



Report of the
**Senate Budget and
Taxation Committee**
To the Maryland Senate

2025 SESSION

Recommendations, Reductions, and
Summary of Action Pertaining to:
House Bill 350

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2025 Budget Assignments

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Department of Disabilities
Department of Human Services
Administration
Child Support Administration
Maryland Commission on Civil Rights
Maryland State Library Agency
Maryland State Department of Education
Early Childhood Development
Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Sara J. Baker

Maryland Higher Education Commission
University System of Maryland
Frostburg State University
Office
Overview
Salisbury University
Towson University
University of Baltimore
University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
University of Maryland, College Park Campus

Katharine F. Barbour

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

Scott Benson

Executive Department – Governor
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund
Maryland Insurance Administration
Maryland Department of Labor
Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission
Department of Housing and Community Development
Maryland African American Museum Corporation

Suveksha Bhujel

Department of Human Services
Office of Home Energy Programs
Overview
Social Services Administration
Maryland Energy Administration
Office of People’s Counsel
Public Service Commission

Anne W. Braun

Maryland Department of Health
Health Regulatory Commissions
Medical Care Programs Administration

Jacob C. Cash

Department of Budget and Management
Personnel
Secretary
Department of Service and Civic Innovation
Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans
State Reserve Fund
State Retirement Agency

Patrick S. Frank

Maryland Stadium Authority
Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority
New Budget System
Public Debt

Andrew D. Gray

Adds Coordinator
Board of Public Works
Chesapeake Bay Overview
Department of Agriculture
Department of Natural Resources
Department of the Environment

Laura H. Hyde

Accountability Implementation Board
Interagency Commission on School Construction
Maryland Office of the Inspector General of Education
Maryland School for the Deaf
Maryland State Department of Education
Aid to Education
Funding for Educational Organization
Headquarters (Center for School Safety Included)

Naomi Komuro

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
Maryland Department of Health
Administration
Behavioral Health Administration
Overview
Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Public Health Administration

Victoria Martinez

Department of Aging
Maryland Cannabis Administration
Maryland Health Benefit Exchange
Maryland Department of Health
Developmental Disabilities Administration
Health Professional Boards and Commissions
Office of Health Care Quality

Steven D. McCulloch

General Assembly of Maryland
Maryland Department of Transportation
Debt Service Requirements
Maryland Aviation Administration
Maryland Port Administration
Motor Vehicle Administration
State Highway Administration
The Secretary's Office
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Madelyn C. Miller

Department of Juvenile Services
Department of State Police
Governor's Office for Children
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy
Maryland Emergency Medical System Operations Fund

Kelly K. Norton

Aid to Community Colleges
Baltimore City Community College
Higher Education Overview
Morgan State University
St. Mary's College of Maryland
University System of Maryland
Bowie State University
Coppin State University
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
University of Maryland Global Campus

Jacob L. Pollicove

Judiciary
Office of Administrative Hearings
Office of the Attorney General
Office of the Public Defender
Office of the State Prosecutor
Budget System Support

David Propert

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission
Comptroller of Maryland
Department of General Services
Maryland Department of Emergency Management
Maryland Tax Court
Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board
State Department of Assessments and Taxation

Samuel M. Quist

Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority
Maryland Department of Transportation
 Overview
 Maryland Transit Administration
Maryland Transportation Authority
Maryland Environmental Service

Yashodhara Rai

Department of Information Technology
Department of Veterans and Military Families
Executive Department – Boards, Commissions, and Offices
Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture
Military Department
Payments to Civil Divisions of the State
State Board of Elections

Micah Richards

Maryland Higher Education Commission
 Student Financial Assistance
Secretary of State
State Treasurer
Subsequent Injury Fund
Uninsured Employers’ Fund
Workers’ Compensation Commission

Elizabeth Waibel

Department of Commerce
Department of Planning
Historic St. Mary’s City Commission
Maryland Economic Development Corporation
State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency
Maryland Technology Development Corporation
State Archives
West North Avenue Development Authority

Tonya D. Zimmerman

Department of Human Services
 Family Investment Administration

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Senate Budget and Taxation Committee – Net Changes

<u>Agency</u>	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Higher Ed Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
Fiscal 2026 Regular Budget Total						
General Assembly of Maryland	-\$3,200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$3,200,000	0.0
Judiciary	-7,961,681	0	0	0	-7,961,681	-5.0
Office of the Public Defender	-94,198	0	0	0	-94,198	0.0
Workers' Compensation Commission	0	-554,685	0	0	-554,685	0.0
Board of Public Works	-1,500,000	0	0	0	-1,500,000	0.0
Executive Department - Governor	-303,287	0	0	0	-303,287	-2.0
Maryland Energy Administration	0	-116,518	0	0	-116,518	0.0
Historic St Mary's City Commission	-106,115	0	0	0	-106,115	-7.0
Governor's Office for Children	-19,362,000	-17,862,000	0	0	-37,224,000	0.0
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy	-225,341	0	0	0	-225,341	-3.0
Maryland Stadium Authority	0	-16,250,000	0	0	-16,250,000	0.0
State Board of Elections	0	-470,746	0	0	-470,746	0.0
Department of Planning	-2,000,000	0	0	0	-2,000,000	0.0
Maryland Department of Emergency Management	-101,264	0	-101,264	0	-202,528	-2.0
Maryland Health Benefit Exchange	-267,761	0	0	0	-267,761	0.0
Department of Budget and Management – Personnel	-231,174,291	-23,301,595	-13,159,331	0	-267,635,217	-150.5
Department of Information Technology	-32,454,689	-210,608	0	0	-32,665,297	-2.0
Department of General Services	-1,418,115	0	0	0	-1,418,115	-12.0
Department of Service and Civic Innovation	-1,658,223	0	0	0	-1,658,223	-21.0
MDOT – The Secretary's Office	0	-132,760	0	0	-132,760	-1.0
MDOT – State Highway Administration	0	-853,894	0	0	-853,894	-8.0

<u>Agency</u>	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Higher Ed Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
MDOT – Maryland Port Administration	0	-3,896,000	0	0	-3,896,000	0.0
MDOT Maryland Port Administration PAYGO Capital	0	-1,350,000	0	0	-1,350,000	0.0
MDOT – Maryland Transit Administration	0	-6,622,089	0	0	-6,622,089	-76.0
MDOT – Maryland Aviation Administration	0	-122,476	0	0	-122,476	-1.0
Department of Agriculture	-400,000	-121,456	-2,000,000	0	-2,521,456	-2.0
MDH – Health Professional Boards and Commissions	0	-6,030,085	0	0	-6,030,085	0.0
MDH – Public Health Administration	-2,000,000	0	0	0	-2,000,000	0.0
MDH – Prevention and Health Promotion Administration	-5,700,000	0	0	0	-5,700,000	0.0
MDH – Behavioral Health Administration	-6,900,000	0	0	0	-6,900,000	0.0
MDH – Medical Care Programs Administration	-61,434,303	-15,000,000	-101,305,828	0	-177,740,131	-8.0
DHS – Family Investment	-7,550,000	0	-205,800,000	0	-213,350,000	0.0
DHS – Office of Home Energy Programs	-14,607	-440,096	0	0	-454,703	0.0
DPSCS – Corrections	-700,000	0	0	0	-700,000	0.0
MSDE – Headquarters	-5,243,233	-2,340,168	-141,544	0	-7,724,945	-5.0
MSDE – Aid to Education	0	-34,000,000	0	0	-34,000,000	0.0
MHEC – Student Financial Assistance	-7,500,000	-4,000,000	0	0	-11,500,000	0.0
Department of Housing and Community Development PAYGO	-50,000,000	0	0	0	-50,000,000	0.0
Department of Housing and Community Development	-155,581	0	0	0	-155,581	-1.0
Department of Commerce	-22,440,541	0	0	0	-22,440,541	0.0
Department of State Police	0	-1,737,994	0	0	-1,737,994	-15.0
Public Debt	-27,000,000	0	0	0	-27,000,000	0.0

<u>Agency</u>	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Higher Ed Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
State Reserve Fund	-469,499,483	0	0	0	-469,499,483	0.0
Section 21 – Fiscal 2026 Additions	199,566,475	70,097,088	4,700,000	0	274,363,563	20.0
Fiscal 2026 Regular Budget Total	-\$768,798,238	-\$65,316,082	-\$317,807,967	\$0	-\$1,151,922,287	-301.50
Fiscal 2025 Deficiency Budget						
Department of Aging	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0
Department of Information Technology	-193,000	0	0	0	-193,000	0.0
MDH – Behavioral Health Administration	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
MDH – Medical Care Programs Administration	-100,000,000	0	0	0	-100,000,000	0.0
DHS – Office of Home Energy Programs	0	-440,096	0	0	-440,096	0.0
MSDE – Funding for Educational Organizations	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
MHEC – Student Financial Assistance	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Section 19 – Fiscal 2025 Reductions	-11,500,000	-4,250,000	0	0	-15,750,000	0.0
Section 20 – Fiscal 2025 Additions	36,224,704	3,000,000	0	0	39,224,704	0.0
Fiscal 2025 Deficiency Budget Total	-\$75,468,296	-\$1,690,096	\$0	\$0	-\$77,158,392	0.00
Supplemental Budget No. 1						
Public Service Commission	\$0	-\$228,019	\$0	\$0	-\$228,019	-2.0
Executive Department – Boards, Commissions and Offices	-676,281	0	0	0	-676,281	-5.0
Department of Planning	-252,116	0	0	0	-252,116	-2.0
Department of General Services PAYGO	-250,000	0	0	0	-250,000	0.0
Department of Agriculture	0	-182,730	-24,588	0	-207,318	-11.0
MDH – Administration	0	0	0	0	0	-4.0
Maryland Department of Labor	0	0	0	0	0	-23.0
MSDE Headquarters	0	0	0	0	0	-12.0

<u>Agency</u>	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Higher Ed Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
MSDE – Early Childhood Development	0	0	0	0	0	-1.0
Department of Commerce	-5,300,000	0	0	0	-5,300,000	0.0
Supplemental Budget No. 1 Total	-\$6,478,397	-\$410,749	-\$24,588	\$0	-\$6,913,734	-60.00
Supplemental Deficiency						
Department of Planning	-\$33,259	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$33,259	-2.00
Supplemental Budget No. 1 Deficiency Total	-\$33,259	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$33,259	-2.00
Grand Total Budget Bill	-\$850,778,190	-\$67,416,927	-\$317,832,555	\$0	-\$1,236,027,672	-363.50

DHS: Department of Human Services
 DPSCS: Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
 MDOT: Maryland Department of Transportation
 MDH: Maryland Department of Health
 MHEC: Maryland Higher Education Commission
 MSDE: Maryland State Department of Education
 PAYGO: pay-as-you-go

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

**B75A01
General Assembly of Maryland**

Budget Amendments

B75A01.03 General Legislative Expenses

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Reduce funding for interior building renovations</i>	-1,500,000	GF
<i>Total Change</i>	-1,500,000	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
<i>Position</i>	3.00	3.00		0.00
<i>General Fund</i>	3,524,805	2,024,805	-1,500,000	
<i>Total Funds</i>	3,524,805	2,024,805	-1,500,000	

DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

B75A01.04 Office of Operations and Support Services

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Reduce funding for interior building renovations</i>	-200,000	GF
2. <i>Reduce funding for accrued leave payout</i>	-300,000	GF
<i>Total Change</i>	-500,000	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
<i>Position</i>	106.00	106.00		0.00
<i>General Fund</i>	34,081,559	33,581,559	-500,000	
<i>Total Funds</i>	34,081,559	33,581,559	-500,000	

B75A01

B75A01.05 Office of Legislative Audits

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for accrued leave payout	-1,200,000	GF
Total Change	-1,200,000	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	122.00	122.00		0.00
General Fund	25,031,661	23,831,661	-1,200,000	
Total Funds	25,031,661	23,831,661	-1,200,000	

Amendment No.

1

C00A00 Judiciary

Budget Amendments

C00A00.00

Add the following language:

Provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$687,742 in general funds and 5 new positions shall be abolished. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.

Explanation: This action will abolish 5 new positions in the Judiciary's fiscal 2026 allowance in the following programs: circuit court judges (2); District Court (2); and Clerks of the Circuit Court (1). These positions are being abolished due to a lack of demonstrated need for the new positions.

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$393,939 in general funds to increase turnover expectancy among new positions. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.

Explanation: This reduction is made in order to increase the turnover rate for new positions within the Judiciary from 5.72% to 25.00%.

C00A00.04 District Court

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$8,600,000 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 back to the General Fund.

Explanation: This language restricts the use of \$8.6 million of the Judiciary's general fund appropriation for the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond to that purpose only.

C00A00

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of operating the Appointed Attorney Program may not be expended until the Judiciary submits a report to the budget committees on the costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program, including the number of initial appearances by District and County, the number of attorney shifts in the program by District and County, the waiver rate of defendants waiving their right to counsel at their initial appearance, the total annual appointed attorney shifts and hours scheduled by District, the total number of attorneys enrolled in the program, the total annual costs of the program by District, and the total number of initial appearances with an appointed attorney, private attorney, or public defender representing the defendant by District and County. The report shall be submitted by December 15, 2025, 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 the submission of the annual report on the costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Appointed Attorney Program costs and utilization	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce \$670,000 in general funds made for salary increases for contractual personnel to align with increases for State employees. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-670,000	GF
2. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of duplicating equipment expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-400,000	GF
3. Increase contractual employee turnover expectancy to better align with fiscal 2025 levels. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this cut across the Judiciary.	-435,000	GF

C00A00

4. Reduce \$150,000 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 to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.	-150,000	GF
Total Change	-1,655,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	1,635.00	1,635.00		0.00
General Fund	264,963,884	263,308,884	-1,655,000	
Total Funds	264,963,884	263,308,884	-1,655,000	

C00A00.06 Administrative Office of the Courts

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:		
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce \$175,000 in general funds made for the purpose of travel expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-175,000	GF
Total Change	-175,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	255.00	255.00		0.00
General Fund	103,948,814	103,773,814	-175,000	
Special Fund	35,000,000	35,000,000	0	
Federal Fund	1,028,179	1,028,179	0	
Total Funds	139,976,993	139,801,993	-175,000	

C00A00

Committee Narrative

Annual Court Performance Measures: The committees request a report on the performance of the circuit and District courts, to be submitted by December 15, 2025, with annual court performance measures data for the circuit and District courts.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual court performance measures report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

Problem-Solving Court (PSC) Performance and Funding: The committees request a report on the work of the Judiciary's PSCs, to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should show the funding allocated and performance data for all PSC types in fiscal 2025, including the average length of time that a defendant's case is active in each type of court, the reasons defendants fail to successfully complete a program, and the average cost per defendant in each type of PSC. The report should also include the anticipated costs by PSC type and location for fiscal 2026 and 2027.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
PSC funding and performance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

Judgeship Need for Fiscal 2027: The committees request a report on judgeship needs at the Judiciary to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should include a detailed analysis of the Judiciary's fiscal 2027 judgeship needs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Judgeship needs for fiscal 2027	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

C00A00

Budget Amendments

C00A00.09 Judicial Information Systems

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce \$500,000 in general funds made for the purpose of communications expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-500,000 GF	
2. Reduce \$900,000 in general funds made for the purpose of printing expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-900,000 GF	
3. Reduce \$1,000,000 in general funds made for the purpose of equipment repairs and maintenance expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-1,000,000 GF	
4. Reduce \$1,200,000 in general funds made for the purpose of software license expenses to decrease the funding available for additional software licenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-1,200,000 GF	
5. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of duplicating equipment expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-200,000 GF	
6. Reduce \$1,250,000 in general funds made for the purpose of contracted Information Technology services to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-1,250,000 GF	
Total Change	-5,050,000	0.00

C00A00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	173.00	173.00		0.00
General Fund	71,938,805	66,888,805	-5,050,000	
Special Fund	6,999,761	6,999,761	0	
Total Funds	78,938,566	73,888,566	-5,050,000	

Committee Narrative

Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Status Report: The committees request a report on the Judiciary's MITDPs to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should include actual costs for all projects in fiscal 2025 and anticipated costs for all projects through fiscal 2029, along with status updates for all projects.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MITDP status report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

Land Records Improvement Fund (LRIF) Balance Report: The committees request a report on the status of the LRIF to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should include the fiscal 2025 revenues and expenditures for the fund along with forecasted revenues and expenditures for fiscal 2026 through 2029. The report should also include a breakdown of the expenditures for circuit court offices.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
LRIF balance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

C00A00.13 Pre-Trial Home Detention

Private Home Detention Monitoring Reports: The committees request quarterly reports providing data on private home detention monitoring funded by the Judiciary. Each report should provide, at a minimum, the following information:

- the number of defendants enrolled in private home detention monitoring;
- the total funds spent on private home detention monitoring in the prior quarter;

C00A00

- the total funds remaining for private home detention monitoring; and
- anticipated costs for the remainder of the year.

