transfer of general funds to other programs. This language is consistent with actions on other entitlement programs.

Amendment No.

63

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

Funds

1. Reduce funds for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) due to lower anticipated benefit levels. The fiscal 2024 allowance assumes average benefits will increase despite the end of Emergency Allotments, which have increased benefits on average by \$170 per month according to the Department of Human Services. This reduction still provides funding beyond what is currently expected to be required for SNAP benefits to support program needs if caseloads rise and to provide appropriation if needed for the new federal Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer program and Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer benefits that may be issued in fiscal 2024. Federal funds not needed to issue benefits for SNAP are not received from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Total Change -100,000,000

N00G00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>
General Fund	118,997,860	118,997,860	0
Special Fund	15,601,225	15,601,225	0
Federal Fund	2,332,682,531	2,232,682,531	-100,000,000
Total Funds	2,467,281,616	2,367,281,616	-100,000,000

Amendment No.

64

Committee Narrative

Application Processing Times, Denials, and Case Closures: The committees remain interested in tracking the timeliness of application processing as well as reasons for denials and case closures. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit quarterly reports that contain:

- the number of applications processed by benefit type for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Temporary Disability Assistance Program (TDAP) separately by month;
- the average number of days to process applications by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, and TDAP separately by month;
- the percentage of applications processed in 0 to 30 days, 31 to 45 days, and longer than 45 days by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, and TDAP separately by month of application;
- the number and percentage of applications denied by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, and TDAP separately by month;
- the number and percentage of applications denied by reason for denial and by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, and TDAP separately by month;
- the number of case closures by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, and TDAP separately by month; and
- the reasons for case closure by benefit type for TCA, TDAP, and SNAP separately by month.

N00G00

The first report should include data for May through July 2023, and each subsequent report should provide data for the appropriate quarter.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
TCA, TDAP, and SNAP applications and case closures	DHS	September 29, 2023 December 29, 2023 March 29, 2024 June 30, 2024

Summer Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): Chapters 635 and 636 of 2019 created a supplemental benefit for children receiving the Summer SNAP in jurisdictions that chose to implement the program. The program began in fiscal 2021. The committees are interested in continuing to monitor the operation of the program and understanding how it may align or duplicate the new nationwide Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) program expected to begin in 2024. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) provide two reports with the following information:

- the number of children served by participating jurisdiction;
- the benefit level provided by jurisdiction;
- the number of children in participating jurisdictions that are not able to receive benefits due to insufficient funding by jurisdiction; and
- participation rates by jurisdiction.

In addition, the first report should also provide information on the number of jurisdictions that applied for the program funding; how the determination for funding was made by jurisdiction; the total funding available for benefits, including the local match by jurisdiction and any funding provided by jurisdictions beyond the amount required; and how jurisdictions determined which children would receive the benefit. The first report should also address efforts to implement the new nationwide Summer EBT program, including how or whether the State's Summer SNAP will align or duplicate the new program.

The first report should cover the summer portion of the program (June, July, and August 2023), while the second report should cover the winter portion of the program (December 2023).

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Children receiving benefits through the Summer SNAP for Children Act	DHS	October 1, 2023 March 1, 2024

N00G00

Identifying Spending on Separate Benefit Programs: The committees continue to be interested in understanding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program spending separately from federal supplemental benefits. Although the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program is expected to end with the 2022-2023 school year and summer 2023 program, a new nationwide Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) program is expected to begin in 2024. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) separately identify in subprogram detail spending related to the P-EBT program in the fiscal 2023 actual and, to the extent applicable, the fiscal 2024 working appropriation. The committees also request that DHS and DBM separately identify in subprogram detail spending related to the Summer EBT program beginning in the budget submission for fiscal 2025 (including any funding required for fiscal 2024).

Information Request	Author	Due Date
P-EBT and Summer EBT costs	DHS DBM	With the submission of the fiscal 2025 allowance and annually thereafter

N00H00
Child Support Administration
Department of Human Services

Committee Narrative

Child Support Performance Reports: The federal government evaluates states' performance against five measures to determine federal incentive payments: paternity establishment; support order establishment; collections on current support; cases paying toward arrears; and cost effectiveness. Recent data from the Department of Human Services (DHS) Child Support Administration (CSA) shows that the agency is falling behind the federal performance goals in each of the five areas. Considering CSA's recent transition of its primary data system, the Child Support Management System (CSMS), to make its agency's processes and tasks more efficient, the committees are interested to understand how this new system is helping CSA achieve its performance goals.

The committees request that DHS submit three reports on performance using data as of June 30, 2023; September 30, 2023; and December 31, 2023. Each report should include the following:

- a discussion of factors affecting performance in the quarter;
- the State's aggregate performance set against the five performance measures used to determine federal incentive payments;
- each jurisdiction's performance set against the five performance measures used to determine federal incentive payments;
- the number of cases in each jurisdiction in the quarter;
- specific tasks related to each of the five performance measures that are streamlined, made more efficient, or made more complicated by the new CSMS; and
- the number of staff in each jurisdiction who have been trained and those who have yet to be trained in the new CSMS.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Child support performance reports	DHS	August 15, 2023 November 15, 2023 February 15, 2024

N00I00
Family Investment Administration
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendments

N00I00.04 Director's Office

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that since the Department of Human Services (DHS) Family Investment Administration has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$100,000 of this agency's administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) DHS has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2023; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2024.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee has requested that budget bill language be added for each unit of State government that has four or more repeat audit findings in its most recent fiscal compliance audit. Each agency is to have a portion of its administrative budget withheld pending the adoption of corrective action by the agency and a determination by OLA that each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit a report to the budget committees on the status of the repeat findings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of corrective actions related to the most recent fiscal compliance audit	OLA	45 days before the release of funds

Amendment No.

65

N00I00

Committee Narrative

N00I00.06 Office of Home Energy Programs

Energy Assistance Application Processing Times and Denial Rates: The committees are interested in continuing to monitor energy assistance application processing times by local administering agencies (LAA) and overall program denial rates. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) provide by LAAs:

- the number of applications received;
- the average number of days to process an applications; and
- the number and percentage of applications processed within 30 days, 55 days, and longer than 60 days.

The report should also note any changes in application processing times occurring during fiscal 2024 due to the transition of the administration of programs from LAAs to local departments of social services as part of efforts to implement a unified administrative model for categorical eligibility determinations for energy assistance programs.

In addition, the committees request that DHS provide application denial rates separately by benefit type as well as the share of application denials by reason separately by benefit type. Data should also include the number of applications initially denied due to incomplete information that were subsequently cured due to applicants providing missing information within the additional three months, as allowed for under Chapters 638 and 639 of 2021. Fiscal 2023 end-of-year actual data for denial rates should be included in the report as well as fiscal 2024 data current through November 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Application processing times and denial rates	DHS	December 31, 2023

Implementation of Categorical Eligibility for Energy Assistance Programs: The committees are interested in continuing to be updated on administrative changes to energy assistance programs and request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report providing an update on the status of the implementation of categorical eligibility for energy assistance. The DHS Office of Home Energy Programs (OHEP) has begun to take necessary steps to implement categorical eligibility to reduce administrative costs, simplify the application process, and reduce denial rates, and previously indicated that key changes would be implemented prior to July 1, 2023, including:

N00I00

- integration of the OHEP Data Management System with DHS’s new Enrollment and Eligibility system; and
- establishment of a centralized administrative model through local departments of social services (LDSS) for energy assistance programs.

The report should include an update on the status of these items, in addition to updates on the following:

- the status of an amendment to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program State model plan reflecting the option for qualifying applications for the Maryland Energy Assistance Program through this mechanism, and the status of any legislation enacted during the 2023 session amending the State’s Electric Universal Services Program (EUSP) statute to reflect the option for qualifying applications to the EUSP program through this mechanism;
- the role that non-LDSS local administering agencies have provided during the transition period and will continue to provide in the areas of outreach and other assistance following the transition of program administration to the LDSS model; and
- estimated budgetary impacts of the implementation of categorical eligibility, including actual or estimated cost savings for program administration resulting from a centralized administrative model and estimated cost changes due to any changes in program eligibility enacted for the fiscal 2024 program year.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the status of the implementation of categorical eligibility and other administrative changes	DHS	December 1, 2023

P00
Maryland Department of Labor

Budget Amendments

P00A01.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

. provided that since the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) on November 15, 2022, \$100,000 of this agency’s administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) MDL has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2023; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2024.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee has requested that budget bill language be added for each unit of State government that has four or more repeat audit findings in its most recent fiscal compliance audit. Each agency is to have a portion of its administrative budget withheld pending the adoption of corrective action by the agency and a determination by OLA that each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit a report to the budget committees on the status of repeat findings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of corrective actions related to the MDL Division of Unemployment Insurance – Part 2 audit	OLA	45 days before the release of funds

Amendment No.

66

Committee Narrative

Four-day Workweek: The committees are interested in the feasibility of creating a four-day workweek program in the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL). MDL should study the structure of four-day workweek programs and the potential impact on employers and report the findings to the committee. The report should include:

P00

- a study of existing four-day workweek programs, including those established internationally;
- an analysis of potential incentives that could be provided to employers;
- the potential impact of a four-day workweek program on employers; and
- any resources MDL would require to enable the agency to provide assistance to employers under a four-day workweek program.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on implementing a four-day workweek program	MDL	November 1, 2023

Budget Amendments

P00F01.01 Occupational and Professional Licensing

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$2,793,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Electronic Licensing Modernization information technology project may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Labor submits a report to the budget committees documenting the plans to implement the project, including details on the program requirements and intended capabilities of the system, the vendor selection process, a breakdown of the project costs, and an implementation timeline. The report shall be submitted by August 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The language restricts funding for the Electronic Licensing Modernization (ELMo) project until the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL) submits an implementation plan for the project, including details on the project requirements, vendor selection process, costs, and timeline.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the ELMo project	MDL	August 1, 2023

Amendment No.

67

Q00A
Administration and Offices
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Committee Narrative

Q00A01.01 General Administration

Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) Report: The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by December 1, 2023, on the following items:

- annual updates on the number of offenders petitioning and approved for the JRA provisions including, but not limited to, administrative release, medical/geriatric parole, certificates of rehabilitation, and graduated sanctions;
- the number of offenders affected by the JRA diminution and earned compliance credit rules; and
- annual JRA cost savings updates along with any efforts/initiatives to increase savings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
JRA report	DPSCS	December 1, 2023

Report on Recidivism: The committees are interested in the impact of incarceration on the future outcomes of returning offenders. The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by November 15, 2023, on the following:

- three-year recidivism numbers for the fiscal 2016 through 2020 release cohorts; and
- an analysis of recent recidivism trends, including a comparison to past years and a comparison to other states.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Recidivism report	DPSCS	November 15, 2023

Report on Contraband: The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by October 15, 2023, on overall trends in contraband finds, including:

Q00A

- an analysis of trends in contraband finds using data from at least three fiscal years;
- a review of recent changes to contraband detection, including a discussion of funding initiatives; and
- an analysis of personnel in the Canine Unit, including the impact of vacancies on the ability to carry out tactical contraband searches.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Contraband report	DPSCS	October 15, 2023

Report on Major Information Technology Development Projects (MITDP): The committees are concerned with the frequent delays, vendor quality concerns, and lack of progress on completing critical MITDPs. The committees request a report, due September 15, 2023, providing an update on each MITDP, including major milestones reached, cost changes, timeline changes, and an explanation of issues.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MITDP report	Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services	September 15, 2023

Correctional Program Participation Measures: The committees are concerned that there is little information available to track the participation of offenders in the various programs, services, and opportunities available to them. The availability of programs and services was reduced during COVID-19, and there was little opportunity for the committees to review the effect that this had on offender rehabilitative efforts. With the goal of tracking and encouraging participation, the committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) work to determine which program and service statistics could feasibly be translated into participation measures reported annually for each facility. The potential measures should include, but not be limited to, the categories and applicable activities inspected during Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards audits. DPSCS should provide the report on these participation measures by August 20, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Correctional program participation measures	DPSCS	August 20, 2023

Q00B
Corrections
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

Q00B01.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of General Administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a report on the numerical hiring goals to the budget committees. The report shall include an analysis of the 2022 staffing study submitted to the General Assembly that identifies major concerns, limitations, and takeaways from the study. The report shall also identify and explain numerical hiring goals for correctional officers, community supervision agents, and administrative personnel for fiscal 2024. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than July 15, 2023. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Since fiscal 2015, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has struggled to maintain staffing levels in facilities and across departmental functions. A preliminary staffing analysis suggested that DPSCS facilities are understaffed and in need of additional funded positions. This report will require the incoming administration to review the results of the staffing analysis and provide the budget committees with numerical goals to better track hiring performance.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Numerical hiring goals	DPSCS	July 15, 2023

Amendment No. **68**

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of General Administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits the second of four quarterly hiring and attrition reports to the budget committees. The reports shall include a breakdown of all hires and separations for each of the 3 months in question by category of employee (correctional officer, community supervision agent, or administrative employee) and by reason for separation. The report shall also include narrative summarizing all hiring events and changes to the hiring process that

Q00B

occurred during the quarter; the quantity, type, and cost of bonuses disbursed; as well as overall applications received, tested, and interviewed. The first quarterly report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than October 25, 2023, and the second report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than January 25, 2024. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the second quarterly report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Hiring within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has declined again after one year improvement in employment. The quarterly reports requested in fiscal 2024 will continue the cooperation between DPSCS and the budget committees to track all departmental hiring, the success of recent initiatives, and the impact of COVID-19 on public safety staffing.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly hiring and attrition reports	DPSCS	October 25, 2023 January 25, 2024 April 25, 2024 July 25, 2024

Amendment No.

69

Committee Narrative

Inmate Health Care Report: The committees are interested in receiving more information on the transition to a new medical contractor for inmate health care. The current inmate medical contract is set to expire at the end of calendar 2023, and the committees are concerned with the recent history of vendor- and procurement-related issues. The committees request information on the following by September 15, 2023:

- pros and cons of the existing inmate medical contract structure;
- areas in the existing contract structure that could be improved for the new inmate contract solicitation;
- a discussion of the transition timeline, including challenges related to securing a replacement contract prior to the end of calendar 2023;
- contingency plans and impact on State resources if a replacement is not in place by the end of calendar 2023;

Q00B

- an analysis of inmate medical costs over the past five fiscal years, including the average cost per health care-related service provided to inmates as compared to the cost of similar private and public services; and
- a summary of COVID-19 related challenges and how the new contract might address those challenges.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Inmate health care report	Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services	September 15, 2023

Q00C
Community Supervision
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Committee Narrative

Q00C02.01 Division of Parole and Probation – Support Services

Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) Caseload Report: In recent fiscal years, DPP has been working to reduce supervision caseloads to a manageable level for its parole and probation agents. Caseload ratios worsened in fiscal 2022. The committees request a report due by September 15, 2023, from DPP on the following:

- the exact breakdown of support staff and general supervision caseloads by office into DPP supervision levels for fiscal 2023;
- the exact breakdown of case closures by reason, region, and office;
- an evaluation of staff realignment between regions; and
- a review and analysis of monthly fiscal 2023 DPP agent and Drinking Driver Monitor Program new hires, separations, and vacancies.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
DPP caseload report	DPP	September 15, 2023

Q00T04
Division of Pretrial Detention and Services
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

Q00T04.04 Baltimore Central Booking and Intake Center

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$300,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of overtime earnings may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a report on overtime and assaults. The report scope shall include the entire department. The report shall include:

- (1) a breakdown of correctional officer overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from July 2015 to July 2023;
- (2) a detailed description of the specific actions taken to reduce overtime costs and the assessed and projected impacts of those actions;
- (3) an analysis of assaults in facilities that utilizes the case information available to the department to determine patterns in assaults with regard to overtime use and any other factor that may influence assault rates;
- (4) a detailed description of the specific actions taken to reduce assaults and the assessed and projected impacts of those actions; and
- (5) an update on the U.S. Department of Labor investigation into overtime pay errors, including the number of individuals affected, the time frame affected, and the total and median amounts required to be paid.

The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Excessive overtime has become a drain on human resources in the department and led to a riskier work environment for State employees, offenders, and volunteers. The amounts have trended steeply since the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has struggled to fill correctional officer positions. Assaults are also on the rise, particularly in detention facilities. There have also been systemic errors in accounting for overtime that led to an ongoing U.S. Department of Labor investigation into unpaid wages. The investigation has already resulted in retroactive payments of \$30 million in fiscal 2022 and is anticipated to result in additional retroactive payments. This language restricts overtime funding

Q00T04

in the fiscal 2024 budget for the Baltimore Central Booking and Intake Center until a report is submitted detailing overtime trends, assault patterns, and efforts to reduce overtime.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Overtime and assaults report	DPSCS	October 1, 2023

Amendment No.

70

R00A01
Headquarters
Maryland State Department of Education

Budget Amendments

R00A01.01 Office of the State Superintendent

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation may not be expended until the Maryland State Department of Education submits a report by November 1, 2023, addressing concerns from a January 2023 audit conducted by the Office of Legislative Audits. This report should provide details on actions taken by the agency to resolve all five unredacted audit findings. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: In a recent audit by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) had eight new findings and one repeat finding, with four redacted cybersecurity findings. These findings involved the use of Blueprint for Maryland’s Future special funds, enrollment audits of local education agencies, appropriate monitoring of fiscal management practices, and State procurement procedures. This language directs MSDE to submit a report regarding actions taken to resolve these findings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on OLA audit findings	MSDE	November 1, 2023

Amendment No.

71

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Maryland State Department of Education Office of the State Superintendent may not be expended until the agency submits to the budget committees a report by August 1, 2023, on the agency’s enrollment collection procedures for free and reduced-price meal (FRPM) students for fiscal 2024 (2023-2024 school year). This report should include the following enrollment data by local education agency (LEA) and school:

- (1) the number of free, reduced-price, and paid meal students;

R00A01

- (2) the number of FRPM students identified using direct certification and other eligible categories;
- (3) greater than comparisons by LEA used to calculate compensatory education enrollment; and
- (4) Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) enrollment and collection procedures used for CEP schools and districts.

This report should also include procedures used to collect and audit LEA enrollment data to check for omissions, errors, or other irregularities, and if applicable, a description of changes to enrollment collection procedures for fiscal 2025.

The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is responsible for accurate counts of FRPM students to determine student eligibility for FRPM benefits as well as funding of the compensatory education and concentration of poverty grant programs. Due to issues involving enrollment counts in recent audits and submitted fiscal 2024 data, this language directs MSDE to submit a report regarding actions that the agency is taking to resolve these findings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on FRPM enrollment	MSDE	August 1, 2023

Amendment No.

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Committee Narrative

Report on Accounting Practices: Due to ongoing concerns about accounting practices, the committees request that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) submit a closeout report by October 1, 2023. This report should include an explanation for encumbrances and reversions for all general, special, federal, and reimbursable funds for any amount that does not equal zero.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on accounting practices	MSDE	October 1, 2023

R00A01

Report on State Education Agency (SEA) Federal Stimulus Funds: Due to school closures prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) received approximately \$303.0 million in SEA federal stimulus funds. To ensure proper monitoring of the use of these funds, the committees request that MSDE report by September 1, 2023, on all SEA program expenditures distributed as part of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. This report should include:

- grant procedures for federal mandatory allocations to local education agencies (LEA) for learning loss, summer enrichment, and afterschool programs and grant expenditures by LEA, amount, and program;
- grant expenditures by school and program for State-mandated funds allocated to the Maryland School for the Blind, the Maryland School for the Deaf, and the School for Educational Evolution and Development;
- grant procedures, allocations, and expenditures by program for all discretionary allocations;
- expenditures by MSDE department and object for administrative costs; and
- unexpended funds by program, reasons that funds were not allocated or expended, anticipated expenditures of those funds by program for future years, and funds that may have been canceled.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on SEA ESSER funds	MSDE	September 1, 2023

Report on the Maryland Leads Program: The American Rescue Plan Act requires State agencies to spend a designated percentage of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds to address learning loss. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) applied these funds to a new noncompetitive grant program for local education agencies (LEA), Maryland Leads. However, analysis of this program indicates potential issues with how funding was distributed and whether the program will directly impact student learning loss. To ensure proper oversight of this program and funding, the committees request that MSDE report by October 1, 2023, on the Maryland Leads program. The report should include the following information:

- a summary of progress on Maryland Leads objectives to date, including program materials or guidance for LEAs;

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- LEA actions address learning loss by subprogram;
- expenditures by LEA and subprogram for fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024, including expenditures on personnel;
- summative assessments or measures, by LEA and program, implemented to remediate student learning loss;
- documentation of measurable gains to date, specifically in reading and math, in all grades as the result of Maryland Leads initiatives; and
- any other measures implemented by LEA and subprogram to address student learning loss that did not involve student assessment including, but not limited to, educator professional development, tutoring, small group instruction, summer school, afterschool programs, outreach services, and mental and behavioral health initiatives, and how MSDE will assess the efficacy of these measures.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reports on Maryland Leads	MSDE	October 1, 2023

Report on State Teacher Mobility Compacts: The committees are concerned about state teacher mobility compacts and Maryland’s proposed membership in the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact (ITMC) as introduced in HB 1219, the Maryland Educator Shortage Act of 2023. By November 1, 2023, the committees request that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) report on ITMC and state teacher mobility compacts, including, but not limited to, the following information:

- a current list of all state teacher mobility compacts, states participating in those compacts, and Maryland’s current eligibility for, or participation in, these compacts;
- a comparison of how current state teacher mobility compacts align with MSDE’s process to obtain and maintain Maryland teacher certification including teacher preparation, minimum degree attainment, professional development, and Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Grant program requirements; and
- how, if at all, Maryland’s participation in these compacts may affect recruitment, retention, and mobility of Maryland teachers.

This report should also include the following information on ITMC:

- the rationale for Maryland’s participation and potential costs;

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- eligibility requirements, laws, and/or regulations needed for Maryland to participate as a member state;
- a list of other states currently participating or planning to participate; and
- teacher certification areas included and excluded from this compact.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on state teacher mobility compacts	MSDE	November 1, 2023

R00A01.03 Office of the Deputy for Teaching and Learning

Report on Virtual Learning: Due to COVID-19 school closures in March 2020, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) allowed local education agencies to implement virtual learning in place of in-person learning. To understand the impact and monitor the continued expansion of virtual learning across the State, the budget committees request that MSDE provide an updated report by December 1, 2023, on actions taken in calendar 2023 to facilitate virtual learning for teachers and students across the State. This report should have:

- costs for State virtual learning in fiscal 2022 and 2023 and anticipated expenditures in fiscal 2024 and 2025, by fund source and program;
- detailed information on the status of virtual learning programs and activities including, but not limited to:
 - State Learning Management System implementation, including additional licenses, migration of courses, training, and information technology services;
 - Maryland Virtual Learning Opportunities courses and vendors;
 - professional development courses, training, and vendors;
 - development and implementation of e-communities and their anticipated impact on virtual learning; and
 - development and implementation of a State virtual school.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on virtual learning	MSDE	December 1, 2023

R00A01

R00A01.04 Division of Early Childhood

Child Care Stabilization Grant Awards: Maryland received more than \$300 million in federal funds through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and allocated an additional \$53.2 million in State funds to help stabilize the child care industry during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has distributed most of this funding to providers over multiple rounds of child care stabilization grants. The committees request that MSDE submit a report providing stabilization grant allocations by jurisdiction, grant allocations by child care program type, the number of child care providers that received stabilization grants, and the ways that child care providers spent the grants across allowable uses. In the report, MSDE should include the number of application rounds needed to distribute all State and federal funding for this purpose, the timing of those application cycles, and the timing of when grant payments were made. Finally, MSDE should discuss any new programs or funding streams that it will administer to support child care programs with personnel retention, recruitment, and operating costs once all stabilization grant terms end.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on child care stabilization grant awards	MSDE	December 1, 2023

Support for Child Care Provider Business Practices: The committees are interested in current and potential funding opportunities for child care providers to improve their business practices, including completing the licensing process, meeting health and safety requirements, developing curricula, marketing, providing parental outreach, and managing billing. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), in consultation with the Department of Commerce (Commerce), submit a report providing:

- current programs and funding sources for child care providers that can be used to improve business practices, specifying the eligible business practices that are supported;
- the amount of funds distributed to child care providers in fiscal 2022 and 2023 to improve business practices, separated by the use of funds;
- business practice improvements that are not currently funded in any existing MSDE or Commerce programs;
- options to expand existing programs or create new programs to support additional business practice improvements that are not currently funded; and

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- technical assistance that MSDE and Commerce offer to prospective and existing child care providers, identifying any differences in assistance provided based on current operating status and provider type.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on support for child care provider business practices	MSDE Commerce	October 1, 2023

R00A02
Aid to Education
Maryland State Department of Education

Committee Narrative

R00A02.07 Students With Disabilities

Report on the Nonpublic Placement Program: The committees are concerned about accelerating costs for the Nonpublic Placement program, the timely reimbursement of Nonpublic Placement providers, and actions taken by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) to rectify these issues. The budget committees request that MSDE submit a report by October 1, 2023, with (1) program closeout data for fiscal 2023 by provider including annual reimbursement costs and documentation on potential remaining discrepancies at the end of the fiscal year and (2) actions taken in fiscal 2022 and 2023 by the agency to reimburse nonpublic placement providers in a timelier manner.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the nonpublic placement program	MSDE	October 1, 2023

Status Update on the Autism Waiver Program: The committees are concerned about the Autism Waiver program, which currently has a waitlist of more than 6,000 individuals and is managed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). The budget committees request that MSDE submit a status update on this program by September 1, 2023, that provides the following information:

- current number of waiver slots requested and approved;
- plans to contact all currently waitlisted individuals for a review of their eligibility for the Autism Waiver waitlist;
- a timeline for these actions;
- anticipated administrative costs for these actions;
- an update on the number of individuals in the Autism Waiver program and on the autism waiver waitlist as of the date of the report; and
- projected costs for Autism Waiver services considering anticipated changes in the management of the autism waiver list for fiscal 2024 through 2028.

R00A02

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status update on the Autism Waiver program	MSDE	September 1, 2023

Budget Amendments

R00A02.13 Innovative Programs

Strike the following language from the General Fund Appropriation:

~~provided that \$15,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent on the enactment of the Maryland Educator Shortage Act.~~

Explanation: This cut reflects the legislative intent to redistribute these funds to reflect the posture of HB 1219.

Amendment No.

73

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete the general fund appropriation for the Maryland Educator Shortage Act.	-15,000,000	GF
Total Change	-15,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	34,842,491	19,842,491	-15,000,000	
Special Fund	5,000,000	5,000,000	0	
Federal Fund	1,747,441	1,747,441	0	
Total Funds	41,589,932	26,589,932	-15,000,000	

Amendment No.

74

Committee Narrative

Status Update on the Pathways in Technology Early College High School Program (P-TECH): The committees are concerned about increasing costs for the P-TECH program, which is managed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and local education agencies (LEA). Costs for the P-TECH program are determined by a variety of factors including

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student enrollment in community college courses and the costs for those courses in any given year. The budget committees request that MSDE submit a status update on the P-TECH program by August 1, 2023, that provides the following information regarding this issue:

- current enrollment in all P-TECH programs by high school, community college, cohort, and entry year;
- projected enrollment in all P-TECH programs in the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years;
- the total number of students who left the program in any given year and reasons for departure;
- the total number of students who have graduated by program and the percentage completion rate;
- community college courses attended by P-TECH students with a cost per course per semester;
- current cost for the program in fiscal 2024 and total projected cost for the program in fiscal 2025;
- projected average cost by student, program, and LEA for fiscal 2024 and 2025, including supplemental school and college grants by institution and LEA.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status update on P-TECH	MSDE	August 1, 2023

R00A02

Budget Amendments

R00A02.59 Child Care Assistance Grants

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds supporting the Child Care Scholarship program in recognition of available federal funds from the supplemental Child Care and Development Block Grant award.	-10,000,000 GF	
Total Change	-10,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	68,547,835	58,547,835	-10,000,000	
Special Fund	12,308,000	12,308,000	0	
Federal Fund	105,146,573	105,146,573	0	
Total Funds	186,002,408	176,002,408	-10,000,000	

Amendment No.

75

Add the following language to the federal fund appropriation:

provided that authorization is hereby provided to process a federal fund budget amendment of \$10,000,000 from the supplemental Child Care and Development Block Grant award to support the Child Care Scholarship program.

Explanation: This language authorizes the transfer of \$10 million from the supplemental Child Care and Development Block Grant award authorized in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to support the Child Care Scholarship program.

Amendment No.

76

Committee Narrative

Child Care Scholarship (CCS) Program Quarterly Reports: The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has implemented several changes under the CCS program in

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short succession, including raising income eligibility levels, increasing provider reimbursement rates, and waiving assigned copayments for most participating families, that all took effect May 23, 2022. Considering these programmatic changes, the committees request that MSDE submit quarterly reports with the following information:

- CCS expenditures, including Child Care and Development Fund spending that was carried over from prior fiscal years, the amount of newly authorized federal funds expended (with federal awards from COVID-19 stimulus legislation listed separately), and general fund spending;
- the number of scholarships awarded by income eligibility category and total expenditures for those scholarships in each quarter;
- CCS expenditures disaggregated by federal and State funding used directly for scholarships and expenditures by MSDE Headquarters for administrative costs and activities to improve provider quality, specified by purpose;
- quarterly updates on the provider reimbursement rate as a percentile of the market rate, statewide and by region;
- the total number of children and families receiving CCS per month statewide and by jurisdiction, including the number of children and families who became eligible when income eligibility thresholds were raised to 75% of the State median income; and
- quarterly updates on whether the department is maintaining a CCS waiting list and, if so, which income categories are impacted and how many children and families have applied for CCS benefits and been added to the waiting list.

In its August 2023 report, MSDE should include actual data for the CCS program in the final quarter of fiscal 2023 and aggregate fiscal 2023 data.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CCS quarterly expenditure reports	MSDE	August 1, 2023 November 1, 2023 February 1, 2024 May 1, 2024

Child Care Scholarship (CCS) Program Customer Service and Application Processing: The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has acknowledged delays and challenges for child care providers and families participating in the CCS program, specifically related to application processing times and the delivery of invoices and scholarships. Additionally, Chapters 525 and 526 of 2022 require MSDE to establish a presumptive eligibility program and

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meet processing requirements, i.e. notifying the Comptroller within 10 days after receiving an invoice from a child care provider. The committees request that MSDE include goals, objectives, and performance measures related to CCS program customer service and application processing in its annual Managing for Results submission beginning with the fiscal 2025 allowance. Performance measures should include, but not be limited to, the average number of days to notify the Comptroller after receiving an invoice from a child care provider and the average length of time before an eligibility determination is made after receipt of a CCS application.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Performance goals and measures related to CCS program customer service and application processing	MSDE	With the submission of the fiscal 2025 allowance and annually thereafter

Status Report on the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP): The committees are concerned by disruptions to learning and learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic and increased costs for new MCAP assessment development in the next few years. The committees request that by November 1, 2023, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) submit a status update on MCAP assessments and expenditures including, but not limited to:

- a timetable for MCAP administration for all assessments for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years, including field testing and pilots for new assessments;
- details on MCAP measurement of student learning loss in the 2022-2023 school year by local education agency (LEA), subject area, grade level, and assessment, as well as additional steps taken, if any, by MSDE at the State level to measure student learning loss;
- details on MCAP administration in the 2022-2023 school year for virtual school students by LEA, program, grade level, and assessment, including alternative assessments and Kindergarten Readiness and anticipated changes, if any, to assessments for virtual school students in the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years;
- expenditures in fiscal 2023 and 2024 and anticipated allowances for fiscal 2025 for each MCAP assessment and assessments under development; and
- contractual expenditures by vendor for fiscal 2023 and 2024 and anticipated contractual expenditures in fiscal 2025 for costs associated with assessment development and administration.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status report on MCAP	MSDE	November 1, 2023

R00A03
Funding for Educational Organizations
Maryland State Department of Education

Committee Narrative

R00A03.01 Maryland School for the Blind

Report on Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) Enrollment and Managing for Results (MFR) Measures: MSB recently reported errors in its monthly count of outreach students for fiscal 2022. Because MSB’s calculation for formula funding uses four-year average enrollment counts, this error could potentially decrease the school’s formula funding through fiscal 2027. The committees request that, by December 1, 2023, MSB report on this issue. This report should include details of MSB’s enrollment audit including (1) how the school identified and audited enrollment errors; (2) procedures and safeguards to remediate against future errors; and (3) the impact of this error, if any, on the school’s formula funding through fiscal 2027. The committees also request that MSB add enrollment data to the school’s MFR submission starting in fiscal 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on enrollment and MFR	MSB	December 1, 2023

Budget Amendments

R00A03.04 Aid to Non-Public Schools

Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation shall be for the purchase of textbooks or computer hardware and software and other electronically delivered learning materials ~~as permitted under Title IID, Section 2416(b)(4), (6), and (7), of the No Child Left Behind Act~~ for loan to students in eligible nonpublic schools with a maximum distribution of \$65 per eligible nonpublic school student for participating schools, except that at schools where ~~at least 20%~~ from 20% to 40% of the students are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program there shall be a distribution of \$95 per student, and at schools where more than 40% of the students are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program, there shall be a distribution of \$155 per student.