In addition, the first report should include the Judiciary’s guidelines for when invoices need to be submitted by private home detention monitoring providers.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Private home detention monitoring quarterly reports	Judiciary	October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026 July 15, 2026

C80B00
Office of the Public Defender

Budget Amendments

C80B00.01 General Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.	-22,146 GF	
Total Change	-22,146	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	80.00	80.00		0.00
General Fund	16,117,895	16,095,749	-22,146	
Total Funds	16,117,895	16,095,749	-22,146	

C80B00.02 District Operations

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.	-70,256 GF	
Total Change	-70,256	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	856.50	856.50		0.00
General Fund	132,131,641	132,061,385	-70,256	
Special Fund	514,576	514,576	0	
Federal Fund	1,707,504	1,707,504	0	
Total Funds	134,353,721	134,283,465	-70,256	

C80B00

C80B00.03 Appellate and Inmate Services

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.	-995 GF	
Total Change	-995	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	68.00	68.00		0.00
General Fund	10,923,784	10,922,789	-995	
Total Funds	10,923,784	10,922,789	-995	

C80B00.04 Involuntary Institutionalization Services

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.	-801 GF	
Total Change	-801	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	28.00	28.00		0.00
General Fund	3,837,448	3,836,647	-801	
Total Funds	3,837,448	3,836,647	-801	

C81C
Office of the Attorney General

Committee Narrative

C81C00.01 Legal Counsel and Advice

Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) Final Implementation and Future Costs Report: With final implementation of the ACE program slated to occur in fiscal 2026, the committees request a report on the status of the program at final implementation, including the total cost of the implementation of the program, the status of the coordinated intake program, the total number of participating legal services providers, the total funding granted to each provider in fiscal 2025, the program’s procedures for ensuring adequate coverage in each jurisdiction, the total number of cases in fiscal 2025, the results of all cases in fiscal 2025, and the number of rejected tenants and the reasons for rejection in fiscal 2025. The report should also include a breakdown of all funding available in fiscal 2026 and the total estimated cost to operate the program in fiscal 2026, the estimated cost of operating the program in fiscal 2027, information on all funding available for the program in fiscal 2027, and a recommendation on a permanent funding source for the program.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Final implementation of ACE and future cost report	Maryland Legal Services Corporation	November 15, 2025

Budget Amendments

C81C00.05 Consumer Protection Division

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$350,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation ~~reducing~~ modifying the mandate for ~~general funds~~ in the Consumer Protection Division.

Explanation: This language is a technical correction to align the text of the budget bill with the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act.

C81C

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$350,000 of the appropriation is contingent upon the enactment of legislation ~~reducing~~ modifying the mandate for ~~general funds~~ in the Consumer Protection Division.

Explanation: This language is a technical correction to align the text of the budget bill with the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act.

C90G00
Public Service Commission

Committee Narrative

C90G00.01 General Administration and Hearings

Arrearage and Termination Data: Given the reduced energy assistance benefits provided by the Department of Human Services Office of Home Energy Programs, high energy prices, and prolonged cold weather in the 2024 to 2025 winter as well as the unavailability of this data currently on the Public Service Commission (PSC) website while the new portal is under development, the committees are interested in receiving data on residential utility terminations and arrearages by month. The committees request that PSC provide residential terminations and arrearages data separately by utility and month in two reports. The first report should cover data from June 2024 through May 2025 and be submitted by July 15, 2025, and the second report should cover data from June 2025 through November 2025 and be submitted by December 15, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Monthly data on residential utility terminations and arrearages	PSC	July 15, 2025 December 15, 2025

Apprenticeships within Public Service Companies: *The committees are interested in learning about apprenticeships within utility companies. The committees request that the Public Service Commission (PSC) submit a report including the following information:*

- *existing registered apprenticeships within the utility companies;*
- *workforce needs that could be met by registered apprenticeships;*
- *any barriers to creating and expanding apprenticeships; and*
- *goals for scaling apprenticeships by occupation and industry.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on apprenticeships within the public utilities industries</i>	<i>PSC</i>	<i>November 1, 2025</i>

C96J00
Uninsured Employers' Fund

Committee Narrative

Report on Operational Needs: The committees are concerned about the significant increase in operating expenditures due to the procurement of a contract with a third-party administrator (TPA) to perform many core functions of the agency. The committees direct that, in conjunction with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Uninsured Employers' Fund (UEF) produce a report documenting whether a TPA is needed for the entire current five-year contract. The report should also provide an analysis of the agency's current and future staffing needs and consider the possible shift of claim management functions in-house.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
UEF operational needs	UEF DBM	December 1, 2025

C98F00
Workers' Compensation Commission

Budget Amendments

C98F00.01 General Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Increase the turnover expectancy to 7.0%. The Workers' Compensation Commission currently has 18 vacant positions, which is much higher than the 3.76 necessary vacancies to meet the fiscal 2026 budgeted turnover rate of 3.27%. At a 7.0% turnover expectancy, the agency will need to maintain 8.05 vacant positions. That number of vacant positions is approximately 10 fewer positions than the agency's current number of vacancies.	-554,685 SF	
Total Change	-554,685	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	115.00	115.00		0.00
Special Fund	24,377,752	23,823,067	-554,685	
Total Funds	24,377,752	23,823,067	-554,685	

**D05E01
Board of Public Works**

Budget Amendments

D05E01.02 Contingent Fund

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the contingent fund appropriation by \$1.5 million leaving \$1.0 million. Approximately \$1.0 million of the \$2.5 million appropriation was used in fiscal 2024, and no funding has been used so far in fiscal 2025. In addition, the contingent fund appropriation was only recently increased from \$0.5 million to \$2.5 million in fiscal 2024.	-1,500,000	GF
Total Change	-1,500,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	2,500,000	1,000,000	-1,500,000	
Total Funds	2,500,000	1,000,000	-1,500,000	

Committee Narrative

D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups

Maryland Zoo Operational Reporting: In continuance of the practice that began in July 2008, the committees request that the Maryland Zoological Society, Inc. (MZS) submit audited financial statements for fiscal 2025 and quarterly reports showing monthly attendance figures for the zoo for fiscal 2026 by visitor group. This should include a breakdown of the kinds of passes allocated.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Audited financials	MZS	November 1, 2025
Quarterly reports showing monthly attendance	MZS	July 15, 2025 October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026

D05E01

D05E01.15 Payments of Judgments Against the State

Data for Forecasting Payments to Erroneously Confined Individuals: The Board of Public Works (BPW) is required to make payments to erroneously confined individuals by § 10-501 of the State Finance and Procurement Article. Forecasting these payments requires data held by BPW and the Office of the Administrative Hearings (OAH), including orders for compensation and updates on hearing schedules for and outcomes of petitions with OAH. The committees request that BPW and OAH report on the data needed to forecast the required payments to erroneously confined individuals, including but not limited to orders for compensation and updates on hearing schedules and outcomes for petitions with OAH. The data is requested to be submitted by September 1, 2025, to inform the baseline budget process and again by January 1, 2026, to reflect the basis for the Governor’s fiscal 2027 allowance.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Data for forecasting payments to erroneously confined individuals	BPW OAH	September 1, 2025 January 1, 2026

D10A01
Executive Department – Governor

Budget Amendments

D10A01.01 General Executive Direction and Control

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce 2.0 new positions (N2617199 and N2617200). The Executive Department – Governor has 13 vacant positions as of December 31, 2024. The function of the new positions can be filled by reclassifying existing long-term vacant positions.	-303,287 GF	-2.00
 Total Change	 -303,287	 -2.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	125.00	123.00		2.00
General Fund	21,327,332	21,024,045	-303,287	
Special Fund	2,544,225	2,544,225	0	
Total Funds	23,871,557	23,568,270	-303,287	

D11A0401
Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Budget Amendments

D11A04.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of executive direction may not be expended until the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) submits a report indicating it has published the State sign language licensing requirements. In addition, the report shall describe the efforts of ODHH to disseminate this information through the agency website and social media channels, and the main challenges that contributed to the delay in publishing the licensing regulations and provide an updated timeline for the availability of the licensing portal for public use. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees within 30 days of the publishing of regulations, 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: *In the 2024 session budget analysis for ODHH, the timeline for the State sign language licensing regulations indicated that the licensing regulations would be published in July 2024, with information disseminated through the ODHH website and social media. However, as of March 2025, the regulations remain unpublished. This language restricts funding until ODHH indicating that it has published the licensing regulations and submits a report to the budget committees outlining the primary reasons for the delay.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Report on main challenges associated to the delay in publishing licensing regulations</i>	<i>ODHH</i>	<i>Within 30 days of the publication of regulations</i>

Amendment No.

2

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

Budget Amendments

D13A13.01 General Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funds allocated for reclassification, which are double budgeted. The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) indicates that funds within the reclassification subobject account for the conversion of the contractual positions that took place in fiscal 2024. However, this expense is also accounted within the regular earnings subobject in MEA.	-116,518	SF
 Total Change	 -116,518	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	55.00	55.00		0.00
Special Fund	9,408,771	9,292,253	-116,518	
Federal Fund	3,023,447	3,023,447	0	
Total Funds	12,432,218	12,315,700	-116,518	

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 and planned usages of revenues. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management provide an annual report on the revenue from RGGI carbon dioxide emissions allowance auctions, set-aside allowances, and interest income in conjunction with the submission of the fiscal 2027 budget as an appendix to the Governor’s Fiscal 2027 Budget Books. The report shall include information on the actual fiscal 2025 budget, the fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2027 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;

D13A13

- interest income received on the SEIF;
- 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 made to other funds; and
- fund balances for each SEIF subaccount, reflecting funds available to spend for the fiscal 2025 actual accounting for encumbered funds, the fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2027 allowance.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on revenue assumptions, fund balance, and usage of SEIF revenues sourced from RGGI program auctions	Department of Budget and Management	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2027 Budget Books

Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Funding for Energy-related Purposes: The committees are interested in tracking federal funds available to the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) from the IIJA and the IRA for energy-related purposes and the status of implementation of programming using these funds. The committees request that MEA submit a report that includes a list of all IIJA and IRA programs for which it has submitted or anticipates submitting an application, the amount of funding available from each program (if funding allocations have been announced), the status of each application submitted or date funding was awarded, and the planned uses for funding from each program.

Additionally, the committees request that MEA provide an update on the implementation of the two home energy rebate programs through IRA funding, the Home Energy Performance-Based, Whole-House Rebate Program and the High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program. The report should include the status of approval of MEA's application for funding by the U.S. Department of Energy; program design and implementation activities completed, including outreach to the contractor community, and, if initial rebate awards have been made at the time of report submission; the number of rebates awarded under both programs; the average amount per rebate; and the total amount of rebates awarded. If initial rebate awards have not yet been made at the time of report submission, the report should include an anticipated timeline of when rebates under both programs will be available to the public. The report should also outline contingency plans in the event that federal funds become unavailable.

D13A13

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on federal IJJA and IRA funding and implementation of home energy rebate programs	MEA	December 31, 2025

Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) Funding in Detail: The committees request that MEA provide a report with details on the department’s funding with submission of the fiscal 2027 budget. The report should include information on the actual fiscal 2025 budget, the fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2027 allowance. The report should detail for each budgetary program the programmatic activities by fund source within MEA.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MEA funding	MEA	With the submission of fiscal 2027 budget

Usage of Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenues from Alternative Compliance Payments (ACP) Transferred to the Dedicated Purpose Account (DPA): The fiscal 2026 allowance budget as introduced ~~reflects~~ reflected the transfer of \$180 million of SEIF fund balance to the *Dedicated Purpose Account (DPA)* to be used for implementation of the State’s Climate Pollution Reduction Plan. *Supplemental Budget No. 1* realigned \$100 million to the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) from the DPA and removed the remaining \$80 million. Of the \$100 million realigned, \$50 million is provided to MEA for local government clean energy projects, and \$50 million is provided to MDOT for solar energy projects on state government property. The committees request that, contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of ACP for these purposes in fiscal 2026 only, that ~~the Department of Budget and Management and the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA)~~ MDOT and MEA jointly submit a report outlining the sources, uses and planned uses of this funding. The committees also request MEA to submit a report outlining the uses and planned uses of the remainder of the \$90 million of SEIF fund balance transferred to the DPA in fiscal 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the usage of SEIF revenues transferred to the DPA	Department of Budget and Management MDOT MEA	December 31, 2025

D13A13

Promote Battery Storage Capacity: *The committees are interested in increasing battery storage capacity for electricity in Maryland. The committees request that the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) provide a report detailing efforts made to increase electric battery storage capacity. The report should include the following information:*

- *electric battery storage capacity in fiscal 2025;*
- *efforts made to increase electric battery storage capacity; and*
- *a comparison of electric battery storage capacity to other states and countries.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on battery storage capacity</i>	<i>MEA</i>	<i>November 1, 2025</i>

D15A05
Boards, Commissions, and Offices

Budget Amendments

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

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Governor’s Office of Small, Minority and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) may not be expended until GOSBA, in consultation with the Department of General Services (DGS), submits a report detailing the results of the agency Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation attainment and the Small Business Reserve and MBE liaison surveys. The report shall be submitted by January 1, 2026, 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 action adds language restricting general funds until GOSBA, in consultation with DGS, submits a report detailing the results of the agency MBE participation attainment and liaison surveys to the budget committees by January 1, 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Agency MBE participation attainment and liaison survey report	GOSBA DGS	January 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

D15A05.06 State Ethics Commission

County Executive Ethics Law: Currently, there are nine counties governed by county executives, namely Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Cecil, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George’s, and Wicomico counties. The committees are interested in understanding the State’s conflict of interest laws relating to the nine counties governed by county executives and Baltimore City, which is governed by the mayor as the chief executive. The committees request that the State Ethics Commission submit a report on the conflict of interest laws relating to the nine counties with county executives and Baltimore City. The report should also include a summary and an analysis of other local laws in these nine jurisdictions and Baltimore City related to the conflict of interest for county executives and the Mayor of Baltimore City.