Explanation: This action amends language modifying the distribution of funding for the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program so that schools where more than 40% of the students are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program receive \$155 per student. Similar language has been included in the budget since fiscal 2017. It also strikes language regarding the No Child Left Behind Act due to technical differences with the reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Amendment No.

77

R00A03

Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation:

- (2) Not charge more tuition to a participating student than the statewide average per pupil expenditure by the local education agencies, as calculated by the department, with appropriate exceptions for special education students as determined by the department; ~~and~~
- (3) Comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; and
- (4) Submit its student handbook or other written policy related to student admissions to the Maryland State Department of Education for review to ensure compliance with program eligibility requirements.

Explanation: This action requires schools that participate in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program to submit a student handbook or policy on student admissions to the Maryland State Department of Education to ensure compliance with program eligibility requirements.

Amendment No.

78

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that a nonpublic school participating in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program R00A03.04 shall certify compliance with Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article. A nonpublic school participating in the program may not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion, or otherwise discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Nothing herein shall require any school or institution to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with its religious or moral teachings. However, all participating schools must agree that they will not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion or otherwise discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Any school found to be in violation of the requirements to not discriminate shall be required to return to the Maryland State Department of Education all textbooks or computer hardware and software and other electronically delivered learning materials acquired through the fiscal 2023 allocation. The only other legal remedy for violation of these provisions is ineligibility for participating in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program. Any school that is found in violation of the nondiscrimination requirements in fiscal 2023 or 2024 may not participate in the program in fiscal 2024. It is the intent of the General Assembly that a school that violates the nondiscrimination requirements is ineligible to participate in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program, the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today Program, the James E. "Ed" DeGrange Nonpublic Aging Schools Program, and the Nonpublic School Security Improvements Program in the year of the violation and the following 2 years.

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Explanation: This action requires a nonpublic school participating in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program to certify compliance with Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article (Discrimination in Employment). It also specifies that a participating school may not discriminate in student admissions on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Violation of these provisions means that a school will be ineligible for the program. Similar language has been included in the budget since fiscal 2017. This action also specifies that schools that violate the provisions must return all textbooks and technology received through the program to the Maryland State Department of Education. It also states that a school that violates the nondiscrimination requirements in fiscal 2023 or 2024 is not eligible to participate in the program in fiscal 2024 and states legislative intent that any school that violates the nondiscrimination requirements is ineligible to participate in any program that provides funding to nonpublic schools for a total of three years.

Amendment No. **79**

Committee Narrative

Report on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS) Funding: In fiscal 2022, Maryland received \$39.1 million distributed through the ARPA EANS program. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) expects to process awards for this program in spring 2023. The committees request that, by September 1, 2023, MSDE report on ARPA EANS awards. This report should include:

- MSDE’s process for issuing awards and amount awarded to each nonpublic school;
- aggregate expenditures by fiscal year and by type, including but not limited to, educational technology and infrastructure, instruction, personal protective equipment, ventilation equipment and other COVID-19 mitigation supplies, routine school operations and maintenance, and physical barriers for social distancing;
- administrative expenses by object; and
- amount of funds remaining, the intended use of remaining funds, and/or amount of canceled funds.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on ARPA EANS funding for nonpublic schools	MSDE	September 1, 2023

R00A03

Budget Amendments

R00A03.05 Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today

Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation:

- (c) ~~administer assessments to all students in accordance with federal and State law; and administer national, norm-referenced standardized assessments chosen from the list of assessments published by the U.S. Department of Education to qualify nonpublic schools for the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program. The nonpublic schools must administer the assessments to all students as follows:~~
 - (i) English/language arts and mathematics assessments each year for students in grades 3 through 8, and at least once for students in grades 9 through 12; and
 - (ii) a science assessment at least once for students in grades 3 through 5, at least once for students in grades 6 through 9, and at least once for students in grades 10 through 12; and
 - (d) comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article, and not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion or otherwise discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Nothing herein shall require any school or institution to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with its religious or moral teachings. However, all participating schools must agree that they will not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion or otherwise discriminate against any student based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. If a nonpublic school does not comply with these requirements, it shall reimburse MSDE all scholarship funds received under the BOOST Program for the 2023-2024 school year and may not charge the student tuition and fees instead. The only other legal remedy for violation of this provision is ineligibility for participating in the BOOST Program.
- (2) MSDE shall establish procedures for the application and award process for scholarships for students who are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program. The procedures shall include consideration for award adjustments if an eligible student becomes ineligible during the course of the school year. In order to be eligible to apply, a student must:
- (a) have received a BOOST Program scholarship award for the 2022–2023 school year and will be entering any of grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, or 12, or

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grade 9 if they are a student who attended during the 2022-2023 school year a nonpublic school that serves kindergarten through grade 12; or

- (b) have a sibling who received a BOOST Program scholarship award for the 2022-2023 school year.
- (3) MSDE shall compile and certify a list of applicants that ranks eligible students by family income expressed as a percent of the most recent federal poverty levels.
- (4) MSDE shall submit the ranked list of applicants to the BOOST Advisory Board.
- (5) There is a BOOST Advisory Board that shall be appointed as follows: 2 members appointed by the Governor, 2 members appointed by the President of the Senate, 2 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and 1 member jointly appointed by the President and the Speaker to serve as the chair. A member of the BOOST Advisory Board may not be an elected official and may not have any financial interest in an eligible nonpublic school.
- (6) The BOOST Advisory Board shall review and certify the ranked list of applicants and shall determine the scholarship award amounts. The BOOST Advisory Board shall take into account the needs of students with disabilities on an Individualized Education Plan or 504 Plan when determining scholarship award amounts.
- (7) MSDE shall make scholarship awards to eligible students as determined by the BOOST Advisory Board.
- (8) ~~The~~ Unless the student has special needs due to a disability, the amount of a scholarship award may not exceed the lesser of:
 - (a) the statewide average per pupil expenditure by local education agencies, as calculated by MSDE; or
 - (b) the tuition of the nonpublic school.
- (9) In order to meet its BOOST Program reporting requirements to the budget committees, MSDE shall specify a date by which participating nonpublic schools must submit information to MSDE so that it may complete its required report. Any nonpublic schools that do not provide the necessary information by that specified date shall be ineligible to participate in the BOOST Program.
- (10) Students who received a BOOST Program scholarship award in the prior year who still meet eligibility criteria for a scholarship shall receive a scholarship renewal award. For students who are receiving a BOOST Program scholarship for the first time, priority shall be given to students who attended public schools in the prior school year.

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Further provided that the BOOST Advisory Board shall make all scholarship awards no later than December 31, 2023, for the 2023-2024 school year to eligible individuals. Any unexpended funds not awarded to students for scholarships shall be encumbered at the end of fiscal 2024 and available for scholarships in the 2024-2025 school year.

Further provided that \$700,000 of this appropriation shall be used only to provide an additional award for each student with special needs that is at least equal in amount to the BOOST Program scholarship award that a student is awarded in accordance with paragraph (6) above.

Further provided that MSDE shall submit a report to the budget committees by January 15, 2024, that includes the following:

- (1) the number of students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (2) the amount of the BOOST Program scholarships received;
- (3) the number of certified and noncertified teachers in core subject areas for each nonpublic school participating in the BOOST Program;
- (4) the assessments being administered by nonpublic schools participating in the BOOST Program and the results of these assessments. MSDE shall report the assessment results reported by nonpublic schools to the budget committees in an aggregate manner that does not violate student data privacy;
- (5) in the aggregate, for each BOOST Program scholarship awarded (a) the nonpublic school and grade level attended by the student; (b) the school attended in the 2022-2023 school year by the student; and (c) if the student attended the same nonpublic school in the 2022-2023 school year, whether, what type, and how much nonpublic scholarship aid the student received in the 2022-2023 school year and will receive in the 2023-2024 school year;
- (6) the average household income of students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (7) the racial breakdown of students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (8) the number of students designated as English language learners receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (9) the number of special education students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (10) the county in which students receiving BOOST Program scholarships reside;
- (11) the number of students who were offered BOOST Program scholarships but declined them as well as their reasons for declining the scholarships and the breakdown of students attending public and nonpublic schools for students who declined scholarships;

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- (12) the number of students who received BOOST Program scholarships for the 2022-2023 school year who are attending public school for the 2023-2024 school year as well as their reasons for returning to public schools; and
- (13) the number of students who received BOOST Program scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year who withdrew or were expelled from the nonpublic schools they were attending and the reasons for which they withdrew or were expelled; the schools they withdrew or were expelled from; and the length of time students receiving BOOST Program scholarships were enrolled at a nonpublic school before withdrawing or being expelled.

Explanation: This language specifies that schools with BOOST students administer certain national, norm-referenced standardized assessments and sets certain priorities for BOOST scholarships. This language also provides that for the 2023-2024 school year, the BOOST Advisory Board shall make all scholarship awards no later than December 31, 2023, and any unexpended funds not awarded to students shall be encumbered for scholarships in the next year. This language also requires MSDE to report by January 15, 2024, on the distribution of the BOOST scholarships; information on the students receiving BOOST scholarships; teacher certifications for nonpublic schools participating in the BOOST Program; and assessments being administered in nonpublic schools participating in the BOOST Program, including student performance. The language also requires that MSDE report on students who choose to decline scholarships or attend public schools after participating in the BOOST Program in the past, along with their reasons for doing so, and information on students receiving scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year who withdrew or were expelled from the nonpublic schools that they were attending. Finally, the language requires that the BOOST Advisory Board shall take into account the special needs of students with disabilities as it is determining scholarship award amounts and that \$700,000 of the BOOST appropriation shall be used to provide higher awards for these students.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
BOOST Program participation	MSDE	January 15, 2024

Amendment No.

80

R00A07
Interagency Commission on School Construction

Committee Narrative

R00A07.01 Interagency Commission on School Construction

Status Update on Chapter 32 of 2022 Requirements: As required in the 21st Century Schools School Facilities Act of 2018 (Chapter 14) and as amended in Chapter 32, the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) has requirements related to the implementation of the Statewide Facilities Assessment (SFA), the Integrated Master Facility Asset Library, and recommendations from the Workgroup on the Assessment and Funding of School Facilities. The committees request that by January 15, 2024, IAC submit a status update on the agency’s progress to meet these requirements in calendar 2023. This update should include the following information:

- alignment of the sufficiency standards and square foot allowances with gross area baselines;
- State and local-cost share formulas and incentives;
- verification of the second round of SFA data with the Department of Legislative Services;
- establishment of an appeals process for local education agencies for individual school construction projects with specifically approved enrollment projections; and
- determination of the minimum equipment needed for food preparation to be used for the survey of school buildings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status update on Chapters 14 and 32 requirements	IAC	January 15, 2024

R12
Accountability and Implementation Board

Budget Amendments

R12A01.01 Accountability and Implementation Board

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funds for a consultant study to reflect delays in the submission date.	-250,000	SF
 Total Change	 -250,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	15.00	15.00		0.00
Special Fund	4,800,000	4,550,000	-250,000	
Total Funds	4,800,000	4,550,000	-250,000	

Amendment No.

81

Committee Narrative

Status Update on Expenditures, Personnel, and Managing for Results (MFR) Measures:
The Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) was established as part of Chapter 36 of 2021 as an independent agency responsible for oversight of Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Grant program implementation and evaluation of its outcomes. The agency started work in fiscal 2022; fiscal 2023 is the agency’s first year of operations and MFR measures. With this in mind, the committees request that AIB submit a status update by December 1, 2023, on expenditures, hiring, and MFR measures with the following information:

- closeout expenditures for fiscal 2023 and expenditures to date for fiscal 2024;
- staff hired in fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024, including position, salary, responsibilities, and vacancies;
- completed MFR objectives for Goal 1 and how the agency might improve estimated response times for State and local education agency Comprehensive Implementation Plan reviews.

R12

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status update on expenditures, hiring, and MFR measures	AIB	December 1, 2023

R13M00
Morgan State University

Budget Amendments

R13M00.00 Morgan State University

Add the following language to the unrestricted fund appropriation:

provided that since Morgan State University (MSU) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$500,000 of this agency’s administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) MSU has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2023; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2024.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee has requested that budget bill language be added for each unit of State government that has four or more repeat audit findings in its most recent fiscal compliance audit. Each agency is to have a portion of its administrative budget withheld pending the adoption of corrective action by the agency and a determination by OLA that each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit a report to the budget committees on the status of repeat findings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of corrective actions related to the most recent fiscal compliance audit	OLA	45 days before the release of funds

Amendment No. **82**

Committee Narrative

Report on the National Center for the Elimination of Educational Disparities: Morgan State University (MSU) is launching a new center that will focus on altering the educational outcomes for Black, Latinx, and low-income children in public schools. The fiscal 2024 budget includes funding for this center. The committees request that MSU submit a report on the strategic goals of the center, its research plans, and how that research will be practiced to support the center’s goals.

R13M00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the Center for the Elimination of Educational Disparities	MSU	August 1, 2023

R62I00
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Committee Narrative

R62I00.01 General Administration

Institutional Aid, Pell Grants, and Loan Data by Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Category: In order to more fully understand all types of aid available to students, the committees request that data be submitted for each community college, public four-year institution, and independent institution on institutional aid, Pell grants, and student loans. Data should include, by EFC, the number of loans and average loan size of federal subsidized and unsubsidized loans and loans from private sources as reported to the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC). Additionally, data should be provided on Pell grants, including the number and average award size by EFC. Finally, data should include the number of institutional aid awards and average award size by EFC for institutional grants, institutional athletic scholarships, and other institutional scholarships. The data in the response should differentiate between need-based aid and merit scholarships. Data should also include the number of institutional aid awards and average award size by EFC for tuition waivers/remissions of fees to employees and dependents and students. Waiver information for students should be reported by each type of waiver in State law. This report should cover fiscal 2022 data received by MHEC from State institutions and is to be submitted in an electronic format (Excel file).

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Institutional aid, Pell grants, and loan data by EFC	MHEC	June 30, 2023

Report on Best Practices and Annual Progress Toward the 55% Completion Goal: The committees understand that in order to meet the State’s goal to have at least 55% of Maryland’s residents ages 25 to 64 holding at least one degree credential by 2025, accurate and timely information on degree progression and best practices is needed to ensure that the State is on track to meet the goal. The budget committees request that the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) annually collect and analyze student- and transcript-level data on progression, graduation, and other relevant metrics from each public institution of higher education, including community colleges and regional higher education centers. MHEC should submit a report by December 15 each year that analyzes the data and shows each institution’s progress toward the State and institutional goals in 2025. The report should also include a summary of best practices and findings on the effectiveness of institutions’ programs as well as any concerns regarding lack of progress or best practices that are not being implemented by institutions.

R62I00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on best practices and annual progress toward the 55% completion goal	MHEC	December 15, 2023

Report on Nontraditional Pathways: Nationally, nontraditional students, those 25 years and older, comprise approximately 40% of undergraduate students and, according to the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC), these students account for about one-third of undergraduates in community colleges and the public four-year institutions. While there is no standard definition of a nontraditional student, age is often used as a defining characteristic of this population. Nontraditional students face different obstacles than traditional students in obtaining a college education such as having to balance school, work, and life. In order to grow enrollment, institutions will need to develop programs and initiatives targeting this population to help it succeed. MHEC will work with the University System of Maryland (USM) and the Maryland Association of Community Colleges to develop a strategy to strengthen pathways for nontraditional students. MHEC intends to use the \$5 million provided in the fiscal 2024 budget to provide grants to USM institutions and community colleges to execute the strategy. The committees request that MHEC submit a report on how the funds are used to strengthen the pathways for nontraditional students.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on nontraditional pathways	MHEC	December 15, 2023

Report on Advising Systems and Wrap-around Services: The committees are interested in the types of intrusive advising systems used by higher education institutions and the wrap-around services provided to students to help ensure they succeed and earn a degree. The committees request that the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) survey each community college, public four-year institution, and independent nonprofit institutions and catalog the types of intrusive advising systems that each campus utilizes and the wrap-around support services available to students. Following completion of the survey, the committees request that MHEC submit a report on the result of the survey. In addition, the report should include data, by institution, on the number of students who identify as parents or a person acting as a parent or legal guardian.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on advising systems and wrap-around services	MHEC	October 1, 2023

R62I0005
Aid to Community Colleges
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Committee Narrative

R62I00.05 The Senator John A. Cade Funding Formula for the Distribution of Funds to Community Colleges

Community College Enrollment Decline and Use of Funding: There has been an overall decline in college enrollment in recent years, particularly at the community college level. The committees request a report on efforts to address enrollment declines at the local community colleges. The committees understand that this decline in enrollment has led to an increase in State funding per full-time equivalent student at the community colleges. The report should also include how the increased funding in fiscal 2021 through 2023 has been used to address workforce shortages and how the additional funding in fiscal 2024 will also be used to further these efforts. This report shall be submitted by November 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Enrollment and workforce shortages	Maryland Association of Community Colleges	November 1, 2023

R62I0010
Student Financial Assistance
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Committee Narrative

R62I00.10 Educational Excellence Awards

Fully Funding Guaranteed Access (GA) and Educational Assistance (EA) Grants: Currently, GA grants are given funding priority over EA grants. This method has created a system where the two grants are competing for the same limited amount of dollars, leading to some students not receiving grants. Eligible applicants of the EA grant are put on a waitlist and are awarded grants based on need and the funding available. The committees request a report on to the cost to fully fund the two grants separately as well as eliminate the EA waitlist. The report should include an estimate of how much funding would be required along with information to support the calculation including the anticipated number of recipients for the grants and grant amounts used in the calculation of full funding as well as the elimination of the EA waitlist. This report shall be submitted by November 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on funding the GA and EA grants	MHEC	November 1, 2023

Budget Amendments

R62I00.53 Maryland Police Officers Scholarship Program

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that the appropriation made for the purpose of providing tuition assistance to students who intend to become or are currently police officers for program R62I00.53 Maryland Police Officers Scholarship shall be reduced by \$3,500,000 contingent on enactment of HB 982 altering the required funding levels for the Maryland Police Officers and Probation Agents Scholarship.

Explanation: This action reduces funding for the Maryland Police Officers Scholarship Program contingent on the enactment of HB 982, which reduces the mandated funding level and expands the eligible recipients.

Amendment No.

83

R62I0010

Committee Narrative

Impact of Credit Completion Requirement on Financial Aid Awards: The committees are interested in the impact the 30-credit-hour requirement had on students in the 2022-2023 academic year and the 2023-2024 awarding year, specifically if students are meeting the requirement in order to receive the full amount of award, how many students had their awards prorated, and how many students lost eligibility. The report should also include the graduation rates of students who completed 30 credit hours compared to those who completed less than 30 credit hours. The report should provide summary data by segment (community colleges, four-year public, and independent institutions) and by institution. The report should also identify how the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) alerts Educational Excellence Award (EEA) recipients that they are in danger of losing their award, as all segments are showing signs of increasing populations of students not meeting the 24-credit hour minimum. The report should identify the updated funding disbursement, by EEA award type and by total credit attainment grouping, for the students from the most recent review cycle as well as what the total funding amount was, by EEA award type, prior to those students having their award funding amounts revised.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on impact of credit completion requirement on financial aid awards	MHEC	December 11, 2023

Next Generation Scholars (NGS) Postsecondary Outcomes: The 2020-2021 academic year was the first academic year with a cohort of grade 12 students in the NGS program. The committees remain interested in determining how many NGS students met the eligibility requirements and later enrolled in a postsecondary institution. The report should identify the number of NGS seniors for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years, the number of NGS seniors who successfully met all of the eligibility requirements, the number of eligible NGS seniors receiving a Guaranteed Access award, and the number of seniors who later enrolled in a postsecondary institution of higher education in either the summer session or the fall semester and identify to which higher education segment those students enrolled.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on postsecondary outcomes for NGS senior students	Maryland Higher Education Commission	December 1, 2023

R75T0001
Higher Education

Budget Amendments

R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) submits a report to the budget committees on both BCCC’s enrollment trends and the Mayor’s Scholars Program (MSP). The report shall include updated information on MSP from the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years and provide the following information on MSP: (1) the number of applications received for the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth cohort; the number of students who enrolled each semester; and the number of first-year students who enrolled in the second, third, and fourth year (where applicable); (2) the number of students who participated in the Summer Bridge program for the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth cohort; (3) the number of students in the first, second, third, and fourth cohort who have successfully completed at least 15 credits each semester or a total of 30 credits in their first academic year; and (4) the amount of financial aid provided to scholars in year one, two, three, and four by cohort, including the total amount each year and the average student award. The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending a report on BCCC’s overall enrollment trends and MSP.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Enrollment and MSP	BCCC	December 1, 2023

Amendment No. **84**

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until Baltimore City Community College submits a report to the budget committees on the implementation of Realignment Task 6. The report shall include the exact number of faculty on 1-, 2-, and 3-year contracts, broken down by degree or certificate program. The report shall also detail the extent to which faculty have participated in the construction of a plan to implement this realignment task. The report shall also contain any plans

R75T0001

to offer faculty impacted by a degree or certificate program slated for phase out or reduction a similar position elsewhere in the college, and how the college proposes to respect faculty seniority in layoff or reinstatement matters. The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending a report on Baltimore City Community College's (BCCC) implementation of Realignment Task 6 and the faculty contract system.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Faculty Contract System and Realignment Task 6	BCCC	October 1, 2023

Amendment No.

85

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that since Morgan State University (MSU) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$500,000 of this agency's administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) MSU has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2023; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2024.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee has requested that budget bill language be added for each unit of State government that has four or more repeat audit findings in its most recent fiscal compliance audit. Each agency is to have a portion of its administrative budget withheld pending the adoption of corrective action by the agency and a determination by OLA that each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit a report to the budget committees on the status of repeat findings.

R75T0001

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of corrective actions related to the most recent compliance audit	OLA	45 days before the release of funds

Amendment No.

86

Committee Narrative

Instructional Faculty Workload Report: The committees request that the University System of Maryland (USM), Morgan State University (MSU), and St. Mary’s College of Maryland (SMCM) continue to provide annual instructional workload reports for tenured/tenure-track faculty. By focusing on these faculty, the committees gain a sense of the teaching activities for the regular core faculty. However, there are other types of instructional faculty at institutions, such as full- and part-time nontenured/nontenure-track faculty including adjunct faculty, instructors, and lecturers. Focusing on only tenured/tenure-track faculty provides an incomplete picture of how students are taught. Therefore, the report should also include the instructional workload when all types of faculty are considered. Additional information may be included at the institution’s discretion. Furthermore, the USM report should include the percent of faculty meeting or exceeding teaching standards for tenured/tenure-track faculty for the University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual report on faculty workload	USM MSU SMCM	December 11, 2023

Report on Programs to Foster Equitable Growth in the Cannabis Industry: Beginning in July 2023, Marylanders will be able to purchase recreational marijuana. With this new industry there is an education gap in not only providing those with knowledge and skills needed to work in industry, but also more research needs to be conducted about cannabis. Additionally, there is a workforce gap due to a lack of people who have the knowledge and skills to work in the cannabis industry. Moreover, communities most harmed by cannabis criminalization need access to training to participate in this emerging sector. The committees are interested in fostering the development of the cannabis industry and request the University System of Maryland (USM), Morgan State University (MSU), St. Mary’s College of Maryland (SMCM), and the Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC) to establish a workgroup to investigate the development of cannabis focused programs, courses, and certificates to train students for the cannabis industry. Cannabis related courses and programs included in the discussion of the workgroup should encompass the entire range of the industry including

R75T0001

growing, business, processing, testing, logistics; cannabis law and policy, and research and development of therapeutics.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on programs to foster growth in the cannabis industry	USM MSU SMCM MACC	October 15, 2023

R95C00
Baltimore City Community College

Budget Amendments

R95C00.00 Baltimore City Community College

Add the following language to the unrestricted fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) submits a report to the budget committees on both BCCC’s enrollment trends and the Mayor’s Scholars Program (MSP). The report shall include updated information on MSP from the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years and provide the following information on MSP: (1) the number of applications received for the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth cohort; the number of students who enrolled each semester; and the number of first-year students who enrolled in the second, third, and fourth year (where applicable); (2) the number of students who participated in the Summer Bridge program for the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth cohort; (3) the number of students in the first, second, third, and fourth cohort who have successfully completed at least 15 credits each semester or a total of 30 credits in their first academic year; and (4) the amount of financial aid provided to scholars in year one, two, three, and four by cohort, including the total amount each year and the average student award. The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending a report on BCCC’s overall enrollment trends and MSP. Funds are being restricted due to the previously requested report not being submitted.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Enrollment and MSP	BCCC	December 1, 2023

Amendment No.

87

Add the following language to the unrestricted fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until Baltimore City Community College submits a report to the budget committees on the implementation of Realignment Task 6. The report shall include the exact number of faculty on 1-, 2-, and 3-year contracts, broken down by degree or certificate

R95C00

program. The report shall also detail the extent to which faculty have participated in the construction of a plan to implement this realignment task. The report shall also contain any plans to offer faculty impacted by a degree or certificate program slated for phase out or reduction a similar position elsewhere in the college, and how the college proposes to respect faculty seniority in layoff or reinstatement matters. The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending a report on Baltimore City Community College's (BCCC) implementation of Realignment Task 6 and the faculty contract system. Funds are being restricted due to the previously requested report not being submitted.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Faculty Contract System and Realignment Task 6	BCCC	October 1, 2023

Amendment No.

88

S00A
Department of Housing and Community Development

Committee Narrative

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

S00A20.01 Office of the Secretary

Broadband Initiatives: The committees remain interested in understanding how funding for broadband programs is allocated. Given the expansion of funding and the deployment of funds through multiple subsidy and grant programs, the committees request that the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) separately identify funding for the Office of Statewide Broadband in a unique program code and further identify specific initiatives in subprogram detail.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Broadband funding	DHCD DBM	With the submission of the fiscal 2025 allowance, or with earlier budget documentation as appropriate

Budget Amendments

DIVISION OF NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

S00A24.02 Neighborhood Revitalization – Capital Appropriation

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$2,500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Strategic Demolition Fund may only be used to provide grants as follows:

- (1) \$2,000,000 to the County Executive and County Council of Prince George’s County for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the demolition of Cheverly Hospital; and
- (2) \$500,000 to the Board of Trustees of Washington College for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of student housing and mixed–use residential and commercial space at Washington College.

Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

S00A

Explanation: This language restricts funding in the Strategic Demolition Fund to be used only for specified projects.

Amendment No. **89**

Committee Narrative

Federal Funds in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP): The committees request that the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) program estimates of federal funds anticipated to be made available from the American Rescue Plan Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in the annual CIP submission. This should include estimates for the proposed budget and each of the out-years programmed in the CIP. The committees recognize that these estimates may be subject to change based on changing federal guidance or program implementation schedules.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Estimates of anticipated federal funds	DHCD DBM	With the submission of the 2024 capital budget or with earlier budget documentation as appropriate

T00
Department of Commerce

Budget Amendments

DIVISION OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

T00F00.16 Economic Development Opportunity Fund

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that no funds may be distributed until the Department of Commerce provides notification to the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) of the planned distribution of funds to the proposed recipient. The notification shall be submitted to LPC at least 30 days prior to the disbursement of funds and shall include the information detailed in § 7-314 (l) of the State Finance and Procurement Article. LPC shall have 30 days from the date of the receipt of the notification to review and comment. Funds restricted pending notification to LPC may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the notification is not provided.

Explanation: Under § 7-314 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, LPC approval is required to transfer funds from the State Reserve Fund Economic Development Opportunities Program Account (also known as the Sunny Day Fund) prior to disbursing funds to the intended recipient. However, the proposed Sunny Day award to United Safety Technology utilizes available fund balance in the Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund instead of funding appropriated in the State Reserve Fund. This language requires the Department of Commerce (Commerce) to provide notification to LPC prior to the disbursement of funds, consistent with the legislative oversight typically provided for Sunny Day Fund awards.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Sunny Day Fund award notification	Commerce	30 days prior to the disbursement of funds

Amendment No.

90

T50T01
Maryland Technology Development Corporation

Budget Amendments

T50T01.15 Maryland Equitech Growth Fund

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Maryland Equitech Growth Fund is contingent on the enactment of HB 781 or SB 699 establishing the Equitech Growth Fund in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation.

Explanation: This language makes funding for the Maryland Equitech Growth Fund contingent on the enactment of HB 781 or SB 699 establishing the program in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation.

Amendment No.

91

U00A
Department of the Environment

Budget Amendments

LAND AND MATERIALS ADMINISTRATION

U00A06.01 Land and Materials Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administrative expenses in the Land and Materials Administration may not be expended pending the submission of the Maryland Scrap Tire annual report. The requested report shall be submitted no later than November 1, 2023. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This action restricts funding pending the submission by November 1, 2023, of the Maryland Scrap Tire Annual Report. Section 9-275(c) of the Environment Article specifies that an annual status report is due on or before November 1 of each year, which was not consistently met before the inclusion of annual budget bill language.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund annual report	Maryland Department of the Environment	November 1, 2023

Amendment No.

92

Committee Narrative

AIR AND RADIATION ADMINISTRATION

U00A07.01 Air and Radiation Administration

Ambient Air Monitoring Report: The committees are interested in what is needed to deploy an ambient air monitoring network across the State and how this would improve public health. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) submit a report on what is needed to deploy an ambient air monitoring network across the State. In addition, the report is requested to include information on how the data collected from a network would mitigate exposure to toxic pollutants, inform permit decision-making processes,

U00A

and help reduce the cumulative impacts of pollutants such as particulate matter and fine particulate matter. The report is requested to be submitted to the committees by December 31, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Ambient air monitoring report	MDE	December 31, 2023

Budget Amendments

COORDINATING OFFICES

U00A10.01 Coordinating Offices

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

. provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), in cooperation with the Department of Budget and Management, submits a confirmatory letter to the budget committees indicating that MDE's fiscal 2023 actual personnel expenditures and the fiscal 2024 working appropriation personnel expenditures are budgeted in the correct statewide subobjects. The confirmatory letter shall be submitted with the fiscal 2025 budget submission, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the confirmatory letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a confirmatory letter may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the confirmatory letter is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: For the second year in a row, MDE's most recent actual fiscal year budget data incorrectly reflects the allocation of funding for personnel expenditures. The 2021 Joint Chairmen's Report included committee narrative requesting that the fiscal 2021 budget data be correctly reflected with the fiscal 2023 budget submission. Then, fiscal 2023 budget bill language restricted funding pending the submission of a confirmatory letter with the fiscal 2024 budget submission, indicating that prior year actual personnel expenditures up to and including fiscal 2022 are budgeted in the correct statewide subobjects. The fringe benefit expenditures – health insurance, pension contributions, and turnover adjustments, among others – are almost entirely reflected as Social Security contributions, which makes it difficult to do historical data comparisons. In addition, MDE budgets in its working appropriation a portion of its personnel expenditures in a subobject used as a temporary placeholder, miscellaneous adjustments, which makes it difficult to compare the working appropriation with the Governor's allowance. Therefore, increased funding is restricted until MDE and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit a confirmatory letter with the fiscal 2025 budget submission indicating that fiscal 2023 actual personnel expenditures and fiscal 2024 working appropriation personnel expenditures are budgeted in the correct statewide subobjects.