D15A05

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on county executive ethics law	State Ethics Commission	December 1, 2025

D17B0151
Historic St. Mary's City Commission

Budget Amendments

D17B01.51 Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Delete 7 new positions and the associated funding increase while leaving funding that would be needed to retain as contractual full-time equivalents. Additional full-time regular positions are not needed until Historic St. Mary's City is open to the public year-round.</i>	-106,115 GF	-7.00
<i>Total Change</i>	-106,115	-7.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
<i>Position</i>	39.00	32.00		-7.00
<i>General Fund</i>	5,963,891	5,857,776	-106,115	
<i>Special Fund</i>	866,755	866,755	0	
<i>Federal Fund</i>	188,408	188,408	0	
<i>Total Funds</i>	7,019,054	6,912,939	-106,115	

Amendment No.

3

D18A
Governor’s Office for Children

Budget Amendments

D18A01.01 Governor’s Office for Children

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation for the Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households Grant Fund to the mandated level.	-17,862,000	GF
2. Reduce the special fund appropriation for the Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households Grant Fund to align with the general fund appropriation.	-17,862,000	SF
Total Change	-35,724,000	

D18A

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	27.00	27.00		0.00
General Fund	37,307,870	19,445,870	-17,862,000	
Special Fund	32,862,000	15,000,000	-17,862,000	
Total Funds	70,169,870	34,445,870	-35,724,000	

Committee Narrative

Status Report on Managing for Results (MFR) Measures: Because the Governor’s Office for Children (GOC) is a newly reestablished agency, it did not submit MFR goals, objectives, or measures with its fiscal 2026 budget. The committees request that, by December 1, 2025, GOC submit proposed MFR goals, objectives, and measures to be provided with the agency’s fiscal 2027 budget.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status report on MFR measures	GOC	December 1, 2025

Budget Amendments

D18A01.03 The Children’s Cabinet Interagency

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation for the Baltimore City Children and Youth Fund grant due to the mandate’s expiration.	-2,000,000 GF -1,500,000 GF	
2. Reduce the general fund appropriation for the Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households Grant Fund to the mandated level.	-5,000,000 GF	

D18A

3. Reduce the special fund appropriation for the Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households Grant Fund to align with the general fund appropriation. -5,000,000 SF

Total Change -12,000,000
-1,500,000

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	28,960,335	21,960,335 27,460,335	7,000,000 -1,500,000	
Special Fund	5,000,000	0 5,000,000	5,000,000 0	
Total Funds	33,960,335	31,960,335 32,460,335	2,000,000 -1,500,000	

Amendment No.

4

D21
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

Budget Amendments

Administrative Headquarters

D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) submits a report to the budget committees by November 1, 2025, regarding Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) awards and funding. The report shall include:

- (1) each grant award made on July 1, 2025, for the fiscal 2026 awards, including the grant number, implementing agency, project title, start date, end date, amount of award, whether the grant is supported with general funds or federal VOCA funds, jurisdiction of implementation, and a brief description/abstract of the grant;
- (2) the total amount of grants awarded from general funds and federal VOCA funds on July 1, 2025;
- (3) the amount of unexpended funds for each open three-year VOCA grant and the reason funds are unexpended, including whether the funds are being held in reserve for future grants;
- (4) for the federal fiscal 2021 and 2022 three-year funding cycles, an identification of the respective amount of funds expended for the purpose of direct provision of services, administration, and that which went unobligated; and
- (5) a comparison of aggregate-level performance measures or outcome measures of the VOCA program for fiscal 2019 through 2025 or as many recent years that GOCPP is able to provide.

In addition to the report submission, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. 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: The VOCA grant program is a major source of funding to victim services providers in the State. This language restricts \$250,000 pending the submission of information related to VOCA awards and funding in fiscal 2026. For each open three-year grant cycle (federal fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025), GOCPP is required to include the amount of currently

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unexpended funds, the reason these funds remain unspent, and whether they will be held in reserve. The report is also required to provide further detail regarding the expenditure of funds for the two most recently completed funding cycles – federal fiscal 2021 and 2022. Finally, the report is required to provide a comparison of the program’s aggregate outcomes or performance measures in recent fiscal years.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual VOCA report	GOCPP	November 1, 2025

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 2023 Maryland Uniform Crime Report. 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 language requires that the enhanced portion of the State Aid for Police Protection 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 2023 Maryland Uniform Crime Report.*

Amendment No.

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Committee Narrative

Report on the State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) Enhancement: SAPP funds provide support to local and county police agency operations. The statutory funding formula considers jurisdictional populations, the number of police officers in the recipient agency, and total jurisdictional taxable income. Baltimore City does not receive funding under the original formula in exchange for the State operating the Baltimore City Detention Center. In each year from fiscal 2023 through 2025, the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) received an additional \$45,878,143 for an enhancement to SAPP. In each year, the enhancement funds were allocated to jurisdictions, including Baltimore City, based on a share that corresponded with the most recently available violent crime data. The committees request that GOCPP submit a report describing, separately by year for fiscal 2023 through 2025, the amount

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of funding awarded under the formula and the enhancement in each jurisdiction as well as how much SAPP funding was actually spent. To the extent that the jurisdictions may have used enhancement funding differently than funding is used under the SAPP formula, the report should also describe these purposes for each jurisdiction in fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the SAPP enhancement	GOCPP	November 1, 2025

Budget Amendments

Victim Services Unit

D21A03.01 Victim Services Unit

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$225,341 in general funds are reduced and the following 3 new regular positions are deleted: N2617703; N2617704; and N2617705.

Explanation: This action reduces general fund expenditures and 3.0 new positions in the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy’s fiscal 2026 budget due to the availability of vacant positions, which could be reclassified to support these activities.

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further 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 and Policy submits the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Fiscal 2025 Annual Report to the budget committees. The report shall include information about the agency’s implementation of Chapter 705 of 2024 and indicate whether additional support from the General Fund may be required in fiscal 2026 to ensure a balance in the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund. The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2025, 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: Though the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) is required to submit this report, Chapter 705 of 2024 makes alterations to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) program, with most provisions taking effect July 1, 2025. The

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legislation also authorizes the Governor for fiscal 2026 and each year thereafter to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF) that is adequate to ensure a balance in the fund. The provision authorizing an appropriation to CICF takes effect July 1, 2024. This report will provide the committees with information about fiscal 2025 claims and the CICF balance prior to the 2026 legislative session.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CICB fiscal 2025 annual report	GOCPP	November 1, 2025

D23
Maryland Cannabis Administration

Budget Amendments

D23A01.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Cannabis Administration (MCA) submits a report to the budget committees that details MCA’s community engagement efforts with neighborhood and community groups, local government officials, and private business impacted by the development of the Maryland Economic Development Corporation cannabis incubator facility capital project. The report shall be submitted by September 1, 2025, 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 General Assembly is interested in learning more about the Maryland Economic Development Corporation cannabis incubator facility project and MCA’s engagement with the community and other stakeholders regarding this capital project.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on cannabis incubator project	MCA	September 1, 2025

D25
Interagency Commission on School Construction

Budget Amendments

D25E03.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) submits to the budget committees a report on the condition of school buildings recommended by the Workgroup on the Assessment and Funding of School Facilities and mandated as part of Chapter 32 of 2022 in §5-310(b)(2)(ii) of the Education Article. This report shall be submitted by July 1, 2025, and include data from inspections of individual school buildings for the following measures:

- (1) temperature, humidity, carbon dioxide, acoustic levels, lead paint, asbestos, kitchen sanitary equipment, lighting, emergency communications systems with respect to remaining useful life, health room attributes, and safety equipment in each laboratory space;
- (2) the functionality of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, life safety building systems, and roofs; and
- (3) any additional critical building systems identified by IAC.

The report shall also specify whether future data on these measures will be included in IAC's maintenance report required as part of Chapter 14 of 2018, which is due annually on October 1, or if these data will be submitted in a separate annual report.

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: Chapter 32 required IAC to incorporate additional measures on the condition of school facilities into the State's annual maintenance assessment. This language restricts funds until IAC (1) submits a report with data from these measures and (2) specifies whether the agency intends to incorporate these measures into the annual maintenance report or provide this information in a separate annual report.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on measures of school facilities required in Chapter 32	IAC	July 1, 2025

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) submits a report to the budget committees on the agency's actions to update facility mapping standards as specified in § 5-310.1 of the Education Article and Chapters 166 and 167 of 2024 (Education – School Mapping Data Program – Established). This report shall include information on the process by which IAC developed the facility mapping standards for the uniform mapping of the physical attributes of public schools in the State, in cooperation with local school systems. The report shall be submitted by July 15, 2025, 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 revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Chapters 166 and 167 of 2024 require IAC to adopt facility mapping standards as specified in Section 5-310.1 of the Education Article. Due to a delay in the development of these standards, this language restricts funds pending a report from IAC regarding the agency's actions to complete these standards in compliance with the statute.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on development of facility mapping standards	IAC	July 15, 2025

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Interagency Commission on School Construction may not be expended until the agency submits a letter to the budget committees confirming the submission of all reports required by Chapter 14 of 2018 and Chapter 679 of 2023 due between January 1, 2023, and January 15, 2026. The letter shall be submitted within 30 days of the submission of the last outstanding report requested during the identified time period and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the letter may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the letter is not submitted to the budget committees.

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Explanation: The Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) is responsible for submitting mandated reports as required in Chapter 14 of 2018 and Chapter 679 of 2023. In calendar 2023, 2024, and 2025, IAC did not submit multiple reports and has six reports outstanding as of February 15, 2025. This action restricts funds until IAC submits a letter to the budget committees confirming the submission of all mandated reports for the specified time period.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Letter confirming the submission of mandated reports	IAC	Within 30 days of the submission of the last outstanding report

D27L00
Maryland Commission on Civil Rights

Committee Narrative

D27L00.01 General Administration

Impact of New Positions on Case Assignment and Backlog Management: The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (MCCR) has faced persistent challenges in case processing due to staffing limitations, contributing to delays and a backlog of cases awaiting assignment. In response to these issues, 12 new positions (including 1 contractual conversion) were added to support the agency’s investigative functions and improve case management. The committees request that MCCR submit a report assessing the impact of the additional positions on case assignment and management, including:

- an analysis of changes in case backlog and case assignment timelines following the hiring of the new positions;
- metrics tracking case resolution outcomes, including average processing time, number of cases closed, and proportion of cases resolved within established benchmarks;
- a discussion of operational improvements, including any changes in workflow, investigator caseloads, or coordination with involved parties;
- an update on the status of hiring the new positions, including any challenges encountered in the recruitment process and any ongoing challenges in retaining existing staff; and
- recommendations for further action or resources, if necessary, to sustain or improve progress, including any plans or studies related to staffing levels to ensure sufficient staff moving forward.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the impact of new positions on case assignment and backlog management	MCCR	December 15, 2025

D28A03
Maryland Stadium Authority

Budget Amendments

D28A03.02 Maryland Stadium Facilities Fund

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funds for Stadium debt service to reflect recent bond sales and revised estimates. After adjusting estimates for the Ravens Stadium 2023B variable loan and the Oriole Park January 2025 private placement, estimated fiscal 2026 totals \$59.25 million. The allowance totals \$59.51 million. The bonds are supported by lottery revenues. Unspent appropriations are deposited into the General Fund.	-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>
Special Fund	59,505,777	59,255,777	-250,000	
Total Funds	59,505,777	59,255,777	-250,000	

D28A03.69 Racing and Community Development Financing Fund

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce appropriation to the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund (RCDFE). The fund supports renovation of Pimlico Race Course and the purchase and construction of a training facility to support Pimlico. Resources received by the RCDFE at the end of fiscal 2026 total \$527 million, including \$400 million in lottery bonds, \$85 million in annual pay-as-you-go capital appropriations (from fiscal 2023 through 2026), \$35 million from the Racetrack Facility Renewal Account, and \$7 million in interest earnings (through December 2024). The appropriation is supported by lottery revenues. Unappropriated lottery revenues are deposited into the General Fund.	-17,000,000	SF
	-16,000,000	SF
 Total Change	 -17,000,000	
	-16,000,000	

D28A03

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Fund	17,000,000	0	-17,000,000	
		1,000,000	-16,000,000	
Total Funds	17,000,000	0	17,000,000	
		1,000,000	-16,000,000	

Amendment No.

6

D28A03.78 Major Sports and Entertainment Event Program Fund

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$1,650,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Conference Basketball Championships 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 be canceled.

Explanation: The language restricts \$1.65 million so that those funds can only be used to support the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Conference Basketball Championships.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funds for Annual Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill. This is an ongoing subsidy for an economic development event that is crowding out the Major Sports and Entertainment Event Program Fund's resources.	-2,500,000	SF
Total Change	-2,500,000	0

D28A03

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Fund	4,500,000	2,000,000 4,500,000	2,500,000 0	
Total Funds	4,500,000	2,000,000 4,500,000	2,500,000 0	

Amendment No.