U00A

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Budgeting of fiscal 2023 actual and fiscal 2024 working appropriation personnel expenditures	MDE DBM	Fiscal 2025 budget submission

Amendment No.

93

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general operating expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Department of the Environment submits a report to the budget committees on revised fee structures for the fees that support the Maryland Clean Water Fund, the Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund, and the Maryland Clean Air Fund to ensure that the special funds can adequately support the Water and Science Administration, the Land and Materials Administration, and the Air and Radiation Administration, respectively, and to reduce the need for general fund support. The report shall include the following:

- (1) a description of who pays each fee;
- (2) a description of how the revenue for each fee is used;
- (3) whether each fee is recurring or one time;
- (4) the volume of payors and revenue for each year since each fee was last increased;
- (5) an explanation for any significant changes in the revenues received from each fee, including, but not limited to, changes in the number of payors or amount paid by each payor;
- (6) a comparison of Maryland to other peer states in terms of how the functions supported by each fee are handled;
- (7) the size of each of the special fund shortfalls now and a projection of each of the special fund shortfalls into the future; and
- (8) an analysis of how much of each of the special fund shortfalls would have been addressed by indexing each fee to inflation.

The report shall be submitted by September 29, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any

U00A

other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Fiscal 2023 general fund deficiency appropriations of \$1.5 million are budgeted in each of the Water and Science Administration, the Land and Materials Administration, and the Air and Radiation Administration to counter declining special fund revenue. This is the fourth fiscal year in which funding has been provided for declining special fund revenue in at least one of the Maryland Department of the Environment’s (MDE) administrations. According to the polluter pays principle, a core tenant of environmental law and environmental economics, social welfare is maximized when all costs – environmental, social, and actual – are reflected in prices. This is not occurring because of outdated fee structures for the special funds supporting the three administrations: Maryland Clean Water Fund; Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund; and Maryland Clean Air Fund. Therefore, this budget bill language restricts funding pending the submission of a report on revised fee structures for the fees supporting these three special funds by September 29, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Revised fee structures report	MDE	September 29, 2023

Amendment No. **94**

Committee Narrative

Text Alert System for Environmental Accidents: The committees are concerned that affected parties are not notified of environmental accidents, such as the release of hazardous materials, in a timely manner. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) conduct a study to determine the feasibility and cost of implementing a text alert system for environmental accidents along the lines of the current weather and AMBER alert systems. The study should include information about the relevancy of the national Emergency Alert System to the proposed text alert system and an evaluation of the type of environmental events or accidents that would be most beneficial to include in such a system. The report is requested to be submitted by September 29, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Text alert system for environmental accidents	MDE MDEM	September 29, 2023

U10B00
Maryland Environmental Service

Committee Narrative

U10B00.41 General Administration

Maryland Environmental Service (MES) Funding Statement: The committees request that MES continue to provide a report on the following:

- undesignated unrestricted net assets for fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 estimated and an explanation for any changes between each of these years, including revenues credited to and expenditures debited from the net assets;
- overhead rate for fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 estimated, including a separate calculation for the water and wastewater overhead rate for each fiscal year from fiscal 2017 through 2025;
- project reserve fund status by beginning balance, approved retainage, funds used, and interest earned for fiscal 2023 and 2024 for the State Reimbursable Project Contingency Fund, the Eastern Correctional Institution (ECI) Steam Turbine Contingency Fund, the Department of Natural Resources Project Contingency Fund, ECI Energy Upgrade Project Reserve Fund, and any other project reserve funds created by MES; and
- justification for the changes in reimbursable project funding for fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 estimated based on a discussion about how MES’s undesignated unrestricted net assets allow for reducing MES’s overhead rate for State reimbursable projects and how project reserve funds are available for any under budgeting.

The report should be submitted in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) with the fiscal 2025 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MES funding statement	MES DBM	Fiscal 2025 budget submission

W00A
Department of State Police

Committee Narrative

W00A01.01 Office of the Superintendent

Update on the Workforce Diversity Action Plan Continuation: During the 2021 and 2022 sessions, the General Assembly expressed concern with the allegations of racial insensitivity and lack of diversity among the Department of State Police (DSP) workforce. In 2021, DSP was directed to convene a diversity study group to develop an action plan to address these concerns containing specific and measurable goals and to submit the action plan to the General Assembly, along with metrics detailing the current degree of diversity in the department. In continuing to monitor the department’s progress in addressing this issue, the committees request an update on the continuation of the Workforce Diversity Action Plan, providing the following information:

- progress that has been made related to implementing the four recommendations of the diversity study group that met in 2021;
- progress that has been made related to its specific and measurable goals for achieving diversity among civilian and sworn employees;
- a demographic breakdown of the department’s civilian and sworn employees for the previous year for each division;
- a demographic breakdown of the department’s attrition rate for the previous year;
- a demographic breakdown of the department’s managerial and leadership positions for the previous year;
- a demographic breakdown of the Maryland State Police Academy classes for the previous year;
- the number of reported incidents of racially insensitive behavior among departmental personnel for the previous year; and
- a demographic breakdown of the disciplinary actions for civilian and sworn personnel over the previous year.

In any instance where “demographic” data is requested, this should include data categorized by both race and gender. In addition to the official report, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. The report updating

W00A

the committees on the implementation of the action plan is to be submitted to the committees on September 1, 2023.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Update on the continuation of the Workforce Diversity Action Plan	DSP	September 1, 2023

Y01A
State Reserve Fund

Budget Amendments

Y01A01.01 Revenue Stabilization Account

Strike the following language to the general fund appropriation:

~~provided that \$61,428,921 of this appropriation shall be reduced contingent on the enactment of legislation eliminating the required Revenue Stabilization Account appropriation for fiscal 2024.~~

~~Further~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not needed because the General Assembly has reduced the appropriation directly.

Amendment No. **95**

Strike the following language from the general fund appropriation:

~~Further provided that \$500,000,000 of this appropriation shall be transferred to the Dedicated Purpose Account to support future transportation capital priorities contingent on the enactment of legislation eliminating the required Revenue Stabilization Account appropriation for fiscal 2024.~~

Explanation: Technical correction to align with legislative actions.

Amendment No. **96**

Y01A

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the appropriation to the Rainy Day Fund. Adequate funding exists to meet Spending Affordability Committee goals without the statutory appropriation in fiscal 2024.	-61,428,921	GF
2. Reduce a portion of the statutorily mandated Rainy Day Fund appropriation in order to redirect funds toward supporting future education and transportation costs, as allocated elsewhere in the budget. The estimated Rainy Day Fund balance at the close of fiscal 2024 equals 10% of general fund revenues without this appropriation.	-500,000,000	GF
Total Change	-561,428,921	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	1,061,428,921	500,000,000	-561,428,921	
Total Funds	1,061,428,921	500,000,000	-561,428,921	

Amendment No.

97

Y01A02.01 Dedicated Purpose Account

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for unspecified legislative priorities. This action will allow the General Assembly to assign specific funding priorities to the \$50 million in operating and \$100 million in pay-as-you-go capital funds set aside by the Administration for legislative priorities.	-150,000,000	GF
2. Delete funding for retirement reinvestment contributions due to lower than anticipated revenues. Fiscal 2024 pension obligations remain funded above the actuarially required contribution by \$75 million.	-15,000,000	GF

Y01A

3. Delete funding for postretirement health benefit due to lower than anticipated revenues.	-25,000,000	GF
 Total Change	 -190,000,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	543,022,732	353,022,732	-190,000,000	
Total Funds	543,022,732	353,022,732	-190,000,000	

Amendment No.

98

Amend the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Retirement Reinvestment	
Contributions	15,000,000
New Veterans Home	6,326,000
Cybersecurity	152,000,000
Legislative Operating	
Priorities	50,000,000
Legislative PAYGO	100,000,000
Local Income Tax Reserve	
Account Repayment	10,000,000
Awards to Erroneously	
Confined Individuals	7,696,732
Food Banks	10,000,000
Postretirement Health	
Benefits Trust Fund	25,000,000

Explanation: This action strikes the line-item appropriations for funds directly reduced to acknowledge revenue write-downs and to directly fund legislative priorities.

Amendment No.

99

F10A02
Department of Budget and Management
Office of Personnel Services and Benefits

Fiscal 2023 Deficiency

F10A02.08 Statewide Expenses

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the deficiency appropriation for the 4.5% cost-of-living adjustment that is unneeded due savings in agency budgets from the large number of vacant positions.	-25,000,000	GF
 Total Change	 -25,000,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	162,555,466	137,555,466	-25,000,000	
Special Fund	70,742,030	70,742,030	0	
Federal Fund	15,796,670	15,796,670	0	
Total Funds	249,094,166	224,094,166	-25,000,000	

Amendment No.

100

I00
Department of Service and Civic Innovation

Fiscal 2023 Deficiency

I00A01.01 Service and Civic Innovation

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

. provided that \$3,600,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of supporting the Service Year Option Program is contingent on enactment of HB 546 or SB 551, which establishes the program.

Explanation: This action makes \$3,600,000 in funding for the Service Year Option Program in fiscal 2023 contingent on the passage of HB 546 or SB 551.

Amendment No.

101

M00L
Behavioral Health Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Fiscal 2023 Deficiency

M00L01.02 Community Services

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the fiscal 2023 deficiency appropriation in the Community Services program for provider reimbursements which overstates costs due to a budgeting error.	-14,000,000	GF
 Total Change	 -14,000,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	62,979,987	48,979,987	-14,000,000	
Federal Fund	4,494,582	4,494,582	0	
Total Funds	67,474,569	53,474,569	-14,000,000	0.00

Amendment No. **102**

M00Q01
Medical Care Programs Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Fiscal 2023 Deficiency

M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding in the fiscal 2023 proposed deficiency appropriation for Medicaid reimbursements based on Managed Care Organization recoveries from the calendar 2020 risk corridor.	-15,000,000 GF	
 Total Change	 -15,000,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	247,437,520	232,437,520	-15,000,000	
Special Fund	-2,711,538	-2,711,538	0	
Federal Fund	438,136,410	438,136,410	0	
Reimbursable Fund	2,613,371	2,613,371	0	
Total Funds	685,475,763	670,475,763	-15,000,000	0.00

Amendment No. **103**

M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund share of the fiscal 2023 deficiency appropriation in Medicaid Behavioral Health provider reimbursements which overstates costs due to a budgeting error.	-86,000,000 GF	
 Total Change	 -86,000,000	 0.00

M00L

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	120,048,982	34,048,982	-86,000,000	
Federal Fund	135,912,859	135,912,859	0	
Total Funds	255,961,841	169,961,841	-86,000,000	0.00

Amendment No.

104

Sections

Budget Amendments

Amend the following section:

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That in order to carry out the provisions of these appropriations the Secretary of Budget and Management is authorized:

- (a) To allot all or any portion of the funds herein appropriated to the various departments, boards, commissions, officers, schools and institutions by monthly, quarterly or seasonal periods and by objects of expense ~~and may place any funds appropriated but not allotted in contingency reserve available for subsequent allotment. Upon the Secretary's own initiative or upon the request of the head of any State agency, the Secretary may authorize a change in the amount of funds so allotted.~~

The Secretary shall, before the beginning of the fiscal year, file with the Comptroller of the Treasury ~~a schedule of allotments, if any~~ a list limited to the appropriations restricted in this Act to be placed in contingency reserve. The Comptroller shall not authorize any expenditure or obligation in excess of the allotment made and any expenditure so made shall be illegal.

- ~~(b)~~ To allot all or any portion of funds coming into the hands of any department, board, commission, officer, school and institution of the State, from sources not estimated or calculated upon in the budget.
- ~~(e)~~ (b) To fix the number and classes of positions, including temporary and permanent positions, or person years of authorized employment for each agency, unit, or program thereof, not inconsistent with the Public General Laws in regard to classification of positions. The Secretary shall make such determinations before the beginning of the fiscal year and shall base them on the positions or person years of employment authorized in the budget as amended by approved budgetary position actions. No payment for salaries or wages nor any request for or certification of personnel shall be made except in accordance with the Secretary's determinations. At any time during the fiscal year the Secretary may amend the number and classes of positions or person years of employment previously fixed by the Secretary; the Secretary may delegate all or part of this authority. The governing boards of public institutions of higher education shall have the authority to transfer positions between programs and campuses under each institutional board's jurisdiction without the approval of the Secretary, as provided in Section 15-105 of the Education Article.
- ~~(d)~~ (c) To prescribe procedures and forms for carrying out the above provisions.

Sections

Explanation: This language limits the amount of appropriations that can be placed into contingency reserve to only those items restricted by the Maryland General Assembly.

Amendment No.

105

Amend the following section:

SECTION 17. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds appropriated to the various State agency programs and subprograms in Comptroller Objects 0152 (Health Insurance), 0154 (Retirees Health Insurance Premiums), 0175 (Workers' Compensation), 0217 (Health Insurance), 0305 (DBM Paid Telecommunications), 0839 (HR Shared Services), 0874 (Office of Attorney General Administrative Fee), 0876 (DoIT IT Services Allocation), 0894 (State Personnel System Allocation), 0897 (Enterprise Budget System Allocation), and 1303 (rent paid to DGS) are to be utilized for their intended purposes only. ~~The expenditure or transfer of these funds for other purposes requires the prior approval of the Secretary of Budget and Management.~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Budget and Management may transfer amounts appropriated in Comptroller Objects 0152, 0154, 0217, 0305, and 0876 between State departments and agencies by approved budget amendment in fiscal 2023 and fiscal 2024. All funds budgeted in or transferred to Comptroller Objects 0152 and 0154 and any funds restricted in this budget for use in the employee and retiree health insurance program that are unspent shall be credited to the fund as established in accordance with Section 2-516 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article.

Further provided that each agency that receives funding in this budget in any of the restricted Comptroller Objects listed within this section shall establish within the State's accounting system a structure of accounts to separately identify for each restricted Comptroller Object, by fund source, the legislative appropriation, monthly transactions, and final expenditures. It is the intent of the General Assembly that an accounting detail be established so that the Office of Legislative Audits may review the disposition of funds appropriated for each restricted Comptroller Object as part of each closeout audit to ensure that funds are used only for the purposes for which they are restricted and that unspent funds are reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language pertaining to restricted objects of expenditures is amended to disallow transfers to other purposes and makes it possible for the Office of Legislative Audits to track the disposition of funds in restricted statewide subobjects.

Amendment No.

106

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 19 Legislative Additions to the Budget

SECTION 19. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds are added to the fiscal 2024 appropriation in the following manner:

- (1) \$246,074,000 in general funds is added for the purpose of funding the following capital projects and programs with pay-as-you-go funds in the following budget codes:
 - (a) \$90,000,000 for the Healthy School Facility Fund (R00A07.02) in the Interagency Commission on School Construction for the purpose of providing funds to public primary and secondary schools in the State to improve the health of school facilities. Grants shall be administered in accordance with § 5–322 of the Education Article. Further provided that funds shall be administered by the Interagency Commission on School Construction;
 - (b) \$19,224,000 for the Public School Construction Program (R00A07.02) in the Interagency Commission on School Construction for the purpose of providing funds to construct public school buildings and public school capital improvements, including providing grants to local boards of education for federal E-rate-eligible special construction such as fiber and broadband infrastructure projects for E-rate-eligible applicants in accordance with Title 5, Subtitle 3 of the Education Article;
 - (c) \$25,700,000 for the Baltimore City Convention Center (H00H01.03) in the Department of General Services to design, construct, and capital equip infrastructure improvements to the Baltimore City Convention Center. Further provided that funds shall be administered by the Maryland Stadium Authority;
 - (d) \$2,000,000 for the Institute for Health Computing (H00H01.03) in the Department of General Services to design, construct, renovate, and capital equip laboratory and office space for the Institute for Health Computing at the North Bethesda Metro location. Further provided that funds shall be administered by the University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus;
 - (e) \$6,000,000 for the Northwest Hospital Center project (H00H01.03) in the Department of General Services to design, construct, and capital equip the Northwest Hospital Center. Further provided that funds shall be administered by the Maryland Hospital Association;
 - (f) \$10,000,000 for the University of Maryland Shore Regional Hospital project (H00H01.03) in the Department of General Services to design, construct, and

Sections

capital equip the University of Maryland Shore Regional Hospital. Further provided that funds shall be administered by the University of Maryland Medical System;

- (g) \$93,150,000 for Miscellaneous Grants – Capital (H00H01.03) in the Department of General Services for the purpose of funding the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping for the following capital projects:
- (i) \$18,500,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Montgomery County for the Montgomery County Bus Rapid Transit project (Montgomery County);
 - (ii) \$3,000,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Baltimore County for infrastructure improvements to the Randallstown Library (Baltimore County);
 - (iii) \$25,700,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Prince George’s County for infrastructure improvements to the New Carrollton Metro project (Prince George’s County);
 - (iv) \$4,000,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Baltimore County for infrastructure improvements at Security Square Mall (Baltimore County);
 - (v) \$1,500,000 for a grant to the Board of Directors of the Olney Boys and Girls Community Sports Association, Inc. for improvements to the Olney Boys and Girls Club Performance Sports Center (Montgomery County);
 - (vi) \$1,000,000 for a grant to the Montgomery Village Foundation for infrastructure improvements to South Valley Park (Montgomery County);
 - (vii) \$500,000 for a grant to the Commissioners of the Town of Brookeville for infrastructure improvements on Market Street (Montgomery County);
 - (viii) \$12,000,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Baltimore County for infrastructure improvements to the Lansdowne Library (Baltimore County);

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- (ix) \$1,500,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Anne Arundel County for the grain elevator project (Anne Arundel County);
- (x) \$1,150,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Anne Arundel County for the Parole Transportation Center project (Anne Arundel County);
- (xi) \$850,000 for a grant to the MM&P Maritime Advancement, Training, and Education Safety Program for the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies project, including an emergency generator system (Anne Arundel County);
- (xii) \$5,000,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Howard County for the Extended North Tunnel project for stormwater management (Howard County);
- (xiii) \$1,100,000 for a grant to Frederick County for the Public Safety Communications project, including the placement of a public safety communications shelter (Frederick County);
- (xiv) \$1,000,000 for a grant to Frederick County for the Animal Control Addition project, including expansion of the existing facility (Frederick County);
- (xv) \$3,000,000 for a grant to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Salisbury for infrastructure improvements in the City of Salisbury (Wicomico County);
- (xvi) \$150,000 for a grant to the Mt. Savage Volunteer Fire Company for infrastructure improvements to the Mt. Savage Volunteer Fire Company building (Allegany County);
- (xvii) \$2,000,000 for a grant to the Columbia Center for the Theatrical Arts for infrastructure improvements to the Howard County New Cultural Center (Howard County);
- (xviii) \$3,000,000 for a grant to the Howard County Housing Commission for the Artist Flats project (Howard County);
- (xix) \$5,000,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Howard County for infrastructure improvements to a new library complex (Howard County);

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- (xx) \$1,200,000 for a grant to the Deep Creek Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. for infrastructure improvements to the Deep Creek Volunteer Fire Company (Garrett County);
- (xxi) \$500,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Montgomery County for infrastructure improvements to local public school playgrounds (Montgomery County);
- (xxii) \$500,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Montgomery County for the Damascus Library and Senior Center Refurbishment project (Montgomery County); and
- (xxiii) \$1,000,000 for a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Montgomery County for infrastructure improvements to the Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center (Montgomery County).

Funds not expended for these added purposes may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (2) \$400,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program Y01A02.01 Dedicated Purpose Account within the State Reserve Fund to be transferred to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund to offset future education costs;
- (3) \$100,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program Y01A02.01 Dedicated Purpose Account within the State Reserve Fund to support the State match for future federal grant awards and to fund future environmental studies for the Red Line and Southern Maryland Rapid Transit projects. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (4) \$40,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00F00.04 Office of Business Development within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of the Cannabis Business Assistance Fund. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (5) \$13,000,000 for the implementation of HB 982, contingent on the enactment of HB 982 establishing a Pilot Program for Human Services Careers Scholarship and a Pilot Program for Human Services Careers and requiring a match of certain employee contributions, to be allocated as follows:
 - (a) \$11,950,000 to program F10A02.08 Statewide Expenses within the Department of Budget and Management for the provision of a contribution of up to \$600 to employees participating in the State supplemental retirement plans under certain circumstances;

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- (b) \$1,000,000 to program R62I00.36 Workforce Shortage Student Assistance Grants within the Maryland Higher Education Commission for scholarships established under the Pilot Program for Human Services Careers Scholarship; and
- (c) \$50,000 to program N00E01.01 Division of Budget, Finance, and Personnel within the Department of Human Services for stipends established under the Pilot Program for Human Services Careers.

Funds not expended for these added purposes may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (6) \$10,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program A15000.03 Miscellaneous Grants within Payments to Civil Divisions of the State for a grant to Baltimore City. The funds may only be expended to the purpose of increasing the local contribution to Baltimore City Public Schools above the fiscal 2023 contribution. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (7) \$10,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A02.13 Innovative Programs within the Aid to Education budget within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of funding the Teacher Development and Retention Fund contingent on the enactment of HB 1219 or SB 893. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (8) \$9,250,000 in special funds is added to the appropriation for program C90G00.01 General Administration and Hearings within the Public Service Commission for the purpose of repairing existing natural gas infrastructure in the Washington Gas service area contingent on the enactment of legislation that authorizes the Maryland Gas Expansion Funds to be used for repair of existing natural gas infrastructure. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;
- (9) \$8,450,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for the State Treasurer's Office in the following amounts:
 - (a) \$6,650,000 to program E20B01.01 Treasury Management for the purpose of positions and resources to implement the transition of the Maryland 529 program into the State Treasurer's Office contingent on the enactment of SB 959 or HB 1290 transitioning the administration of the Maryland 529 program into the State Treasurer's Office; and
 - (b) \$1,800,000 to program E20B01.02 Major Information Technology for the purpose of funding a Financial Systems Modernization major Information Technology project.

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Funds not expended for these added purposes may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (10) \$8,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00A01.01 Executive Direction within the Office of the Secretary within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of supporting infrastructure operations of the Maryland Board of Nursing contingent on the enactment of HB 611 or SB 690 requiring that infrastructure operations are under the Secretary of Health and prohibiting the use of the Board of Nursing Fund for infrastructure operations. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (11) \$6,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program L00A12.20 Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation within the Maryland Department of Agriculture for the purpose of providing additional funding for the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation's core loan programs, including the Maryland Resource-Based Industry Financing Fund, given the demand for loans in the high interest rate environment. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (12) \$5,300,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program E00A01.01 Executive Direction within the Comptroller of Maryland for the purposes of ownership, consulting services, buildout, and implementation of a central document management system and the ownership, consulting services, buildout, and implementation of a customer relationship management system. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (13) \$5,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D53T00.01 General Administration within the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems for the purpose of providing additional funds to the Maryland Emergency Medical Services Operations Fund. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (14) \$5,000,000 in general funds is added within the Maryland Department of Health to support abortion care and family planning services:
 - (a) \$3,500,000 to the appropriation for program M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements for the purpose of increasing provider reimbursement rates for abortion care services; and
 - (b) \$1,500,000 to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services for the purpose of the Maryland Family Planning and

Sections

Reproductive Health Program and other grants distributed to providers of family planning services.

Funds not expended for these added purposes may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(15) \$5,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program N00I00.05 Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees within the Department of Human Services to assist with the resettlement in Maryland of immigrants who are relocated to Maryland jurisdictions from other areas. Funds should be expended for housing, food, and other needed assistance. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(16) \$5,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R62I00.26 Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program within the Maryland Higher Education Commission for the purpose of the Nancy Grasmick Teacher award that provides student loan repayment assistance to qualifying Maryland teachers contingent on the enactment of HB 1219 or SB 893. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(17) \$3,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program C00A00.06 Administrative Office of the Courts within the Judiciary to increase the appropriation for the Maryland Legal Services Corporation for the purpose of providing increased Access to Counsel services. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(18) \$3,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of implementing the 2022 to 2026 Maryland State Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias submitted by the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(19) \$3,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R62I00.52 Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers within the Maryland Higher Education Commission for the purpose of student loan repayment assistance to police officers and probation agents contingent on the enactment of HB 982 increasing required funding for the program and adding eligible recipients. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (20) \$3,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A02.07 Students with Disabilities Nonpublic Placement Program within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of funding the State share of nonpublic school special education teacher salaries contingent on the enactment of HB 448 or SB 311 requiring nonpublic school special education teachers receive a salary that is equivalent to local school system salaries. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (21) \$2,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program E17A17.01 Administration and Enforcement within the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission for the purpose of the Social Equity Partnership Grant Program contingent on the enactment of HB 556 or SB 516 establishing the Social Equity Partnership Grant Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (22) \$2,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T50T01.15 Maryland Equitech Growth Fund within the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) for the purpose of the Maryland Equitech Growth Fund contingent on the enactment of HB 781 or SB 699 establishing the Equitech Growth Fund in TEDCO. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (23) \$1,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B28 University of Baltimore for the purpose of supporting the William Donald Schaefer Center for Public Policy. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (24) \$1,200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B25 University of Maryland Eastern Shore for the purpose of providing the required State match for federal grants obtained by the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (25) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters within the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services for the purpose of awarding a grant to the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault for support of community rape crisis centers. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (26) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.02 Local Law Enforcement Grants within the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and

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Victim Services for the purpose of increasing the grant for the Maryland Domestic Violence Program to fund domestic violence centers across the State. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (27) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D77A01.01 Prescription Drug Affordability Board for the purpose of operating expenses within the Prescription Drug Affordability Board. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (28) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within the Funding for Educational Organization budget within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation to support one-time operating expenses for the STEM initiative, including curriculum development and equipment purchases. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (29) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B30 University of Maryland Global Campus for the purpose of supporting the 3D Scholars scholarship program for Prince George's County public high school students to attend Prince George's Community College and the University of Maryland Global Campus. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (30) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program V00E01.01 Community Operations Administration and Support within the Department of Juvenile Services for the purpose of providing grant funding to Roca, Inc. to expand services around the State. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (31) \$982,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D16A06.01 Office of the Secretary of State within the Office of the Secretary of State for the purpose of providing grant funding to Sister States of Maryland, Inc., for the Exploring Cultural Linkages Between Black Marylanders and Civil Rights Movements Abroad project. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (32) \$825,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program L00A12.11 Maryland Agricultural Fair Board within the Maryland Department of Agriculture for the purpose of providing additional funding to promote State and county agricultural fairs and exhibits, given the decline in horse racing revenues supporting the program. Funds

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not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (33) \$750,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B24 Towson University for the purpose of the College of Health Professions to increase the representation of Hispanics and Latinos in the healthcare professions through dedicated staff to support enrollment, engagement, degree completion, and wrap-around services to support academic success of these students. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (34) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D40W01.07 Management Planning and Education Outreach within the Department of Planning for the purpose of a passthrough grant for the Strengthening the Humanities in Nonprofits for Equity (SHINE) program within Maryland Humanities to support small and mid-size nonprofits in strengthening artistic, cultural, and educational opportunities and programming in communities across the State. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (35) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D40W01.07 Management Planning and Education Outreach within the Department of Planning for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Center for History and Culture to offset operating shortfalls. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (36) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program N00G00.03 Child Welfare Services within the Social Services Administration within the Department of Human Services for the purpose of providing a grant to Adoptions Together for the Family Find Step Down Project to help foster children achieve permanency through adoption. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (37) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program Q00G00.01 General Administration within the Police and Correctional Training Commissions budget within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services for the implementation of HB 223 or SB 192, contingent on the enactment of HB 223 or SB 192 establishing requirements, procedures, and prohibitions relating to the use of facial recognition technology by a law enforcement agency. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (38) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B23 Bowie State University for the purpose of supporting the Center for Justice, Law, and Civic Engagement. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (39) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B21 the University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus for the purpose of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry to provide preventive, restorative, urgent, and advanced oral health care for children in Baltimore not eligible for Medicaid oral health care due to undetermined immigration status. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (40) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B22 University of Maryland, College Park Campus for the purpose of providing a grant to Move America, Inc. to foster partnerships between the federal government, state institutions, and the Prince George's County school system to promote jobs, research, and other areas for collaboration. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (41) \$350,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within the Funding for Educational Organizations budget within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Living Classrooms Foundation. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (42) \$325,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B28 University of Baltimore for the purpose of supporting the Center for International and Comparative Law. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (43) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program A15000.03 Miscellaneous Grants within Payments to Civil Divisions of the State to the purpose of a grant to Kent County. The funds may only be expended to the purpose of increasing the local contribution to Kent County Public Schools above the fiscal 2023 contribution. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (44) \$250,000 in general funds and 1.0 regular position is added to the appropriation for program C81C00.17 Educational Affairs Division within the Office of the Attorney General for the purpose of hiring a special education ombudsman in accordance with Chapter 562 of 2020. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (45) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A02.02 The Children’s Cabinet Interagency Fund within the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services for the purpose of increasing grant funding for the Young Readers Matching Grant Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (46) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D28A03.41 General Administration within the Maryland Stadium Authority for the purpose of facilitating nationally televised Maryland live sports and sports documentary content. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (47) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B23 Bowie State University for the purpose of providing funding for mental health support for students at Bowie State University. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (48) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B22 University of Maryland, College Park Campus (UMCP) for the purpose of funding the Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability that is administered by the National Center for Smart Growth at UMCP. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (49) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D40W01.07 Management Planning and Education Outreach within the Department of Planning for the purpose of a grant to Amtrak to restore a historic train map at the Baltimore Penn Station facility. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (50) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program L00A12.07 State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners within the Maryland Department of Agriculture for the purpose of providing additional funding to the Spay/Neuter Fund to provide grants to State organizations that facilitate spay and neuter services for cats and dogs. Funds not

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expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (51) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program Y01A02.01 Dedicated Purpose Account within the Reserve Fund for the purpose of providing technical assistance in accordance with HB 261 or SB 424 contingent on the enactment of HB 261 or SB 424. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (52) \$194,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing an operating grant to Historic Annapolis, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (53) \$125,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D28A03.41 General Administration within the Maryland Stadium Authority for the purpose of conducting a market and economic feasibility study for amphitheaters in Charles County, which at a minimum, explores the costs, benefits, and concerns of pursuing these projects. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (54) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00G00.02 Office of Tourism Development within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund; and
- (55) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00G00.05 Maryland State Arts Council within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Your Public Radio Corporation to produce a multiday event or events that primarily showcase Maryland-based film and filmmakers. Further provided that these added funds shall not be included in the fiscal 2025 calculation of Arts Council formula funding. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This section outlines the legislative additions to the budget.

Amendment No.