7

D29

Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority

Committee Narrative

D29A01.01 Administration

Pimlico and Training Facility Capital Construction Update: The Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority (MTROA) is authorized to implement Pimlico Plus, which consolidates thoroughbred horse racing at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore City. The plan is to renovate Pimlico and purchase a training facility to support Pimlico so that the facilities are ready for the 2027 racing season. To support this, the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund was created and has an estimated \$527 million available for capital projects. MTROA should update the committees on status of Pimlico renovations and the training facility construction by August 29, 2025, and by December 19, 2025. For each project, this update should include (1) how far along design documents are; (2) when construction is scheduled to begin or when it began; (3) how long it will take to complete construction; (4) when the facilities will be ready to operate; and (5) when the facility will need to be done to begin thoroughbred horse racing in Pimlico in 2027.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Pimlico and training facility capital construction update	MTROA	August 28, 2025 December 19, 2025

D38I01 State Board of Elections

Committee Narrative

D38I01.01 General Administration

Workgroup on Vote-by-mail Ballot Accessibility: *The committees request that the State Board of Elections (SBE) establish a workgroup to study and make recommendations, including statutory changes, regarding vote-by-mail ballot return and accessibility. The workgroup should include:*

- *the Administrator of SBE, or the Administrator's designee;*
- *the Secretary of Information Technology, or the Secretary's designee;*
- *the Secretary of Disabilities, or the Secretary's designee;*
- *the Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, or the Director's designee;*
- *the State Chief Information Security Officer, or the Officer's designee;*
- *the Executive Director of the Cybersecurity Association of Maryland, or the Executive Director's designee;*
- *the Director of Computer Science at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, or the Director's designee;*
- *the Executive Director of the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council, or the Executive Director's designee;*
- *the President of the Maryland Association of Election Officials, or the President's designee;*
- *a representative of Common Cause Maryland;*
- *a representative of the League of Women Voters of Maryland;*
- *a representative of the National Federation of the Blind Maryland;*
- *a representative of the Arc of Maryland;*
- *a multilingual individual with expertise in election administration;*

D38I01

- *a representative of Disability Rights Maryland;*
- *a representative of the Association of the Deaf;*
- *an expert in voting accessibility;*
- *an expert in election security;*
- *an expert in cybersecurity; and*
- *other relevant stakeholders.*

The workgroup should study and make recommendations on the solutions or statutory changes regarding:

- *the current vote-by-mail ballot return processes and procedures in the State, including the administrative time and costs, ballot return rates, and security issues;*
- *the impact of current vote-by-mail processes and procedures, particularly the requirement to return ballots in paper form, on voters with disabilities;*
- *the current practices and standard related to accessible ballot return, including alternatives to vote-by-mail ballot return in other jurisdictions; and*
- *the feasibility of implementing alternatives to vote-by-mail ballot return methods for individuals with disabilities focusing on accessibility, security, preventing discrimination, impact on privacy and independence, and cost.*

The workgroup should be staffed by SBE and should work in consultation with the federal National Institute of Standards and Technology to consider cybersecurity issues. SBE should submit a report containing the workgroup's findings and recommendations to the committees by December 31, 2025.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report of the workgroup on vote-by-mail ballot accessibility</i>	<i>SBE</i>	<i>December 31, 2025</i>

D38I01

Budget Amendments

D38I01.03 Major Information Technology Development Projects

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete special funds for the Voter Registration and Election Administration Modernization Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP). Considering recent delays in ongoing MITDPs managed by the State Board of Elections, this project should be deferred.	-470,746	SF
Total Change	-470,746	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Fund	3,042,669	2,571,923	-470,746	
Total Funds	3,042,669	2,571,923	-470,746	

Committee Narrative

Quarterly Reports on all Major Information Technology Development Projects (MITDP):
 The State Board of Elections (SBE) is currently implementing three MITDPs for a statewide pollbook system replacement, new voting system, and a new Campaign Reporting Information System. The committees remain interested in monitoring the progress of SBE’s implementation of the MITDPs. The committees request that SBE submit quarterly reports on all MITDP activities and expenditures separately for each of the three projects through their completion. Each report should include the following for each project:

- 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 that any delays experienced in the quarter have on the project’s overall timeline;
- actual project spending in each month of the quarter and any updates on total estimated project costs; and
- an assessment of future risks to the project’s timeline and how SBE plans to mitigate those risks.

D38I01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly report on all MITDPs	SBE	July 15, 2025 October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026

Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Readiness for Upcoming Elections: The committees are interested in the readiness and timing of implementation of the Statewide Pollbook Modernization MITDP and the New Voting System MITDP managed by the State Board of Elections (SBE) for the upcoming calendar 2026 midterm elections and calendar 2028 presidential election. The committees request that SBE submit a report discussing MITDP details related to the vendors contracted for the development and implementation of the projects and how likely these projects are to be ready for the calendar 2026 midterm election and calendar 2028 presidential election. Additionally, the report should discuss the components of each project that are likely to be ready and usable for those elections and the components that are not expected to be completed in time to be used for those elections. The report should also include potential issues with the MITDPs related to security for voters, polling place security, electoral integrity, and strategies to mitigate those issues.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MITDP readiness for upcoming elections	SBE	November 1, 2025

D40W01
Department of Planning

Budget Amendments

D40W01.12 Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for the Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit program's small commercial tax credits.	-2,000,000	GF
Total Change	-2,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	22,000,000	20,000,000	-2,000,000	
Total Funds	22,000,000	20,000,000	-2,000,000	

D50H01 Military Department

Committee Narrative

D50H01.01 Administrative Headquarters

Report on Maryland Military Department Efforts to Fill Vacant Positions: As of December 31, 2024, the Military Department had 49 vacant positions, 9 of which had been unfilled for more than one year. Given that the department was making consistent progress in filling vacant positions until fiscal 2023, the vacancies in fiscal 2024 reflect a significant increase, more than double the 23 vacancies reported as of December 31, 2023. The Military Department reported that a key reason for the increase in vacancies was an internal hiring freeze in fiscal 2024 implemented in response to funding shortfalls. The committees request that the Military Department submit a report on the status of all December 2024 vacant positions, the status of the internal hiring freeze, and active recruitment efforts to fill vacant positions.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Military Department efforts to fill vacant positions	Military Department	August 1, 2025

Budget Amendments

D50H01.03 Army Operations and Maintenance

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general and federal funds to delete 4.0 long-term vacant positions within the Army Operations and Maintenance program.	-60,319 GF	-4.00
	-168,092 FF	
Total Change	-228,411	-4.00
	0	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	95.00	91.00		-4.00
		95.00		0.00
General Fund	3,819,587	-3,759,268	-60,319	
		3,819,587	0	

D50H01

Special Fund	1,575	1,575	0
Federal Fund	15,091,558	14,923,466 15,091,558	-168,092 0
Total Funds	18,912,720	18,684,309 18,912,720	228,411 0

D50H01.05 State Operations

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general and federal funds to delete 1.0 long-term vacant position within the State Operations program.	-26,068	GF	-1.00
	-27,740	FF	
Total Change	-53,808 0		-1.00 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	76.50	75.50 76.50		-1.00 0.00
General Fund	7,601,507	7,575,439 7,601,507	-26,068 0	
Federal Fund	5,137,763	5,110,023 5,137,763	-27,740 0	
Total Funds	12,739,270	12,685,462 12,739,270	53,808 0	

Amendment No.

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D50H01

Committee Narrative

Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program Update: The committees are interested in better understanding the Tricare Premium Reimbursement program, including program participation and outreach activities performed to increase enrollment. The committees request that the Military Department submit a report highlighting program participation and rates, reimbursement claims submitted year to date, and average grant amounts for fiscal 2026. In addition, the report should include information about how the department plans to increase program enrollment.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Tricare Premium Reimbursement program participation	Military Department	December 31, 2025

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Committee Narrative

D52A01.01 Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund: In total, only three counties have submitted applications for funding from the Maryland Department of Emergency Management’s (MDEM) Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund (RMRLF) since it was established in calendar 2021. The RMRLF was established to fund local projects with State funds and to receive funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund (STRLF) program. Because MDEM has stated that the reason for the limited number of applications could be that local governments do not have the expertise or resources to develop a project proposal and application, the committees are interested in what resources MDEM can provide to assist local governments with applying for RMRLF and STRLF funding. The committees request that MDEM submit an update on the status of the RMRLF, including:

- the status of STRLF awards;
- descriptions of activities and communications at and between MDEM and local emergency management departments regarding funding opportunities;
- descriptions of technical assistance and other support MDEM offers local governments to prepare applications;
- a list of project funding applications submitted for federal and RMRLF awards, including total estimated cost and amounts requested and awarded for each project and by jurisdiction; and
- the special fund revenue and repayment schedules associated with existing loans made through the RMRLF.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the RMRLF	MDEM	July 1, 2025

State and Local Cybersecurity Efforts: The State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) is funded through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and is jointly managed federally by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. The Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) receives the money and disburses it to local jurisdictions. In November 2024, MDEM issued a report summarizing how the SLCGP money from federal fiscal 2022 was awarded. The

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committees request that MDEM submit a report that provides the following information for federal fiscal 2023 and 2024:

- SLCGP grants awarded by jurisdiction and remaining unallocated balance;
- nonfederal match expenditures by use;
- descriptions of requested projects, requested funding amounts, and actual funding awards;
- a plan for the use of any remaining unallocated funds; and
- a description of the need for further State-match funding beyond fiscal 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
SLCGP information for federal fiscal 2023 and 2024	MDEM	November 1, 2025

Budget Amendments

D52A01.04 State Disaster Recovery Division

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funding for 2 new positions (PINs 2617548 and 2617549). The Maryland Department of Emergency Management had 20.0 vacant positions as of December 31, 2024, and should reclassify 2 vacant positions instead of adding 2 new positions.	-101,264 GF -101,264 FF	-2.00
Total Change	-202,528	-2.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	2.00	0.00		-2.00
General Fund	1,000,000	898,736	-101,264	
Federal Fund	101,264	0	-101,264	
Total Funds	1,101,264	898,736	-202,528	

D52

Committee Narrative

Disaster Relief for Businesses: The committees request that the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM), in consultation with the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, submit a report on disaster relief for businesses in Maryland. In the report, MDEM and the Maryland Chamber of Commerce should study and make recommendations regarding:

- the State’s established policies and procedures to respond to natural disasters that impact businesses in the State;
- private sector strategies that may be utilized to respond to natural disasters that impact businesses; and
- the efficacy of establishing a private sector program to assist businesses in recovery efforts following a natural disaster.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on disaster relief for businesses	MDEM	December 1, 2025

D55P00
Department of Veterans and Military Families

Committee Narrative

D55P00.05 Veterans Home Program

Quarterly Reports on Charlotte Hall Veterans Home (CHVH) Facility Operations, Staffing, and Federal Ratings: The Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMF) oversees the operation of CHVH, the only assisted-living and skilled-nursing care for veterans and their spouses in the State. The committees are interested in how the new management contractor operates CHVH and its efforts on increasing staffing and residency numbers. Additionally, the committees would like to continue to monitor the low ratings from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) surrounding nursing home facility performance. The committees request that DVMF submit quarterly reports in collaboration with the CHVH contractor on the progress of CHVH’s operations, census numbers, staffing levels, efforts to increase census and staffing numbers, the number of resident complaints, and resident complaints by type of complaint, as well as any report, rating, or fine from CMS. In each quarterly report, the report should note the period covered by the data and the corresponding dates.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on status of CHVH operations, staffing, and federal ratings	DVMF	July 1, 2025 October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026

D55P00.11 Outreach and Advocacy

Report on the Maryland Joins Forces (MJF) Initiative and Its Progress: MJF is a new initiative that was launched in November 2023. This initiative focuses on five main areas: employment; food and housing insecurity; education; health and wellness; and volunteer services. The committees are interested in monitoring the progress of this initiative and the Department of Veterans and Military Families’ (DVMF) plans to address the five focus areas identified. The committees request DVMF to submit a report highlighting the number of veterans and military families served by this initiative, including the number of veterans and military families who actually benefitted from this initiative, its partnerships with other organizations, and activities conducted through this initiative. The report should also include information on the effectiveness and challenges in administering this initiative.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the MJF initiative and its progress	DVMF	December 1, 2025

D70J00
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund

Committee Narrative

D70J00.42 Insured Division

Quarterly Financial Statements for Insured and Uninsured Divisions: Annually, the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto) provides end-of-year financial statements, including revenue, expenditure, and surplus figures for the closed-out, preceding year; estimates for the current year beginning at closeout; and projections for the immediate year ahead. Most revenue is derived from premiums in the Insured Division and a mandated appropriation of uninsured motorist fines under §17-106 of the Transportation Article for the Uninsured Division. However, both divisions derive revenue from investment dividends, which depend on investment portfolio decisions as well as stock market conditions. Comparisons of estimates to closeout and projections to end-of-year estimates suggest limited ability to forecast financial conditions for the full year. Given ongoing concerns about the financial stability of the agency and surplus levels in both divisions, the committees request quarterly reports with updated financial statements and fund balances for both divisions. Additionally, in each quarterly report, Maryland Auto should include discussions of potential shortfalls, rate increases, dates of any actual or projected rate increases, estimated amounts to be collected from actual or projected rate increases, and data regarding policy counts. In each quarterly report, Maryland Auto should also discuss estimated and actual amounts collected from the assessment occurring in calendar 2025 as well as any other potential assessments. The first report should cover data for the first two quarters of calendar 2025, and each subsequent report should cover the prior quarter.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly financial statements for Insured Division and Uninsured Division	Maryland Auto	July 31, 2025 October 31, 2025 March 15, 2026 May 15, 2026

D78Y01
Maryland Health Benefit Exchange

Budget Amendments

D78Y01.01 Maryland Health Benefit Exchange

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for general operating expenses. In fiscal 2026, the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange has new positions, which the agency indicates were funded as contractual full-time equivalents in fiscal 2025 within existing resources. As these personnel costs are budgeted with new positions, it is assumed the budgeted expenses from which savings previously were dedicated toward this purpose are not needed.	-267,761	GF
 Total Change	-267,761	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	79.00	79.00		0.00
General Fund	5,479,878	5,212,117	-267,761	
Special Fund	18,271,700	18,271,700	0	
Federal Fund	24,048,316	24,048,316	0	
Total Funds	47,799,894	47,532,133	-267,761	

Committee Narrative

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, 2025

D78Y01

Budget Amendments

D78Y01.03 Reinsurance Program

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$13,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Young Adult Subsidy program is contingent upon the enactment of legislation that extends the availability of subsidies in the Young Adult Subsidy program into calendar 2026.

Explanation: The fiscal 2026 allowance for Maryland Health Benefit Exchange includes \$26 million for the young adult subsidy program. However, the Young Adult Subsidy program will be terminated on June 30, 2026, with subsidies available only through calendar 2025, unless legislation is enacted extending or removing the termination date of the program. This language makes the appropriation for the young adult subsidy for the second half of the fiscal year contingent on legislation that extends the availability of subsidies under the program into calendar 2026.