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Add the following section:

Section 20 Report on Improving the Academic Approval Process

SECTION 20. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation for the University System of Maryland (USM), \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation for Morgan State University (MSU), \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation for St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM), \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) made for the purpose of the Joseph A. Sellinger Formula Aid to Non-public Institutions for Higher Education (R62I00.03), and \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation for MHEC made for the purpose of The Senator John A. Cade Funding Formula (R62I00.05) may not be expended until a report is submitted, on recommendations to improve MHEC's academic program approval process by making it a transparent, efficient, evidence-based, and timely process that allows institutions the flexibility to respond to the needs of the students and State. The report shall be submitted by a workgroup consisting of one member from the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, one member from the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee, two members from the House Appropriations Committee, and one representative each from USM, MSU, SMCM, the Maryland Independent College and University Association, the Maryland Association of Community Colleges, and the Secretary of MHEC. The report shall include recommendations regarding whether MHEC shall:

- (1) develop operational missions to differentiate each institution's roles in meeting the State's goals;
- (2) develop three-year institutional plans to help facilitate efficient coordination of academic degree program offerings;
- (3) develop mechanisms to ensure that objective data demonstrates that proposed programs support State workforce needs and the economic competitiveness of the State and that MHEC has sufficient data analytics staff to evaluate these objectives;
- (4) develop measurable criteria to determine when a proposed new program is considered unreasonable/unnecessary duplicative;
- (5) make any revisions to the objection process, including any recommended statutory changes;
- (6) make any revisions of the criteria that trigger a full program review;
- (7) given projected enrollment declines, make any revisions to the program approval process to encourage collaboration among institutions to ensure viable programs; and

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- (8) make any revisions to ensure that the program approval process has the primary goal of meeting the needs of the students and the State while ensuring full compliance with all applicable laws and legal precedents regarding program approval with respect to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2023, and the committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funding for USM, MSU, SMCM, MHEC, the Joseph A. Sellinger formula, and the Senator John A. Cade funding formula until a report is submitted on recommendations to improve MHEC’s program approval process to make it a transparent, efficient, evidence-based, and timely process that will allow institutions the flexibility to respond to the needs of the State and students.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on improving the academic approval process	USM MSU SMCM Maryland Independent College and University Association Maryland Association of Community Colleges MHEC	December 1, 2023

Amendment No.

108

Add the following section:

Section 21 Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending Report

SECTION 21. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$200,000 of the general fund appropriation in the Maryland Department of Planning, \$200,000 of the general fund appropriation in the Department of Natural Resources, \$200,000 of the general fund appropriation in the Maryland Department of Agriculture, \$200,000 of the general fund appropriation in the Maryland Department of the Environment, and \$200,000 of the general fund appropriation in the Department of Budget and Management made for the purpose of general operating expenses may not be expended until the agencies provide a report to the budget

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committees on Chesapeake Bay restoration spending. The report shall be drafted subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) in terms of both electronic format to be used and data to be included. The report shall include:

- (1) fiscal 2023 annual spending by fund, fund source, program, and State government agency; associated nutrient and sediment reductions; and the impact on living resources and ambient water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen, water clarity, and “chlorophyll a” for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries to be submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS;
- (2) projected fiscal 2024 to 2025 annual spending by fund, fund source, program, and State government agency; associated nutrient and sediment reductions; and the impact on living resources and ambient water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen, water clarity, and “chlorophyll a” for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries to be submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS;
- (3) an overall framework discussing the needed regulations, revenues, laws, and administrative actions and their impacts on individuals, organizations, governments, and businesses by year from fiscal 2023 to 2025 in order to reach the calendar 2025 requirement of having all best management practices in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay, to be both written in narrative form and tabulated in spreadsheet form that is submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS;
- (4) an analysis of the various options for financing Chesapeake Bay restoration including public-private partnerships, a regional financing authority, nutrient trading, technological developments, and any other policy innovations that would improve the effectiveness of Maryland and other states’ efforts toward Chesapeake Bay restoration;
- (5) an analysis on how cost effective the existing State funding sources, such as the Bay Restoration Fund, Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund, Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund, and Clean Water Commerce Account among others, are for Chesapeake Bay restoration purposes; and
- (6) updated information on the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan implementation and how the loads associated with the Conowingo Dam infill, growth of people and animals, and climate change will be addressed.

The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2023, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

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Explanation: This language restricts funding in the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) until the agencies provide a report by December 1, 2023, on recent and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending and associated impacts, and the overall framework to meet the calendar 2025 requirement of having all best management practices in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay. In addition, the language expresses the intent that the report include information on policy innovations that improve the effectiveness of Maryland and other states' efforts toward Chesapeake Bay restoration; an analysis of how cost effective the State funding sources are that are being used; updated information on the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan implementation; and how Conowingo Dam infill, people and animal growth, and climate change will be addressed.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Historical and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending	MDP DNR MDA MDE DBM	December 1, 2023

Amendment No. **109**

Add the following section:

Section 22 Out-of-home Placements Report

SECTION 22. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses in D21A02.01 Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services' Children and Youth Division (CYD), \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Department of Human Services Social Services Administration, \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Department of Juvenile Services, \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Maryland Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Administration, and \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Maryland State Department of Education may not be expended until CYD submits a report on behalf of the Children's Cabinet to the budget committees on out-of-home placements containing:

- (1) the total number and one-day counts (as of January 1) of out-of-home placements and entries by jurisdiction, by agency, and by placement type for fiscal 2021, 2022, and 2023;

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- (2) the total number and one-day counts (as of January 1) of out-of-state placements, including the number of family home, community-based, and noncommunity-based out-of-state placements for fiscal 2021, 2022, and 2023 categorized by state and by age category;
- (3) the costs associated with out-of-home placements;
- (4) an explanation of recent placement trends;
- (5) findings of child abuse and neglect occurring while families are receiving family preservation services or within one year of each case closure; and
- (6) areas of concern related to trends in out-of-home and/or out-of-state placements and potential corrective actions that the Children’s Cabinet and local management boards can take to address these concerns.

Further provided that each agency or administration that funds or places children and youth in out-of-home placements shall assist CYD and comply with any data requests necessary for the timely production of the report. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees by January 1, 2024, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise for any other purpose. Should the report not be submitted by the requested date, the restricted funds shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: The out-of-home placements report is a report mandated by Human Services Article, Section 8-703(e). It is also annually requested to be submitted to the budget committees. This report is a useful evaluative tool to assess the well-being of Maryland’s youth and families and to identify areas of concern related to youth placed out of home. This language restricts funds in each of the data reporting agencies and specifies the data of interest to the General Assembly, including agency-specific data for out-of-home and out-of-state placements.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Out-of-home placements report	Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services Department of Human Services Department of Juvenile Services Maryland Department of Health Maryland State Department of Education	January 1, 2024

Amendment No. **110**

Add the following section:

Section 23 Executive Long-term Forecast

SECTION 23. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor's budget books shall include a forecast of the impact of the executive budget proposal on the long-term fiscal condition of the General Fund, the Transportation Trust Fund, the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund, and higher education Current Unrestricted Fund accounts. This forecast shall estimate aggregate revenues, expenditures, and fund balances in each account for the fiscal year last completed, the current year, the budget year, and 4 years thereafter. Expenditures shall be reported at such agency, program or unit levels, or categories as may be determined appropriate after consultation with the Department of Legislative Services. A statement of major assumptions underlying the forecast shall also be provided, including but not limited to general salary increases, inflation, and growth of caseloads in significant program areas.

Explanation: This annual language provides for the delivery of the executive's General Fund, transportation, Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund, and higher education forecasts and defines the conditions under which they are to be provided.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Executive forecasts	Department of Budget and Management	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2025 Budget Books

Amendment No. **111**

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 24 Across-the-board Reductions and Higher Education

SECTION 24. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That all across-the-board reductions applied to the Executive Branch, unless otherwise stated, shall apply to current unrestricted and general funds in the University System of Maryland, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Morgan State University, and Baltimore City Community College.

Explanation: This section explicitly applies reductions intended for the full Executive Branch to the University System of Maryland, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Morgan State University, and Baltimore City Community College unless their exclusion is specifically stated.

Amendment No. **112**

Add the following section:

Section 25 Reporting Federal Funds

SECTION 25. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor's budget books shall include a summary statement of federal revenues by major federal program sources supporting the federal appropriations made therein along with the major assumptions underpinning the federal fund estimates. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall exercise due diligence in reporting this data and ensure that they are updated as appropriate to reflect ongoing congressional action on the federal budget. In addition, DBM shall provide to the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) data for the actual, current, and budget years listing the components of each federal fund appropriation by Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number or equivalent detail for programs not in the catalog. Data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of DLS.

Explanation: This annual language provides for consistent reporting of federal monies received by the State.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reporting components of each federal fund appropriation	DBM	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2025 Budget Books

Amendment No. **113**

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 26 Federal Fund Spending

SECTION 26. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That in the expenditure of federal funds appropriated in this budget or subsequent to the enactment of this budget by the budget amendment process:

- (1) State agencies shall administer these federal funds in a manner that recognizes that federal funds are taxpayer dollars that require prudent fiscal management, careful application to the purposes for which they are directed, and strict attention to budgetary and accounting procedures established for the administration of all public funds.
- (2) For fiscal 2024, except with respect to capital appropriations, to the extent consistent with federal requirements:
 - (a) when expenditures or encumbrances may be charged to either State or federal fund sources, federal funds shall be charged before State funds are charged except that this policy does not apply to the Department of Human Services with respect to federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds to be carried forward into future years;
 - (b) when additional federal funds are sought or otherwise become available in the course of the fiscal year, agencies shall consider, in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), whether opportunities exist to use these federal revenues to support existing operations rather than to expand programs or establish new ones; and
 - (c) DBM shall take appropriate actions to effectively establish the provisions of this section as policies of the State with respect to the administration of federal funds by executive agencies.

Explanation: This annual language defines the policies under which federal funds shall be used in the State budget.

Amendment No. **114**

Add the following section:

Section 27 Reporting on Budget Data and Organizational Charts

SECTION 27. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that all State departments, agencies, bureaus, commissions, boards, and other organizational

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units included in the State budget, including the Judiciary, shall prepare and submit items for the fiscal 2025 budget detailed by Comptroller subobject classification in accordance with instructions promulgated by the Comptroller of Maryland. The presentation of budget data in the Governor's budget books shall include object, fund, and personnel data in the manner provided for in fiscal 2024 except as indicated elsewhere in this Act; however, this may not preclude the placement of additional information into the budget books. For actual fiscal 2023 spending, the fiscal 2024 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2025 allowance, the budget detail shall be available from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) automated data system at the subobject level by subobject codes and classifications for all agencies. To the extent possible, except for public higher education institutions, subobject expenditures shall be designated by fund for actual fiscal 2023 spending, the fiscal 2024 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2025 allowance. The agencies shall exercise due diligence in reporting this data and ensuring correspondence between reported position and expenditure data for the actual, current, and budget fiscal years. This data shall be made available on request and in a format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services (DLS). Further, the expenditure of appropriations shall be reported and accounted for by the subobject classification in accordance with the instructions promulgated by the Comptroller of Maryland.

Further provided that due diligence shall be taken to accurately report full-time equivalent (FTE) counts of contractual FTEs in the budget books. For the purpose of this count, contractual FTEs are defined as those individuals having an employee-employer relationship with the State. This count shall include those individuals in higher education institutions who meet this definition but are paid with additional assistance funds.

Further provided that DBM shall provide to DLS with the allowance for each department, unit, agency, office, and institution, a one-page organizational chart in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format that depicts the allocation of personnel across operational and administrative activities of the entity.

Further provided that for each across-the-board reduction to appropriations or positions in the fiscal 2025 Budget Bill affecting fiscal 2024 or 2025, DBM shall allocate the reduction for each agency in a level of detail not less than the three-digit R*Stars financial agency code and by each fund type.

Further provided that DBM shall provide to DLS special and federal fund accounting detail for the fiscal year last completed, current year, and budget year for each fund. The account detail, to be submitted with the allowance, should at a minimum provide revenue and expenditure detail, along with starting and ending balances.

Further provided that DBM shall provide to DLS by September 1, 2023, a list of subprograms used by each department, unit, agency, office, and institution, along with a brief description of the subprograms' purpose and responsibilities.

Explanation: This annual language provides for consistent reporting of fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 budget data and provides for the submission of department, unit, agency, office, and

Sections

institutions' organizational charts to DLS with the allowance. It also requires DBM to allocate across-the-board reductions to positions or funding to ensure transparency in budget allocations.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Agency organizational charts and special and federal fund accounting detail	DBM	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2025 Budget Books
List of subprograms	DBM	September 1, 2023

Amendment No. **115**

Add the following section:

Section 28 Interagency Agreements

SECTION 28. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before August 1, 2023, each State agency and each public institution of higher education shall report to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) any agreements in place for any part of fiscal 2023 between State agencies and any public institution of higher education involving potential expenditures in excess of \$100,000 over the term of the agreement. Further provided that DBM shall provide direction and guidance to all State agencies and public institutions of higher education as to the procedures and specific elements of data to be reported with respect to these interagency agreements, to include at a minimum:

- (1) a common code for each interagency agreement that specifically identifies each agreement and the fiscal year in which the agreement began;
- (2) the starting date for each agreement;
- (3) the ending date for each agreement;
- (4) a total potential expenditure, or not-to-exceed dollar amount, for the services to be rendered over the term of the agreement by any public institution of higher education to any State agency;
- (5) a description of the nature of the goods and services to be provided;
- (6) the total number of personnel, both full- and part-time, associated with the agreement;

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- (7) contact information for the agency and the public institution of higher education for the person(s) having direct oversight or knowledge of the agreement;
- (8) total indirect cost recovery or facilities and administrative (F&A) expenditures authorized for the agreement;
- (9) the indirect cost recovery or F&A rate for the agreement and brief description of how the rate was determined;
- (10) actual expenditures for the most recently closed fiscal year;
- (11) actual base expenditures that the indirect cost recovery or F&A rate may be applied against during the most recently closed fiscal year;
- (12) actual expenditures for indirect cost recovery or F&A for the most recently closed fiscal year; and
- (13) total authorized expenditures for any subaward(s) or subcontract(s) being used as part of the agreement and a brief description of the type of award or contract.

Further provided that DBM shall submit a consolidated report to the budget committees and the Department of Legislative Services by December 1, 2023, that contains information on all agreements between State agencies and any public institution of higher education involving potential expenditures in excess of \$100,000 that were in effect at any time during fiscal 2023.

Further provided that no new higher education interagency agreement with State agencies with a projected value in excess of \$500,000 may be entered into during fiscal 2024 without prior approval of the Secretary of Budget and Management.

Explanation: This annual language requires DBM to report on all interagency agreements between State agencies and public institutions of higher education having a total potential expenditure over the term of the agreement in excess of \$100,000. This applies only to agreements for the purchase of goods and/or services and does not apply to grants or space agreements. Further, it requires that no new higher education interagency agreement with State agencies with a projected value in excess of \$500,000 be entered into during fiscal 2024 without prior approval of the Secretary of Budget and Management.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Consolidated report on interagency agreements	DBM	December 1, 2023

Amendment No.

116

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Add the following section:

Section 29 Budget Amendments

SECTION 29. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any budget amendment to increase the total amount of special, federal, or higher education (current restricted and current unrestricted) fund appropriations, or to make reimbursable fund transfers from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services or the Maryland Department of Emergency Management made in Section 1 of this Act shall be subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) This section may not apply to budget amendments for the sole purpose of:
 - (a) appropriating funds available as a result of the award of federal disaster assistance; and
 - (b) transferring funds from the State Reserve Fund – Economic Development Opportunities Account for projects approved by the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC).

- (2) Budget amendments increasing total appropriations in any fund account by \$100,000 or more may not be approved by the Governor until:
 - (a) that amendment has been submitted to the Department of Legislative Services (DLS); and
 - (b) the budget committees or LPC has considered the amendment or 45 days have elapsed from the date of submission of the amendment. Each amendment submitted to DLS shall include a statement of the amount, sources of funds and purposes of the amendment, and a summary of the impact on regular position or contractual full-time equivalent payroll requirements.