D80Z01
Maryland Insurance Administration

Committee Narrative

D80Z01.01 Administration and Operations

Insurance Tracking System Project Status: After significant delays beginning in calendar 2020, active development of the Insurance Tracking System project is underway. The Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) has begun Phase 1 of development in which there are four releases planned, with two releases anticipated to be completed as of January 2025. The fiscal 2026 allowance includes \$7.7 million for continued Insurance Tracking System project development. In order to continue monitoring this project and to be informed of any further delays or cost increases, the committees request that MIA submit initial and follow-up reports to update the committees, including:

- a summary of progress made on the project in the previous two quarters and projected tasks to be completed in the following two quarters, including a list of all identified project development benchmarks and target dates and actual completion dates for each major benchmark;
- actual project spending over the previous two quarters; and
- any updates to the estimated total project cost or anticipated project timeline.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Insurance Tracking System Major Information Technology Development Project status	MIA	July 10, 2025 January 10, 2026

Insurance Fraud Investigation Status: The Insurance Fraud Division within the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) is responsible for investigating complaints relating to alleged insurance fraud committed by insurance companies, insurance producers, or consumers. Previously, the division had tracked referrals investigated and referred for criminal prosecution and referrals investigated and charged. The division has updated the methodology for tracking these measures with a tiered system of referrals. As of March 10, 2025, the division has not provided any referral data using the new tiered system for fiscal 2025 or previous fiscal years. Given that data using the tiered system has not been published, the committees request that MIA submit a report containing updated performance data for the Insured Fraud Division under the new tiered system, including the percentage and number of cases referred for charges by tier as well as the number of prosecutions by tier.

D80Z01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Insurance fraud investigation status	MIA	October 1, 2025

Report on Rate Assignment by Zip Code: *The Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto) applies an affordability index that caps rates for personal automobile insurance in 55 zip codes to ensure that the agency can meet affordability considerations. The Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) has emphasized that affordability does not appear in codified statutes relating to Maryland Auto’s creation and operation. MIA has indicated that the only requirements for Maryland Auto’s rates are established by Title 11, Subtitle 3 of the Insurance Article and that the rates should not be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory. The committees request a joint report be submitted by Maryland Auto and MIA on the assignment of rates by zip code, noting the impact this rate assignment methodology would have on affordability. This report should discuss areas of agreement between the agencies as well as areas of disagreement. Additionally, the report should describe a way to assign rates by zip code that is recommended by both agencies.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on rate assignment by zip code	MIA Maryland Auto	October 31, 2025

Efforts to Support Insurance Industry Apprenticeships: *The Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) is responsible for licensing and regulating insurers, insurance agents, and brokers who conduct business in the State and for monitoring the financial solvency of licensed insurers. The committees request that MIA submit a report describing its efforts to support apprenticeship programs within the insurance industry. The report should identify existing insurance apprenticeship programs, noting the positions supported by apprenticeships, as well as barriers to creating new apprenticeships and obstacles to scaling. Additionally, the report should provide details on the number of existing registered apprentices and timeline to scale by occupation, previous data on the number participants in apprenticeship programs, and actions taken by MIA, or planned actions, to support these programs and offer additional apprenticeship opportunities.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Efforts to support insurance industry apprenticeships	MIA	December 1, 2025

D91
West North Avenue Development Authority

Budget Amendments

West North Avenue Development Authority

D91A01.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$82,614 of this appropriation made for the purpose of personnel is contingent on the enactment of SB 4 or HB 258 to establish the West North Avenue Development Authority as an instrumentality of the State and to expand its statutory authority and responsibilities.

Explanation: This language makes funding intended to support a new position associated with pending legislation contingent on the enactment of that legislation.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for grants to nongovernmental entities. The fiscal 2026 allowance includes a \$5 million increase in funding for West North Avenue Development Authority's (WNADA) grants program. The agency is in its second fiscal year of funding as a State agency. A reduction is recommended to provide additional time to evaluate the outcomes of WNADA's grantmaking strategy prior to increasing funding. Additional funding is not recommended until WNADA has demonstrated success in advancing the comprehensive plan using existing funding. The reduced funding level of \$15 million would be a \$5.4 million increase over fiscal 2024 grant expenditures.	-5,000,000	GF
Total Change	-5,000,000	0

D91

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	15.00	15.00		0.00
General Fund	22,443,101	17,443,101 22,443,101	5,000,000 0	
Total Funds	22,443,101	17,443,101 22,443,101	5,000,000 0	

Amendment No.

9

D99A11
Office of Administrative Hearings

Committee Narrative

D99A11.01 General Administration

Alternative Dispute Resolution Techniques Usage Measures: The committees request that the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) begin including additional measures regarding the use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) techniques in the agency’s annual Managing for Results (MFR) submission. The measures should include a list of case types for which ADR techniques may be utilized, the percentage of each case type where ADR is requested and where cases are resolved with ADR techniques, the average length of time from receipt of an appeal to the conclusion of the appeal when ADR is requested and leads to a settlement, and the average length of time from receipt of appeal to conclusion in cases for which ADR techniques are not utilized.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ADR techniques usage measures	OAH	With the fiscal 2027 MFR submission

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

Committee Narrative

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

E00A01.01 Executive Direction

~~**Requirements to Accept Cryptocurrency Payments:** The committees request that the Comptroller of Maryland submit a report on the feasibility of the agency to receive payments for taxes, fees, and fines in the form of cryptocurrencies. The report should discuss how the Comptroller could begin accepting such payments, including the hardware or software that would be needed, cybersecurity requirements, and any other necessary provisions. The report should also describe the potential timeline, budgetary impacts, and any challenges or considerations for expanding tax, fee, and fine collection to include cryptocurrencies.~~

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on requirements to accept cryptocurrency payments	Comptroller of Maryland	August 1, 2025

~~**Baby Bond Accounts:** Baby bonds are government-funded accounts that are established at a child's birth and provide money for future asset-building investments such as college education and home purchases. The committees request that the Comptroller of Maryland submit a report on baby bond accounts, including:~~

- ~~● the feasibility and fiscal impact on Maryland of implementing a State baby bond account program;~~
- ~~● current baby bond programs operated in other jurisdictions and their eligibility requirements;~~
- ~~● the recommended State entity to administer a State baby bond account program and how that entity may implement the program;~~
- ~~● the estimated costs for the State, including funding options; and~~
- ~~● recommended eligibility criteria for participation in a State baby bond account program.~~

~~The report should also discuss the current economic, social, and political factors that may affect a baby bond account program's implementation, including information on how the program may close wealth gaps in the State and help Marylanders:~~

E00A

- ~~pay for college;~~
- ~~purchase homes; and~~
- ~~start businesses.~~

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on State baby bond accounts	Comptroller of Maryland	November 1, 2025

E17
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission

Committee Narrative

Managing for Results (MFR) Measures for Cannabis Violations and Confiscated Contraband: Chapters 254 and 255 of 2023 required the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission (ATCC) to carry out inspections of retail businesses selling cannabis products to identify violations of licensing and registration laws for cannabis business in Maryland. ATCC’s annual MFR submission includes indicators for the number of tobacco and alcohol retailer inspections, violations of law found, and amount of contraband confiscated by ATCC agents. While ATCC has added performance measures for the number of unlicensed cannabis inspections and the number of compliance inspections conducted targeting underage sales, no measures were added as indicators for violations found or amount of contraband confiscated. The committees request that ATCC include additional measures for the number of cannabis violations found and the amount of confiscated contraband, consistent with measures reported for tobacco and alcohol, in the MFR submission with the fiscal 2027 budget.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR measures for cannabis violations and confiscated contraband	ATCC	With submission of the fiscal 2027 budget

E50C
State Department of Assessments and Taxation

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that \$10,000,000 in general funds made for the purpose of general operating expenses is reduced contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable use of expedited service fees collected by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT). The Director of SDAT is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs within SDAT.

Explanation: This action reduces \$10.0 million from the fiscal 2026 general fund appropriation for general operating expenses contingent on the enactment of legislation. The Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025 includes a provision expanding the use of the Expedited Service Fund to support up to \$11.0 million for general operating costs in fiscal 2026 and 2027 only.

E50C00.01 Office of the Director

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Office of the Director may not be expended until the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) submits two reports to the budget committees on the status of the Cloud Revenue Integrated System (CRIS) development project. The reports shall include:

- (1) a description of project milestones achieved, remaining milestones, and the overall project schedule;
- (2) the number of vacancies among staff for the project and how long those positions have been vacant;
- (3) a description of actions taken by SDAT to fill vacancies specified above; and
- (4) a discussion of how any vacancies among staff for the project have affected project progression.

The first report shall be submitted by July 15, 2025, and the second report shall be submitted by December 15, 2025. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the second 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.

E50C

Explanation: There have been ongoing concerns about information technology staffing and delays in the Cloud Revenue Integrated System development (CRIS) project. This language restricts funds budgeted for administrative purposes until SDAT submits two reports updating the budget committees on the status of the CRIS project.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CRIS status reports	SDAT	July 15, 2025 December 15, 2025

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$25,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative costs in the Office of the Director may not be expended until the State Department of Assessments and Taxation submits a report to the budget committees on the status of positions that have been vacant for more than one year, including:

- (1) the status of the 4 long-term vacant positions reported as of December 31, 2024, noting candidates' actual or anticipated start dates, if applicable;
- (2) the number of long-term vacant positions as of August 1, 2025, specifying the position titles, class codes, and salaries;
- (3) the number of job postings and announcements made for each position;
- (4) the number of applications received for qualified candidates in response to each posting; and
- (5) the reasons the positions have not been filled within one year of becoming vacant or being created.

The report shall be submitted by September 1, 2025, 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: There were 4 positions within the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) that had been vacant for more than one year as of December 31, 2024. This language restricts funds pending a report on the status of these long-term vacancies and efforts to fill long-term vacancies.

E50C

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on positions vacant for more than one year</i>	<i>SDAT</i>	<i>September 1, 2025</i>

Amendment No.

10

Committee Narrative

E50C00.02 Real Property Valuation

Vacancies Among Assessors in the Real Property Valuation Program: The committees request that the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) submit two reports on the status of vacancies within the Real Property Valuation Program. Each report shall include the following information on the two quarters immediately preceding the due date:

- 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 that it takes for the average hire to finish the training and probationary period; and
- the average and median salaries for listed positions.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status updates on staffing in the Real Property Valuation Program	SDAT	July 15, 2025 December 15, 2025

E80E
Property Tax Assessment Appeals Boards

Budget Amendments

E80E00.01 Property Tax Assessment Appeals Boards

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board (PTAAB) submits a report to the budget committees on Baltimore City’s case backlog, including:

- (1) the number of backlogged cases as of July 1, 2025;
- (2) the factors that led to the buildup of backlogged cases; and
- (3) the number of vacancies on Baltimore City’s PTAAB as of July 1, 2025.

The report shall be submitted by August 1, 2025, 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 the current status of the backlog of appeals cases in Baltimore City heard by PTAAB. This language restricts funds pending a report on the backlog and board vacancies as of July 1, 2025.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the case backlog in Baltimore City	PTAAB	August 1, 2025

Amendment No. **11**

Committee Narrative

Managing for Results (MFR) Performance Data Submission: Due to staff turnover, the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board (PTAAB) did not submit updated MFR data with the fiscal 2026 budget. The committees request that by July 15, 2025, PTAAB submit its updated fiscal 2026 MFR data submission, including actual data for calendar 2023 and projections for calendar 2024 and 2025.

E80E

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR performance data submission	PTAAB	July 15, 2025

F10A
Office of the Secretary
Department of Budget and Management

Budget Amendments

F10A01.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Budget and Management submits a report on the expenditure of federal funds available through the American Rescue Plan Act award for the State Fiscal Relief Fund (SFRF) program. The report shall include a table listing the amount available to the State through each SFRF grant, the amount expended for each fiscal year, and the remaining balance. The report shall identify the reasons why any funds are expected to expire prior to use. The report shall be submitted by September 15, 2025, and 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: Appendix R of the Governor’s Fiscal 2026 Budget Highlights Book showed unexpended balances in federal SFRF monies totaling \$330 million. This language requires an update on SFRF spending to increase transparency and oversight of federal fund spending and maximize utilization of available resources.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
SFRF grant balances	Department of Budget and Management	September 15, 2025

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$150,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submits a report describing planned performance measures for the Audit and Finance Compliance Unit (AFCU) by August 15, 2025. The performance measures shall be developed in consultation with the Managing for Results (MFR) Guidebook and shall include goals and objectives that correspond to core unit activities. It is the intent of the budget committees that performance measures for AFCU identified in this report be included in the fiscal 2027 MFR submission of DBM and future submissions. 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.

F10A

Explanation: AFCU was expanded to provide enhanced technical support to State agencies facing repeat audit findings, fiscal crises, and other financial management or audit compliance issues. No measures have been reported so far on activities, outputs, or outcomes of the unit, which could have a significant impact on the financial management and audit compliance needs of State agencies.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Performance measures related to AFCU	DBM	August 15, 2025

Add the following language added to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that, since six State agencies had repeat audit findings in calendar 2024 fiscal compliance reports issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) for certain repeat findings, \$250,000 of the appropriation made for the purpose of Executive Direction may not be expended until:

- (1) representatives from agencies with certain repeat audit findings in calendar 2024 have met with the State Chief Information Security Officer (SCISO) to identify and document a path for resolution of any outstanding issues, and the agency has taken corrective action with respect to the findings, including articulating any ongoing associated costs and a timeline for resolution if the corrective action is not complete;
- (2) SCISO submits a report to OLA by February 1, 2026, addressing corrective actions taken, a path and timeline for resolution of any outstanding issues, and any ongoing costs associated with corrective actions; and
- (3) a report is submitted to the budget committees and the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) by OLA, no later than May 1, 2026, listing each repeat audit finding in accordance with item (1) that demonstrates the agencies' commitment to correct each repeat audit finding.

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

Explanation: Audit reports from calendar 2024 identified certain repeat audit findings in State agencies. This language requires that these agencies report their plans to remediate repeat audit findings to SCISO. SCISO should review these plans and report to OLA about these agencies' plans. OLA should review the SCISO's findings and report on the commitment to resolving these repeat findings to the budget committees and JAEC. The six State agencies are the Comptroller of Maryland, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of

F10A

Information Technology, the Maryland Department of Health – Pharmacy Services, the Maryland Department of Transportation, and St. Mary’s College of Maryland.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on repeat audit findings</i>	<i>SCISO OLA</i>	<i>February 1, 2026 May 1, 2026</i>

Amendment No.

12

Committee Narrative

Report on Efforts to Improve Training, Recruitment, and Retention of Fiscal Staff: A number of agencies made significant errors during the fiscal 2024 closeout or failed to disclose pertinent information to the General Accounting Division. The Office of Legislative Audits review of Statewide closeout transactions revealed that several State agencies faced significant difficulties in properly managing federal funds during the fiscal 2024 closeout, leading to discrepancies and unreported financial shortfalls. These findings underscore the need for a comprehensive review of financial management practices across State agencies, with a particular focus on improving training, recruitment, and retention of fiscal staff to strengthen accountability, reduce errors, and enhance the integrity of the budget closeout process. The budget committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit a report by August 1, 2025, detailing their efforts to address these issues, improve fiscal oversight, and ensure timely and accurate closeout documentation. The report should address the current status of and future improvements to training, recruitment, retention, processes, technologies, interagency collaboration, response to noncompliance, and other measures to ensure timeliness and accuracy of fiscal information.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Efforts to improve training, recruitment, and retention of fiscal staff	DBM	August 1, 2025

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

Budget Amendments

F10A02.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Budget and Management submits quarterly reports on medical, dental, and prescription plan costs. Medical and dental reports shall provide utilization and cost data broken out by plans as well as actives, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees. The reports shall 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 shall 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 new drug patent approvals. Additionally, the reports shall include data on the cost drivers and drug trends by actives, non-Medicare retirees, and Medicare retirees. The first report shall be submitted no later than September 15, 2025, the second report shall be submitted by December 15, 2025, the third report shall be submitted by March 15, 2026, and the fourth report shall be submitted by June 15, 2026. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the second 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 recent years, the State has implemented different strategies to contain medical and prescription costs. The budget committees have annually requested that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit quarterly reports on plan performance of the State's prescription, medical, and dental plans. DBM submitted three fiscal 2024 reports and one fiscal 2025 report late, impacting the ability of the legislature to accurately gauge prescription drug liabilities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly State medical, dental, and prescription drug plan performance reports	DBM	September 15, 2025 December 15, 2025 March 15, 2026 June 15, 2026

F10A02

Committee Narrative

Health Insurance Account Closeout Report: The committees request a report on the fiscal 2025 closeout of the Employee and Retiree Health Insurance Account. This report shall include:

- the closing fiscal 2025 fund balance;
- the 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;
- State employee and retiree contributions, broken out by active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees;
- 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;
- any closeout transactions processed after the fiscal year ended; and
- actual incurred but not received costs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on fiscal 2025 closeout data for the Employee and Retiree Health Insurance Account	Department of Budget and Management	October 1, 2025

Budget Amendments

F10A02.08 Statewide Expenses

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that the appropriation made for the purpose of funding health reimbursement accounts is reduced by \$3,118,182 contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the use of the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program.

F10A02

Explanation: This action provides General Fund relief by using Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program funding to support health reimbursement account costs for retirees transitioned to Medicare Part D contingent on legislation expanding the authorized uses of the fund.

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$3,118,182 of this appropriation made for the purpose of funding health reimbursement accounts is contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the use of the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program.

Explanation: This action makes \$3.1 million of the special fund appropriation to the Statewide Expenses account contingent on legislation authorizing the expanded use of funds. The funds are currently appropriated through the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program (SPDAP) to the Statewide account to fund health reimbursement accounts for retirees transitioned to Medicare Part D. While the BRFA of 2024 authorized use of these funds for this purpose in fiscal 2025, no such authorization exists for fiscal 2026. While the Department of Budget and Management stated that the \$3.1 million was mistakenly identified as SPDAP funding, this action maintains the appropriation due to the fiscal condition of the State and the need for General Fund relief.

Committee Narrative

Funding of Supplemental Retirement Match: The fiscal 2026 budget includes a planned reversion of \$11.95 million in general funds for the Supplemental Retirement Match program. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has reported that agencies will not receive centralized funding in fiscal 2025 for the Supplemental Retirement Match program but will use savings from other areas of the budget. Additionally, no centralized funding is provided for the Supplemental Retirement Match in fiscal 2026. The budget committees request that DBM provide a report, due September 15, 2025, that specifies the amount of the match contributed in fiscal 2025 and anticipated for fiscal 2026 and discuss the areas where savings were identified in agency budgets to support these costs. To increase transparency in the budgeting process, the committees also request that beginning with the fiscal 2027 submission, funding for the supplemental retirement match be accounted for within the budgets of State agencies in a subobject identified for this purpose.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Accounting of vacancy savings and supplemental retirement match	DBM	September 15, 2025

F10A02

Statewide Overtime Reports: The budget committees are concerned with the high level of spending on overtime across State agencies. It is the intent of the budget committees that the State reduce overtime hours worked and pay expended, as overtime earnings are more expensive than regular earnings. The budget committees request that the Department of Budget and Management submit two reports, due December 1, 2025 and May 1, 2026, on specific actions taken to work with agencies to reduce overtime. The reports should specifically address agencies with the highest amount of overtime hours and spending, including providing data on the current staffing levels and necessary staffing levels to eliminate or significantly reduce overtime. The reports should also address the financial impact of staffing shortfalls by comparing overtime expenses to the cost of filling the needed positions.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Statewide overtime reports	Department of Budget and Management	December 1, 2025 May 1, 2026

Job-Sharing Feasibility Study: The budget committees request that the Department of Budget and Management establish a comprehensive feasibility study of job-sharing arrangements in State government, examining technical, administrative, financial, and operational aspects of job-sharing. The study should apply generally to agencies in the State Personnel Management System and include feedback from the Maryland Department of Transportation. The report should include the following:

- Workday system capabilities regarding position sharing, including:
 - workarounds for benefits tracking, leave accrual, and payroll processing; and
 - the required system modifications and associated costs.
- Administrative process implications, including:
 - development of criteria for position eligibility;
 - performance evaluation frameworks for job-sharing employees;
 - leave management and scheduling coordination; and
 - change in workload on supervisors.
- Financial implications, including:

F10A02

- benefit costs for part-time employees at 50% full-time equivalent who remain eligible for full benefits;
 - potential additional costs or benefit per additional employee;
 - total projected costs across affected agencies;
 - estimated tax revenue impacts from maintaining employment that might otherwise be lost; and
 - comparison of benefits against the anticipated implementation costs.
 - Long-term positive financial outcomes stemming from retirement and health coverage for job-share employees’.
- Recruitment considerations, including:
 - strategies for advertising shared and part-time positions;
 - addressing possible issues about job sharing responsibilities; and
 - analysis of historical challenges filling part-time professional roles.
 - Organizational change management considerations for agency adoption of job-sharing arrangements, including:
 - projected impact on employee morale and job satisfaction;
 - potential reduction in attrition rates and associated cost savings from decreased recruitment and training expenses; and
 - benefits of retaining a skilled and experienced workforce.
 - Recommendations for successful implementation of a job-sharing program among State agencies.

It is the intent of the budget committees that the report also be submitted to the Governor.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Job-sharing feasibility study	Department of Budget and Management	December 1, 2025

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 2027 subobject detail by program for Comptroller Objects 08 and 12 by the third Wednesday of January 2026 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 2026

F10A06
Office of Capital Budgeting
Department of Budget and Management

Committee Narrative

Advancing Primary Care Access for State Employees: The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Employee Benefits Division submit a report by October 1, 2025, discussing primary care access, mental health access, managing chronic disease costs, and primary care quality for State employees to the committee. The report may be completed in consultation with an independent third-party vendor and third-party health actuarial consultant and shall include the following information:

- *the estimated prevalence rates and costs of chronic disease to the State of Maryland as measured by payments made by the State on behalf of State employees and State retirees and dependents covered under State health plans;*
- *the current availability and historic trends related to primary care providers and primary care facilities across the State;*
- *the current and historic trends related to average wait time to schedule a preventive care appointment for the State as a whole and by geographic areas across the State;*
- *the experiences of other states in addressing the health needs of State employees and State retirees and dependents covered under their respective State health plans, including experiences related to employer-sponsored, dedicated primary care vendor relationships;*
- *the cost analysis should include both medical and pharmacy costs and chronic disease categories should include, but are not limited to, the following conditions: cardiovascular disease, cancer, hypertension, diabetes, asthma, depression, and obesity; and*
- *detailed return-on-investment information and recruiting/retention metrics if the State supports access to a network of integrated health centers across the State of Maryland dedicated to State, County and School District employees and their families.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Advancing primary care access for State of Maryland employees</i>	<i>DBM</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

F10A06

Government Modernization Initiative: *The committees are interested in receiving more information about the Government Modernization Initiative. The budget committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit a report, due December 15, 2025, detailing a multi-year plan for approaching and implementing government efficiency initiatives. The report should include goals, barriers to implementation, and a timeline for all initiatives. The report should also discuss how savings will be shared with agencies that propose opportunities for savings and for which the proposed savings were adopted.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Government Modernization Initiative	DBM	December 15, 2025

Public Service Registered Apprenticeships: *It is the intent of the committees that the State expand registered apprenticeship opportunities in public service. The budget committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit a report, due December 15, 2025, on public service registered apprenticeships within State government. The report should breakdown the current number of apprentices, the number of unfilled apprenticeship opportunities, and the goal levels of apprenticeships for each State agency by occupation and year of completion.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Public service registered apprenticeships	DBM	December 15, 2025

F50
Department of Information Technology

Budget Amendments

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT FUND

F50A01.01 Information Technology Investment Fund

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$5,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) submits a report to the budget committees on the Information Technology Investment Fund (ITIF) balance and oversight, as well as the new expedited project criteria. The report shall include:

- (1) a detailed accounting of the ITIF balance, including revenue, spending by project, encumbrances by project, and use of carryover balance in fiscal 2025 and expected for fiscal 2026;
- (2) an explanation for any changes in the ITIF balance forecast compared to the level included as part of the Governor’s Fiscal 2026 Budget Books;
- (3) a description of DoIT’s process for vetting, approving, and disbursing the ITIF funds to respective agencies;
- (4) a description of how DoIT monitors changes in scope and cost for major information technology development projects;
- (5) a description of responsibilities that DoIT delegates to agencies and how DoIT determines which responsibilities are to be delegated; and
- (6) a description of the criteria DoIT has established for an expedited project, including a list of information technology projects that DoIT categorizes as expedited projects and intends to fund through the ITIF.

The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2025, 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 Governor’s Fiscal 2026 Budget Books showed an expected ITIF balance at the end of fiscal 2025 of \$16,000, which would be very low compared to recent history. The General Assembly is interested in better understanding how DoIT anticipates drawing down the

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balance in fiscal 2025. In addition, Chapter 497 of 2024 created a new category of IT projects called “expedited project,” for which funding is also to be held in the ITIF. DoIT is still in the process of developing criteria for what will be considered an “expedited project”. This language restricts funds pending a report with a detailed accounting of the ITIF balance in fiscal 2025 and 2026, and any changes since the forecast included in the Governor’s Budget Books. The language also requires additional detail on DoIT’s oversight of Major Information Technology Development Projects and the criteria DoIT has established for expedited projects as well as a list of IT projects categorized as expedited projects by DoIT.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ITIF balance, oversight, and criteria for expedited projects	DoIT	November 1, 2025

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that, contingent on the enactment of HB 738 or SB 705, \$4,300,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of oversight of major information technology development projects may not be expended for that purpose but instead may be transferred by budget amendment to F50B04.01 State Chief of Information Technology to be used only for the purpose of the operations of the Maryland Digital Service. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts oversight funds for major information technology development projects in the Information Technology Investment Fund to be transferred to the State Chief of Information Technology within the Department of Information Technology for the purpose of operations of the Maryland Digital Service.

Strike the following language on the general fund appropriation:

~~Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$13,820,979 contingent upon the enactment of legislation eliminating the mandate for expedited projects.~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language on the general fund reduction in the mandated appropriation for expedited projects as a technical correction. The language specifies that the reduction of \$13,820,979 in general funds is contingent on legislation eliminating the mandate for expedited projects. A separate action deletes all of the funding for expedited projects.

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Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete general funds for the State Board of Elections (SBE) Voter Registration and Election Administration Modernization Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP). Considering recent delays in ongoing MITDPs managed by SBE, and to avoid having all major systems operated by SBE undergoing an MITDP at the same time, this project should be deferred. The deletion of special funds for this project is recommended in D38I01 – SBE.	-602,614	GF
2. Delete general funds for expedited projects in the Information Technology Investment Fund. This action will delete general funds set aside in fiscal 2026 for expedited funds considering the delay in setting up criteria to define which Modernization Major Information Technology Development Projects are eligible to be determined expedited projects.	-28,820,979	GF
3. Reduce the general fund appropriation in the Information Technology Investment Fund for three Major Information Technology Development Projects (MITDP) to align the fiscal 2026 budgeted amount with the cashflows available for the projects. This action reduces the general fund appropriation for three MITDPs which includes the general fund reduction in the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Statewide Electronic Health Records MITDP by \$2,525,251; MDH Licensing and Regulatory Management System MITDP by \$177,485; and MDH Office of Provider Engagement and Regulations Systems Integration and Modernization by \$278,015.	-2,981,015	GF
Total Change	-32,404,608	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	144,104,896	111,700,288	-32,404,608	
Special Fund	13,991,876	13,991,876	0	
Total Funds	158,096,772	125,692,164	-32,404,608	

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OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

F50B04.01 State Chief of Information Technology

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that since the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$250,000 of this agency's administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) DoIT has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2025; 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 date of the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2026.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) 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 the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) that each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit a report to the budget committees on the status of repeat findings.

If OLA reports that an agency failed to completely resolve or make adequate progress toward resolving those repeat audit findings, JAEC requests that \$250,000 in general funds is withheld from each agency's appropriation in the fiscal year following the OLA report until more satisfactory progress has been made toward resolution of those 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

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Committee Narrative

F50B04.02 Security

Potential Use of Blockchain Technology for Securely Storing Data and Records: Blockchain is a decentralized digital database that securely stores records across a network of computers. Blockchains are best known for their immutable characteristics. The committees are interested in understanding the potential use of blockchain technology for securely storing data and records. The committees request that Department of Information Technology (DoIT) submit a report on the feasibility of blockchain use for securely storing sensitive data and records. The report should also discuss the potential use of blockchain within State agencies for, but not limited to, storing body-worn camera data and records.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on potential use of blockchain technology for securely storing data and records	DoIT	December 15, 2025

Budget Amendments

F50B04.04 Infrastructure

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce special funds to delete 2.0 long-term vacant positions within the Infrastructure program.	-210,608 SF	-2.00
Total Change	-210,608	-2.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	98.00	96.00		-2.00
Special Fund	2,204,000	1,993,392	-210,608	
Total Funds	2,204,000	1,993,392	-210,608	

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F50B04.05 Chief of Staff

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Major Information Technology Development Projects may not be expended until the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) submits a report to the budget committees on any projects undertaken by a unit of State government under a master contract for Statewide Agile Teams approved by the Board of Public Works in fiscal 2025. The report shall include:

- (1) the amount of the contract and the total estimated project cost;
- (2) whether the Secretary has approved the work order or has delegated project oversight and implementation to the unit and has determined that the unit has the internal capacity, including human capital, subject matter expertise, and technical infrastructure, to adequately support the project and program management and responsibility over program activities;
- (3) if the oversight has been delegated, whether the head of the unit has accepted accountability for the oversight and implementation of the project;
- (4) identification of the members of the project management team; and
- (5) an affirmation that as a part of the work order approval that the unit will report to DoIT every four months with project information in the form and manner required by DoIT.

DoIT shall submit reports to the budget committees on July 1, 2025, and December 1, 2025, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the second 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 Board of Public Works approved a \$445 million multiple awards for Statewide contracts to provide Agile resources, teams, or a combination to support technology modernization activities and staffing service needs in three functional areas – software engineering resources, software engineering teams bundle, and IT management consulting services on February 25, 2025. This language restricts funds pending reports on the projects undertaken under the master contract.