- (3) Unless permitted by the budget bill or the accompanying supporting documentation or by any other authorizing legislation, and notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3-216 of the Transportation Article, a budget amendment may not:
 - (a) restore funds for items or purposes specifically denied by the General Assembly;
 - (b) fund a capital project not authorized by the General Assembly provided, however, that subject to provisions of the Transportation Article, projects of the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) shall be restricted as provided in Section 1 of this Act;
 - (c) increase the scope of a capital project by an amount 7.5% or more over the approved estimate or 5.0% or more over the net square footage of the approved project until the amendment has been submitted to DLS, and the budget

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committees have considered and offered comment to the Governor, or 45 days have elapsed from the date of submission of the amendment. This provision does not apply to MDOT; and

- (d) provide for the additional appropriation of special, federal, or higher education funds of more than \$100,000 for the reclassification of a position or positions.
- (4) A budget may not be amended to increase a federal fund appropriation by \$100,000 or more unless documentation evidencing the increase in funds is provided with the amendment and fund availability is certified by the Secretary of Budget and Management.
- (5) No expenditure or contractual obligation of funds authorized by a proposed budget amendment may be made prior to approval of that amendment by the Governor.
- (6) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any federal, special, or higher education fund appropriation may be increased by budget amendment upon a declaration by the Board of Public Works that the amendment is essential to maintaining public safety, health, or welfare, including protecting the environment or the economic welfare of the State.
- (7) Budget amendments for new major information technology projects, as defined by Sections 3A-301 and 3A-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, must include an Information Technology Project Request, as defined in Section 3A-308 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.
- (8) Further provided that the fiscal 2024 appropriation detail as shown in the Governor's budget books submitted to the General Assembly in January 2024 and the supporting electronic detail may not include appropriations for budget amendments that have not been signed by the Governor, exclusive of the MDOT pay-as-you-go capital program.
- (9) Further provided that it is the policy of the State to recognize and appropriate additional special, higher education, and federal revenues in the budget bill as approved by the General Assembly. Further provided that for the fiscal 2024 allowance, the Department of Budget and Management shall continue policies and procedures to minimize reliance on budget amendments for appropriations that could be included in a deficiency appropriation.

Explanation: This annual language defines the process under which budget amendments may be used.

Amendment No.

117

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 30 Maintenance of Accounting Systems

SECTION 30. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

- (1) The Secretary of Health shall maintain the accounting systems necessary to determine the extent to which funds appropriated for fiscal 2023 in program M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements and M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements have been disbursed for services provided in that fiscal year and shall prepare and submit the monthly reports by fund type required under this section for that program.
- (2) The State Superintendent of Schools shall maintain the accounting systems necessary to determine the extent to which funds appropriated for fiscal 2023 to program R00A02.07 Students With Disabilities for nonpublic placements have been disbursed for services provided in that fiscal year and to prepare monthly reports as required under this section for that program.
- (3) The Secretary of Human Services shall maintain the accounting systems necessary to determine the extent to which funds appropriated for fiscal 2023 in program N00G00.01 Foster Care Maintenance Payments have been disbursed for services provided in that fiscal year, including detail by placement type for the average monthly caseload, average monthly cost per case, and the total expended for each foster care program, and to prepare the monthly reports required under this section for that program.
- (4) For the programs specified, reports must indicate by fund type total appropriations for fiscal 2023 and total disbursements for services provided during that fiscal year up through the last day of the second month preceding the date on which the report is to be submitted and a comparison to data applicable to those periods in the preceding fiscal year.
- (5) Reports shall be submitted to the budget committees, the Department of Legislative Services, the Department of Budget and Management, and the Comptroller beginning August 15, 2023, and submitted on a monthly basis thereafter.
- (6) It is the intent of the General Assembly that general funds appropriated for fiscal 2023 to the programs specified that have not been disbursed within a reasonable period, not to exceed 12 months from the end of the fiscal year, shall revert.

Explanation: This annual language requires the maintenance of accounting systems for certain programs, states the intent of the General Assembly that general funds not disbursed be reverted, and requires reporting of disbursements by the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), the

Sections

Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), and the Department of Human Services (DHS).

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on appropriations and disbursements in M00Q01.03, M00Q01.10, R00A02.07, and N00G00.01	MDH MSDE DHS	August 15, 2023, and monthly thereafter

Amendment No. **118**

Add the following section:

Section 31 Competitive Grant Applications

SECTION 31. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act each make billions of dollars of federal grant funds available to states and other entities on a competitive basis, it is the intent of the General Assembly that State agencies aggressively pursue funding opportunities that align with the goals of the State. The General Assembly notes that many of the grant opportunities require the commitment of State matching funds and asks that agencies notify the budget committees at least 10 days prior to submitting the application if the receipt of the grant will require the allocation of additional State resources to the agency in fiscal 2024 or future years. The submission should include a brief description of the opportunity, the amount of federal funds the State is seeking, and the required State match.

Further provided that on a quarterly basis beginning July 1, 2023, the committees request a report from the Department of Budget and Management summarizing all of the competitive grants the State has applied for, the status of the application, and any state match that is required by the grant.

Explanation: The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act each make billions of dollars of federal grant funds available to states and other entities on a competitive basis. There is limited legislative oversight on these funding opportunities and the impact they may have on future commitment of State resources. This language establishes a process for legislative review and tracking of competitive grant opportunities prior to the commitment of State funds.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Notice of competitive grant application requiring State match	DBM All State agencies	10 days prior to submission of grant application
Competitive grant application summary reports	DBM	July 1, 2023 October 1, 2023 January 1, 2024 April 1, 2024

Amendment No.

119

Add the following section:

Section 32 Positions Abolished in the Budget

SECTION 32. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That no position identification number assigned to a position abolished in this budget may be reassigned to a job or function different from that to which it was assigned when the budget was submitted to the General Assembly. Incumbents in positions abolished may continue State employment in another position.

Explanation: This language prevents employees from being moved into positions abolished in the budget. It also allows that incumbents in abolished positions may continue State employment in another position.

Amendment No.

120

Add the following section:

Section 33 Injured Workers' Insurance Fund Accounts

SECTION 33. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Accounting Division of the Comptroller of Maryland shall establish a subsidiary ledger control account to debit all State agency funds budgeted under subobject 0175 (Workers' Compensation) and to credit all payments disbursed to the Injured Workers' Insurance Fund (IWIF) via transmittal. The control account shall also record all funds withdrawn from IWIF and returned to the State and subsequently transferred to the General Fund. IWIF shall submit monthly reports to the Department of Legislative Services concerning the status of the account.

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Explanation: This section provides continuation of a system to track workers' compensation payments to IWIF for payments of claims, current expenses, and funded liability for incurred losses by the State.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the status of ledger control account	IWIF	Monthly beginning July 1, 2023

Amendment No.

121

Add the following section:

Section 34 The "Rule of 100"

SECTION 34. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Board of Public Works (BPW), in exercising its authority to create additional positions pursuant to Section 7-236 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, may authorize during the fiscal year no more than 100 positions in excess of the total number of authorized State positions on July 1, 2023, as determined by the Secretary of Budget and Management. Provided, however, that if the imposition of this ceiling causes undue hardship in any department, agency, board, or commission, additional positions may be created for that affected unit to the extent that an equal number of positions authorized by the General Assembly for the fiscal year are abolished in that unit or in other units of State government. It is further provided that the limit of 100 does not apply to any position that may be created in conformance with specific manpower statutes that may be enacted by the State or federal government nor to any positions created to implement block grant actions or to implement a program reflecting fundamental changes in federal/State relationships. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, BPW may authorize additional positions to meet public emergencies resulting from an act of God and violent acts of man that are necessary to protect the health and safety of the people of Maryland.

BPW may authorize the creation of additional positions within the Executive Branch provided that 1.25 contractual full-time equivalents (FTE) are abolished for each regular position authorized and that there be no increase in agency funds in the current budget and the next two subsequent budgets as the result of this action. It is the intent of the General Assembly that priority is given to converting individuals that have been in contractual FTEs for at least 2 years. Any position created by this method may not be counted within the limitation of 100 under this section. The numerical limitation on the creation of positions by BPW established in this section may not apply to positions entirely supported by funds from federal or other non-State sources so long as both the appointing authority for the position and the Secretary of Budget and Management certify for each position created under this exception that:

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- (1) funds are available from non-State sources for each position established under this exception; and
- (2) any positions created will be abolished in the event that non-State funds are no longer available. The Secretary of Budget and Management shall certify and report to the General Assembly by June 30, 2024, the status of positions created with non-State funding sources during fiscal 2021 through 2024 under this provision as remaining, authorized, or abolished due to the discontinuation of funds.

Explanation: This annual language, the Rule of 100, limits the number of positions that may be added after the beginning of the fiscal year to 100 and provides exceptions to the limit.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Certification of the status of positions created with non-State funding sources during fiscal 2021 through 2024	DBM	June 30, 2024

Amendment No. **122**

Add the following section:

Section 35 Annual Report on Authorized Positions

SECTION 35. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That immediately following the close of fiscal 2023, the Secretary of Budget and Management shall determine the total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) positions that are authorized as of the last day of fiscal 2023 and on the first day of fiscal 2024. Authorized positions shall include all positions authorized by the General Assembly in the personnel detail of the budgets for fiscal 2023 and 2024, including nonbudgetary programs, the Maryland Transportation Authority, the University System of Maryland self-supported activities, and the Maryland Correctional Enterprises.

The Department of Budget and Management shall also prepare a report during fiscal 2024 for the budget committees upon creation of regular FTE positions through Board of Public Works action and upon transfer or abolition of positions. This report shall also be provided as an appendix in the Governor's Fiscal 2025 Budget Books. It shall note, at the program level:

- (1) where regular FTE positions have been abolished;
- (2) where regular FTE positions have been created;

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- (3) from where and to where regular FTE positions have been transferred; and
- (4) where any other adjustments have been made.

Provision of contractual FTE information in the same fashion as reported in the appendices of the Governor’s Fiscal 2024 Budget Books shall also be provided.

Explanation: This annual language provides reporting requirements for regular positions and contractual FTEs.

Information Request	Author	Due Dates
Total number of FTEs on June 30 and July 1, 2023	Department of Budget and Management (DBM)	July 14, 2023
Report on the creation, transfer, or abolition of regular positions	DBM	As needed

Amendment No.

123

Add the following section:

Section 36 Annual Report on Health Insurance Receipts and Spending

SECTION 36. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Budget and Management shall include as an appendix in the Governor’s Fiscal 2025 Budget Books an accounting of the fiscal 2023 actual, fiscal 2024 working appropriation, and fiscal 2025 estimated revenues and expenditures associated with the employees’ and retirees’ health plan. The data in this report should be consistent with the budget data submitted to the Department of Legislative Services. This accounting shall include:

- (1) any health plan receipts received from State agencies, as well as prescription rebates or recoveries, or audit recoveries, and other miscellaneous recoveries;
- (2) any health plan receipts received from employees and retirees, broken out by active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees;
- (3) any premium, capitated, or claims expenditures paid on behalf of State employees and retirees for any health, mental health, dental, or prescription plan, as well as any administrative costs not covered by these plans, with health, mental health, and prescription drug expenditures broken out by medical payments for active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees, and prescription drug

Sections

expenditures broken out by active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees; and

(4) any balance remaining and held in reserve for future provider payments.

Explanation: This language provides an accounting of the health plan revenues received and expenditures made on behalf of State employees and retirees. The language proposes that the language in the report be consistent with the budget data submitted with the budget bill.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Accounting of the employee and retiree health plan revenues and expenditures	Department of Budget and Management	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2025 Budget Books

Amendment No.

124

Add the following section:

Section 37 Enforcement and Inspection Position Strength Assessment and Vacant Position Filling

SECTION 37. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$200,000 of the general fund appropriation in the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and \$200,000 of the general fund appropriation in the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) made for the purpose of general operating expenses may be expended only for the purpose of filling vacant compliance and enforcement positions, provided that no funds may be expended until MDE and MDA jointly prepare and submit quarterly reports on July 1, 2023; October 1, 2023; January 1, 2024; and April 1, 2024, which shall include:

- (1) an evaluation of the adequacy of Maryland's current authorized compliance and enforcement positions in the departments. In completing the assessment, the departments shall:
 - (a) provide information on the delegation of authority by the federal government to the departments, including any evaluations of this delegated authority, and on the delegation of authority by the departments to other entities; and
 - (b) assess the impact of the role that technology has played on compliance and enforcement responsibilities;
- (2) a comparison of the size, roles, responsibilities, and inspection workload of the departments' compliance and enforcement positions to neighboring or similar states;

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- (3) a list of all inspection activities conducted by the MDE Water and Science Administration, the Land and Materials Administration, the Air and Radiation Administration, and the MDA Office of Resource Conservation;
- (4) the number of:
 - (a) regular positions and contractual full-time equivalents associated with the inspections, including the number of vacancies for fiscal 2013 through 2023 actuals; and
 - (b) fiscal 2024 current and fiscal 2025 estimated appropriations;
- (5) PINs and titles for all positions filled with restricted funding, and how the positions are being used; and
- (6) a description of the use of and outcomes from any next generation compliance techniques to increase compliance with Maryland’s environmental regulations.

Further provided that funding restricted for this purpose may be released quarterly in \$50,000 installments for each agency upon receipt of the required quarterly reports by the budget committees. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the reports to review and comment. Funds restricted may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the reports are not submitted to the budget committees and the released funding is not used to fill vacant compliance and enforcement positions.

Explanation: This language restricts funding until the submission of quarterly reports from MDE and MDA to the budget committees on compliance and enforcement inspections and positions and then further restricts the funding for filling vacant compliance and enforcement positions. The 2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report included the request for a similar report on compliance and enforcement inspections and positions for Chesapeake Bay restoration.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Enforcement and inspection position strength assessment and vacant position	MDA MDE	July 1, 2023 October 1, 2023 January 1, 2024 April 1, 2024

Amendment No.

125

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 38 Uniform Crime Report

SECTION 38. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation within the Department of State Police (DSP) may not be expended until DSP submits the Crime in Maryland, 2022 Uniform Crime Report (UCR) to the budget committees. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Further provided that, if DSP encounters difficulty obtaining, or validating the accuracy of, the necessary crime data by November 1, 2023, from local jurisdictions who provide the data for inclusion in the UCR, DSP shall notify the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS). From each jurisdiction's third quarterly State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) disbursement, the office shall withhold a portion, totaling at least 15% but no more than 50%, of that jurisdiction's SAPP grant for fiscal 2024 upon receipt of notification from DSP. GOCPYVS shall withhold SAPP funds until such a time that the jurisdiction submits its crime data to DSP and DSP verifies the accuracy of the data. DSP and GOCPYVS shall submit a report to the budget committees indicating any jurisdiction from which crime data was not received by November 1, 2023, and the amount of SAPP funding from each jurisdiction.

Explanation: The annual language was originally added because DSP had not been submitting its annual crime report in a timely manner due to issues related to receiving crime data from the local jurisdictions. The 2017 UCR was not submitted until March 2019, and the 2018 UCR was not submitted until March 2020. The 2019 and 2020 UCRs were submitted on time, as was the 2021 UCR data verification letter. Though data contributors were able to provide the department with 2021 crime data, there have been delays in compiling the 2021 UCR due to the inability for all contributors to submit it in compliance with the new federal reporting system. The 2021 UCR is not expected to be published until mid-March 2023.

This language withholds a portion of the general fund appropriation until the budget committees receive the 2021 UCR. The language also specifies that GOCPYVS, upon receipt of notification from DSP, must withhold a portion of a delinquent jurisdiction's SAPP grant until certain crime data is received by DSP. Finally, DSP and GOCPYVS must submit a report to the budget committees that includes information on any jurisdiction that did not report crime data by November 1, 2023, and the amount of SAPP funding that is withheld from each jurisdiction.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
2022 UCR data verification	DSP	November 1, 2023
2022 UCR	DSP	45 days prior to expenditure of funds

Amendment No.

126

Technical Corrections

Budget Amendments

Sections

Amend the following language:

SECTION 19. 39.

Explanation: Technical amendment to renumber sections.

Amend the following language:

SECTION 20. 40.

Explanation: Technical amendment to renumber sections.

Amendment No. **127**