G50L00

Teachers and State Employees Supplemental Retirement Plans

Committee Narrative

Supplemental Retirement Plan Fee Report: *The committees are interested in receiving more information about the fees that are paid or charged to participants in the Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans (MSRP). The committees request that MSRP submit a report, due August 1, 2025, describing the current fees for each of its investment offerings. The report should include a discussion comparing fees imposed by MSRP and within MSRP investment options with fees imposed by peer supplemental plans. The report should include a review of administrative and investment fees imposed by contractual investment managers, including a comparison with peer plans.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Supplemental retirement plan fee report</i>	<i>MSRP</i>	<i>August 1, 2025</i>

H00
Department of General Services

Budget Amendments

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

H00A01.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of Executive Direction may not be expended until the Department of General Services (DGS) submits a report to the budget committees on:

- (1) the status of moves and new site locations for each agency moving out of the State Center complex in Baltimore City; and
- (2) the uses and timing of State Center funds appropriated into the Dedicated Purpose Account to support State agency moves and demolition.

The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2025, 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 interested in receiving updated information regarding the ongoing relocation of agencies from State Center in Baltimore City and how funding from the Dedicated Purpose Account has been used for this endeavor. This language restricts funds pending a report on State Center agency relocations.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of State Center agency relocations and funding	DGS	October 1, 2025

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$150,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of Executive Direction may not be expended until the Department of General Services submits a report to the budget committees on the agency's new grant management system, including:

- (1) the number of grantees that have accessed the new system;

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- (2) the number of active grants in the new system; and
- (3) the number of regular and contractual positions that operate the new system.

The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2025, 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: In October 2024, The Department of General Services (DGS) launched a new grants management system to improve its management and oversight of miscellaneous capital grants. This language restricts funds pending a report on the new grant management system.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the new grant management system	DGS	December 1, 2025

Committee Narrative

Status of Vacant Positions: The Department of General Services (DGS) experienced a large increase in its vacancy rate in calendar 2024, particularly within the Office of State Procurement and the Office of Facilities Security, stemming from the addition of 24 new positions that were largely not filled as of December 31, 2024. There were 80.5 vacant positions at that time, including 9 positions that were vacant for more than one year. The committees request that DGS submit a report including the following:

- the number of positions vacant as of December 31, 2024, that remain vacant as of September 1, 2025;
- a description of outreach and advertisement efforts used to recruit the vacant positions;
- the number of job postings and qualifying applicants received in response to each posting; and
- a description of specific actions that the agency is taking to fill positions that have been vacant for more than one year.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status update on vacant positions	DGS	October 1, 2025

H00

Budget Amendments

OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND LOGISTICS

H00D01.01 Procurement and Logistics

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Delete funding for 12 new positions added in fiscal 2025 that remain vacant as of December 31, 2024.</i>	-1,418,115 GF	-12.00
<i>Total Change</i>	-1,418,115	-12.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
<i>Position</i>	110.00	98.00		-12.00
<i>General Fund</i>	13,330,438	11,912,323	-1,418,115	
<i>Special Fund</i>	2,034,745	2,034,745	0	
<i>Total Funds</i>	15,365,183	13,947,068	-1,418,115	

Amendment No.

14

Committee Narrative

Procurement Modernization Efforts: On December 18, 2024, the Governor signed an executive order directing the Department of General Services (DGS) to develop and implement a centralized statewide contract management process in coordination with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Department of Information Technology (DoIT), in addition to other operational changes to streamline and centralize the procurement process. These activities aim to make the procurement process more efficient and to expand opportunities for minority- and veteran-owned small businesses. The committees are interested in DGS' efforts to establish a more efficient, fair, and competitive procurement system. The committees request that the Office of Procurement within DGS, in consultation with MDOT and DoIT, submit a report on the plan to implement the Executive Order, including:

- *plans to consolidate procurement data across State agencies into a single statewide platform;*

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- *efforts to ensure compliance and documentation for participation in the Small Business Reserve (SBR), Veteran-owned Small Business Enterprise (VSBE), and Minority Business Enterprise (MBE);*
- *activities to increase SBR, VSBE, and MBE participation;*
- *current methods to track and publish progress towards the State’s SBR, VSBE, and MBE goals on a consistent basis;*
- *how the consolidation of procurement spending across agencies can leverage volume-based pricing incentives and fee-sharing arrangements, including measures to track the use of this approach and resulting cost savings;*
- *plans to centralize and streamline spend tracking to maximize negotiated savings and fee revenue; and*
- *the current ability of the eMaryland Marketplace Advantage system to handle the activities and goals of the Executive Order and other activities discussed in this information request.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on procurement modernization efforts</i>	<i>DGS MDOT DoIT</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

OFFICE OF FACILITIES PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

H00G01.01 Facilities Planning, Design and Construction

Energy Performance Contracts (EPC): The committees request that the Department of General Services (DGS) submit a report on the status of current EPCs, including for each EPC:

- the name of the vendor;
- the State agency covered by the EPC;
- the start date of the contract;
- the duration of the contract;

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- the total value of the contract;
- facilities covered by the EPC listed by State agency; and
- projected energy and cost savings for the duration of the contract.

The report should also discuss:

- causes of the declining number of active EPCs in recent fiscal years;
- barriers to increasing the number of active EPCs;
- strategies to increase the number of active EPCs and address the identified barriers; and
- recommended policy or procedural changes to accelerate the implementation of EPCs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on EPCs	DGS	September 1, 2025

I00
Department of Service and Civic Innovation

Budget Amendments

I00A01.02 Maryland Corps Program

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce 21 new positions and \$1,658,223 in funding corresponding to 17 admin officer III positions (\$1,351,723), 2 administrator II positions (\$143,598), and 2 administrator IV positions (\$162,903). This action reduces general funds provided for Young Adult Service Year Option Pathway grants and requires that special funds that are currently allocated for 21 positions be used to backfill the reduced grant funding. This action recognizes that existing administrator vacancies should be used in lieu of adding new administrator positions. This action maintains an increase of 5 admin officer III positions and the current staff-to-participant ratio of 1:50.	-1,658,223 GF	-21.00
Total Change	-1,658,223	-21.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	60.00	39.00		-21.00
General Fund	26,254,176	24,595,953	-1,658,223	
Special Fund	28,589,222	28,589,222	0	
Total Funds	54,843,398	53,185,175	-1,658,223	

J00
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Further 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 2025 to 2030 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 2025 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

J00A01
The Secretary's Office
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

J00A01.01 Executive Direction

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funding for a new administrator V position. The Secretary's Office had 40 vacant positions as of January 1, 2025, and should reclassify a vacant position instead of adding a new one.	-132,760 SF	-1.00
 Total Change	 -132,760	 -1.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	310.50	309.50		-1.00
Special Fund	106,813,644	106,680,884	-132,760	
Total Funds	106,813,644	106,680,884	-132,760	

Committee Narrative

Purple Line Security Cooperation: The Maryland Transit Administration will be responsible for providing law enforcement for the Purple Line Light Rail and will have to stand up a unit. The fiscal 2026 budget as introduced included over 70 positions to begin this process. Four stations on the Purple Line, however, will have connections to Metrorail lines and stations operated by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), which has its own police force responsible for providing law enforcement for WMATA facilities. The budget committees request that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) develop a memorandum of understanding or other contractual arrangement to allow for WMATA to provide law enforcement services for stations or segments of the Purple Line in areas where it is already patrolling. MDOT should provide a report to the budget committees by December 1, 2025, that details the progress of this effort, discusses any issues that need to be addressed to make the effort successful, and provides an estimate of the savings that could be achieved through such an arrangement.

J00A01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on efforts to develop a security cooperation agreement with WMATA for the Purple Line	MDOT	December 1, 2025

Budget Amendments

J00A01.02 Operating Grants-In-Aid

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that no more than \$6,951,128 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 \$6,951,128 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.

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

J00A01

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 2025 to 2030 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

J00A04
Debt Service Requirements
Maryland 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 \$2,863,795,000 as of June 30, 2026. 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 \$820,420,000 as of June 30, 2026. The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance on debt for the Purple Line may not exceed \$2,506,171,000 as of June 30, 2026. Provided, however, that in addition to the limits established under this provision, MDOT may increase the aggregate outstanding unpaid and principal balance of Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or 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 Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt that would be outstanding on June 30, 2026, and the total amount by which the fiscal 2026 debt service payment for all Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or 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: Section 3-202 of the Transportation Article requires the General Assembly to establish the maximum debt outstanding for CTBs each year in the budget bill. The level is based on the outstanding debt as of June 30, 2024, plus projected debt to be issued during fiscal 2025 and 2026 in support of the transportation capital program. For nontraditional debt, this language limits the amount of debt outstanding at the end of fiscal 2026, 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, 2024, plus anticipated issuances 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 of the Purple Line Project. The language allows MDOT to

J00A04

increase the amount of CTB debt or nontraditional debt outstanding in fiscal 2026 by providing notification to the budget committees regarding the reason that the additional debt is required.

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

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 2025 through 2035.

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 the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). The information provides the budget committees with additional information on the usage and annual costs of nontraditional debt.

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

J00B01
State Highway Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Committee Narrative

J00B01.01 State System Construction and Equipment

Old Georgetown Road (MD 187) Bike Lanes: The committees request that the State Highway Administration (SHA) provide the following information regarding the bike lanes on Old Georgetown Road (MD 187) between Tilden Lane and West Cedar Lane:

- a detailed analysis of any cut-through traffic impacts on surrounding neighborhood streets as a result of the bike lanes;
- northbound and southbound travel times during both peak and off-peak hours, including travel times for emergency and police vehicles;
- bike lane utilization counts;
- year-over-year data for crash statistics from March 15 to August 1 from 2018 to 2025 specifying the type of crash;
- specific crash data for segments of the bike lanes;
- vehicle volume counts for northbound and southbound during both peak and off-peak hours;
- an analysis of the impact of the lanes on the sidewalks, including pedestrian usage with any accompanying data during peak and off-peak hours;
- information about communications with first responders and any impact of the bike lanes on first responders;
- how the bike lanes are addressed during winter weather, including how they performed during winter 2024 through 2025;
- cost information for maintenance or other fiscal impact of maintaining the bike lanes in fiscal 2024 and year-to-date 2025; and
- an analysis of pedestrian activity during both peak and off-peak hours.

SHA is requested to submit this information by October 1, 2025.

J00B01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Information related to bike lanes on Old Georgetown Road (MD 187)	SHA	October 1, 2025

Addressing Road and Bridge Safety: The committees request that the State Highway Administration (SHA) submit a report by December 1, 2025, answering the following questions:

With respect to bridges:

- What is the plan to address the 22 bridges rated “poor” and to keep the I-795 bridges (70% of which have components rated “fair”) from deteriorating?
- Given the lack of funding needed to fully fund all bridge projects, what process will be used to prioritize use of available funding?

With respect to roads and highways:

- How is the need to resurface a road determined and what is the average lifecycle for pavement on heavily traveled roads?
- How are road resurfacing and repair funding allocations among regions of the State determined by road type?
- Is lack of funding impacting the materials or methods being used for resurfacing from what has typically been used in the past and/or would be considered best practices? If so, how does this impact the life of the resurfaced road?

With respect to work zone safety:

What have the results been of increased fines for work zone violations with respect to the number of fines and total revenue collected by month?

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on road and bridge safety	SHA	December 1, 2025

J00B01

Roadwork and Utility Work Coordination: *The committees have been apprised of several instances related to utility work that involves the destruction and repair of newly or recently paved roadways and sidewalks and are interested in ways to minimize the impacts of utility work on road and sidewalk quality. The State Highway Administration (SHA) is requested to provide a report to the budget committees by October 1, 2025, which includes the following:*

- *a description of how SHA coordinates its road construction/road repair activities with utility companies to reduce the incidence of newly paved roads and sidewalks being torn up by utility work;*
- *steps that could be taken to further reduce the incidence of newly paved roads and sidewalks being torn up by utility work; and*
- *impediments (if any) to improvements in this area that would require legislative action to address.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Report on coordination between road work and utility work</i>	<i>SHA</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

Budget Amendments

J00B01.02 State System Maintenance

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

. provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of modal administration may not be expended until the State Highway Administration submits a report to the budget committees (1) detailing the steps in the process used to approve speed cameras for local governments; (2) listing the average time each step of this process takes; and (3) indicating how the time for approving speed cameras for local jurisdictions can be reduced and specifying any changes that would require legislation to implement. The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2025, 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: *Local governments have expressed frustration at the length of time it takes to get speed cameras approved by the State Highway Administration. As a key tool in improving road safety, this process should be carried out as expeditiously as possible.*

J00B01

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on process and timeline for approving speed cameras for local governments</i>	<i>SHA</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

Amendment No. 15

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funding for 8 new positions (PINs: J00B01089187; J00B01089190; J00B01089191; J00B01089192; J00B01089193; J00B01089194; J00B01089195; J00B01089196). The State Highway Administration had 210 vacant positions as of January 1, 2025, and should reclassify positions instead of adding new ones.	-853,894 SF	-8.00
 Total Change	 -853,894	 8.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	1,366.50	1,358.50		8.00
Special Fund	337,299,097	336,445,203	-853,894	
Federal Fund	29,304,771	29,304,771	0	
Total Funds	366,603,868	365,749,974	-853,894	

Committee Narrative

Adopt-a-Road Program: The committees request that the State Highway Administration (SHA) provide the following information regarding invasive vines/weeds alongside State highways:

- the extent to which insecticides/pesticides are used to kill invasive vines/weeds, including the preferred insecticides/pesticides being used;
- current methods undertaken by SHA to remove invasive vines/weeds on State highways;

J00B01

- the role an Adopt-a-Road volunteer program could have to reduce or eradicate invasive vines/weeds along State highways;
- the amount of funds expended in fiscal 2023 and 2024 on activities related to the reduction or eradication of invasive vines/weeds along State highways, including a breakout of the funds expended for the purchase of insecticides/pesticides used to reduce or eradicate invasive vines/weeds along State highways; and
- any available crash data related to crashes in which vine-infested and/or dead trees were a contributing factor.

SHA is requested to submit this information by October 1, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Information related to invasive vines/weeds along State highways	SHA	October 1, 2025

Vehicle Rentals: The committees request that the State Highway Administration (SHA) submit a report by December 1, 2025, detailing, by fiscal year for fiscal 2023 through 2025:

- the number of days vehicles were rented (by vehicle type);
- the cost for the rentals; and
- an identification of the rentals that were necessary due to a SHA vehicle being out of service.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on rental vehicles	SHA	December 1, 2025

Renaming Maryland 200: *The State Highway Administration (SHA) is requested to provide a report by October 1, 2025, detailing the process by which Maryland 200 could be renamed as Governor Ehrlich Highway.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Process for renaming highway</i>	<i>SHA</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

J00D00
Maryland Port Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that \$3,896,000 in special funds in program J00D00.01 Port Operations made for the following purposes is reduced:

- (1) \$1,296,000 for restoration of funding from cancellation of the fiscal 2025 departmental hiring freeze;
- (2) \$1,000,000 of the increase for security services (which allows for an increase of \$1,132,000 for this purpose);
- (3) \$140,000 to increase in-state and out-of-state travel;
- (4) \$200,000 to increase contractual services for advertising and legal publications;
- (5) \$1,260,000 to increase non-data processing contractual services.

Further provided that \$1,350,000 in special funds in program J00D00.02 Port Facilities and Capital Equipment made for the purpose of improvements to the World Trade Center is reduced.

Explanation: *This language makes various reductions to the Maryland Port Administration's operating and capital budgets.*

Amendment No.

16

J00D00.01 Port Operations

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of modal administration may not be expended until the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) submits a report to the budget committees outlining MPA's long-term plan for the continued import and distribution of road salt at the North Locust Point Terminal. The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2025, 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.

J00D00

Explanation: Planning for the rehabilitation or reconstruction of the North Locust Point Terminal is currently underway. The North Locust Point Terminal is currently used for the import and distribution of road salt. This language requests a report on the long-term plan for operations at this terminal.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Long-term plan for road salt import and distribution operations at the North Locust Point Terminal	MPA	October 1, 2025

Committee Narrative

Howard Street Tunnel Project Quarterly Reporting: The committees are interested in monitoring the progress being made on the Howard Street Tunnel project and request that the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) provide four quarterly reports on the status of the project, including percentage completion and any material changes to the project schedule or cost. The committees request that the first report be submitted by July 1, 2025, with subsequent reports submitted every three months thereafter.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status reports on the Howard Street Tunnel project	MPA	July 1, 2025 October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026

Reports on Port Recovery Metrics: The committees request that the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) provide two reports updating the committees on progress that the Port of Baltimore is making in recovering from the temporary port closure caused by the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. The reports should provide information on cargo tonnage and other activity metrics for calendar 2024 and 2025 to date with comparisons to the same period before the collapse of the bridge. The first report should be submitted June 1, 2025, and the second report should be submitted December 1, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Port recovery metrics reports	MPA	June 1, 2025 December 1, 2025

J00D00

Quarterly Reports on Federal Funds: The committees request that the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) submit quarterly reports on federal funds. The reports should include a discussion on withdrawals of federal funds (if any) related to grants for which MPA has received an award and the impacts the withdrawals have had and/or will have in the future. The first report should be submitted July 1, 2025, with subsequent reports submitted every three months.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly reports on federal funds	MPA	July 1, 2025 October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026

Clean Ports Program Update: The committees request that the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) submit a report to the committees by December 1, 2025, on the status of expenditures of and activities related to the two grants that it was awarded under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Ports Program. The report should summarize the purposes of two grant awards that it received and indicate the level of expenditures to date along with an anticipated spend schedule for remaining funds.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Clean Ports Program awards	MPA	December 1, 2025

J00E00
Motor Vehicle Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Committee Narrative

J00E00.01 Motor Vehicle Operations

Insurance Coverage Verification: The committees request that the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) submit a report by November 1, 2025, summarizing the new insurance verification process that took effect January 2025 and providing statistics on the results of the new process.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on new insurance verification process.	MVA	November 1, 2025

Impact of Electric Vehicle Adoption on the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program: The committees request that the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) submit a report by November 1, 2025:

- summarizing the process and results of the recent procurement for a vendor to operate Maryland’s Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP), including the performance to date of the vendor and the budget/cost impacts of the fee model provided for in the new contract;
- providing an update on the trends in the adoption of electric vehicles (EV), especially any changes in those trends in calendar 2025 and how EV adoption has impacted the VEIP program; and
- the feasibility and costs associated with expanding the VEIP program to require testing of vehicles registered in counties currently exempt from testing requirements.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on VEIP procurement and the impact of EV adoption on VEIP	MVA	November 1, 2025

J00H01
Maryland Transit Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

J00H01.01 Transit Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funding for 76 new Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) Police positions. Based on the current anticipated completion date of the Purple Line project, additional MTA Police positions will not be needed in fiscal 2026.	-6,622,089 SF	-76.00
 Total Change	 -6,622,089	 -76.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	682.00	606.00		-76.00
Special Fund	160,970,695	154,348,606	-6,622,089	
Total Funds	160,970,695	154,348,606	-6,622,089	

Committee Narrative

Purple Line Project Status Reports: Given challenges and cost overruns associated with completing construction on the Purple Line light rail project, the committees request that the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) submit six bimonthly construction status reports for the Purple Line to the committees. The status reports shall provide:

- the completion percentages for the project as a whole and for each major category of work, including (1) the overall project; (2) utility relocations; (3) civil design, (4) systems design; (5) construction possession of property acquisitions; (6) civil construction; (7) rail installation; (8) systems and station construction; (9) the Glenridge Operations and Maintenance Facility; (10) rail vehicles ready to ship; and (11) Capital Crescent Trail Construction;
- the running total amount expended for construction; and

J00H01

- an explanation of any material change to the total construction cost estimate or construction schedule as set forth in the revised public-private partnership as amended to add Maryland Transit Solutions as the replacement design-build contractor for the project.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reports on Purple Line construction progress	MTA	July 1, 2025, and bimonthly thereafter ending with the May 1, 2026 report

MARC Train Service Expansion and Improvements: The committees request that the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) submit a report on ongoing service expansion and improvements to MARC Train service. The report should include specific updates on service expansion and improvements on the MARC Penn and Brunswick Lines. The report should also include an update on negotiations with CSX Transportation to create an alternative arrangement to the original mid-day service plan that was agreed to in 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MARC train service expansion	MTA	November 1, 2025

J00I00
Maryland Aviation Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

J00I00.02 Airport Operations

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funding for a new information technology tech support position (PIN J00I00089224). The Maryland Aviation Administration had 36 vacant positions as of January 1, 2025, and should reclassify a vacant position instead of adding a new position.	-122,476 SF	-1.00
 Total Change	 -122,476	 -1.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	470.50	469.50		-1.00
Special Fund	253,273,436	253,150,960	-122,476	
Total Funds	253,273,436	253,150,960	-122,476	

J00J00
Maryland Transportation Authority

Committee Narrative

J00J00.41 Operating Program

Francis Scott Key Bridge Reconstruction: The committees are interested in the progress being made on the reconstruction of the Francis Scott Key Bridge and request that the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) provide four quarterly updates on the status of the project. The reports shall provide:

- the current status of design, engineering, federal permitting, preconstruction, and construction activities including completion percentages for each project category;
- the running total amount expended for the project;
- the current availability and projected timeline for seeking federal reimbursement for the project, including the total amount of federal funds that have been received; and
- any material changes to the project schedule or cost.

The committees request that the first report be submitted by July 1, 2025, with subsequent reports submitted every three months thereafter.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status reports on the Francis Scott Key Bridge reconstruction	MDTA	July 1, 2025 October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026

Feasibility of Capturing Images of Only Rear License Plates of Vehicles: The committees are interested in the feasibility of capturing the image of only the rear license plate of a vehicle at toll facilities in the State, rather than images of both the front and rear license plates. The committees request that the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) submit a report by December 1, 2025, discussing any system and equipment upgrades necessary to switch to a process of capturing only the image of the rear license plate of a vehicle and any potential impacts that may occur as the result of only capturing the image of the rear license plate of a vehicle rather than both the front and rear license plates.

J00J00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the feasibility of capturing images of only rear license plates of vehicles	MDTA	December 1, 2025

Collection of Outstanding Toll Debt: The committees are interested in continuing to monitor the Maryland Transportation Authority's (MDTA) efforts to collect outstanding tolls incurred at MDTA facilities, given the potential for significant impacts that outstanding tolls may have on MDTA's revenues. The committees therefore request that MDTA submit a report by September 1, 2025, including:

- the current amounts of outstanding tolls and related fines, fees, and interest owed from in-state and out-of-state motorists, delineated by motorists' state of residence, and a breakdown of the portion of that total that has been outstanding for six months or less, six months to one year, one to three years, and three years or more;
- the amount of outstanding tolls that MDTA was successful in collecting during fiscal 2025, delineated by motorists' state of residence;
- updates on the status of the establishment of a reciprocity agreement with Pennsylvania, as well as reciprocity agreements with all other neighboring states, and the use of collection agencies to collect tolls from out-of-state motorists; and
- the length of time elapsed after which outstanding unpaid toll debt information is reported to the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) for the purpose of placing a flag on the driver's license of an in-State motorist with unpaid toll debt, and the procedures and timelines that MDTA follows for reporting this data to MVA.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the collection of outstanding toll debt	MDTA	September 1, 2025

Chesapeake Bay Bridge Vulnerability Assessment and Comprehensive Risk Reduction Plan Implementation: As part of its ongoing investigation into the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge, on March 20, 2025, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued, to the 30 owners of 68 bridges across 19 States, including the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA), a recommendation to conduct vulnerability assessments to determine the risk levels of these bridges for catastrophic bridge collapse resulting from a vessel collision. The American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has established guidance for the acceptable risk threshold for critical or essential bridges. NTSB also recommended that if,

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after a vulnerability assessment has been completed, a bridge is found to be above the acceptable AASHTO risk threshold for collapse in the case of a vessel collision, the bridge owner develop and implement a comprehensive risk reduction plan to prevent the likelihood of a bridge collapse. According to NTSB, the 68 bridges it identifies, which include the MDTA-owned William Preston Lane Jr. Bridge (Chesapeake Bay Bridge), do not currently have a completed vulnerability assessment to determine their risk of catastrophic collapse resulting from a vessel collision with the bridge.

The committees request that MDTA submit a report on the availability of the necessary data needed to complete a vulnerability assessment on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, and a timeline for completion in order to determine if the bridge is above or below the acceptable risk threshold set by AASHTO for being at risk of collapse in the case of a vessel collision with the bridge. The report should also include a discussion of the steps necessary for MDTA to develop and implement a comprehensive risk reduction plan for the Chesapeake Bay Bridge to reduce the likelihood of a bridge collapse in the case of a vessel collision.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on bridge vulnerability assessment and comprehensive risk reduction plan</i>	<i>MDTA</i>	<i>September 1, 2025</i>

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

Committee Narrative

WILDLIFE AND HERITAGE SERVICE

K00A03.01 Wildlife and Heritage Service

Report on Enhanced Management of the Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary: The committees are concerned that Maryland's only wildlife management sanctuary is not being sufficiently managed for migratory Canada geese as conditioned as part of the transfer of the property to the State in 1982. It is the intent of the committees that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) take steps to cultivate food plots designed to attract and retain migratory Canada geese on the upper Patuxent River while minimizing visitor disturbance of the Canada geese between October and March of each year, the yearly window when migratory Canada geese can be found in Maryland. DNR is requested to report on its efforts to enhance management of the Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary in this manner by October 1, 2025.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on enhanced management of the Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary</i>	<i>DNR</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

Budget Amendments

MARYLAND PARK SERVICE

K00A04.01 Statewide Operations

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general operating expenses may not be expended until the Department of Natural Resources submits a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that has been signed with a volunteer or emergency responder group to assist in the maintenance of the trails for emergency purposes at the Patuxent River Wildlands within Patuxent River State Park. The MOU shall be submitted by September 1, 2025, and the budget committees and the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the MOU to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of an MOU may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the MOU is not submitted to the budget committees.

K00A

Explanation: This action restricts Maryland Park Service funding pending the submission of an MOU between the Maryland Park Service and a volunteer or emergency responder group to assist in the maintenance of the trails for emergency purposes at the Patuxent River Wildlands within Patuxent River State Park.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MOU on Patuxent River Wildlands trail maintenance	DNR	September 1, 2025

Amendment No.

17

Budget Amendments

LAND ACQUISITION AND PLANNING

K00A05.10 Outdoor Recreation Land Loan

Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$3,500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of providing funding to the Program Open Space (POS) – Greenspace Equity Program from the POS State allocation may not be expended for that purpose but instead may be used only to provide a grant to the City of Hyattsville to purchase property for a park. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled.

Explanation: This action restricts POS – Greenspace Equity Program funding for a grant to the City of Hyattsville to purchase property for a park. The POS – Greenspace Equity Program received \$7.0 million in the Governor’s fiscal 2026 allowance as part of the POS State funding allocation.

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that the appropriation made for the purpose of the Rural Legacy Program to purchase interests in real property shall be reduced by \$9,979,342 contingent on the enactment of SB321 or HB352 authorizing the transfer of State land preservation funding to the General Fund from fiscal 2026 through 2029.

Explanation: This action reduces a portion of the Rural Legacy Program fiscal 2026 special fund appropriation contingent on the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025

K00A

authorizing the transfer of \$25.0 million in State land preservation funding to the General Fund from fiscal 2026 through 2029. The other programs affected by the transfers are Program Open Space State land acquisition, which does not receive a fiscal 2026 special fund appropriation, and the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program administered by the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$3,500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of providing funding to the Program Open Space (POS) – Greenspace Equity Program from the POS State allocation may not be expended for that purpose but instead may be used only to provide the following grants:

- (1) \$500,000 to the Board of Trustees of The Roland Park Community Foundation, Inc. for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, restoration, and capital equipping of Hillside Park (Baltimore City); and
- (2) \$3,000,000 to the County Executive and County Council of Montgomery County for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of a new Adventure Sports Park within the Rubini Sports complex of Wheaton Regional Park, for the purpose of providing additional amenities for all age groups (Montgomery County).

Funds not expended for these restricted purposes may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled.

Explanation: This action restricts POS – Greenspace Equity Program funding for two grants. The POS – Greenspace Equity Program received \$7.0 million in the Governor’s fiscal 2026 allowance as part of the POS State funding allocation.

Amendment No.

18

K00A

Budget Amendments

RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SERVICE

K00A12.06 Monitoring and Ecosystem Assessment

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of protecting or restoring State-owned and State-managed lakes as supported by the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund may not be expended for that purpose but instead may be used only to fund a Deep Creek Lake Pilot Program. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled.

Explanation: This action restricts the mandated appropriation for the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund to be used for a pilot program at one State-managed lake, Deep Creek Lake. Chapter 698 of 2018, as amended by Chapter 39 of 2022, required the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$1.0 million to the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund through June 30, 2025, to protect or restore State-owned and State-managed lakes. The \$1.0 million mandated appropriation continues through fiscal 2026, since Chapter 698 was in effect when the Governor introduced the annual budget bill for fiscal 2026 during the 2025 legislative session.

Committee Narrative

CHESAPEAKE AND COASTAL SERVICE

K00A14.02 Chesapeake and Coastal Service

Summary of Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending: The 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 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 2025 actual, fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and fiscal 2027 allowance to be included as an appendix in the fiscal 2027 budget volumes and submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS.

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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 2027 budget submission

Historical and Projected Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending: The committees are interested in the status of Chesapeake Bay restoration. Therefore, the committees request that 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) provide a report by December 1, 2025, 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 (BMP) in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay. The report is requested to include the following:

- fiscal 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 the Department of Legislative Services (DLS);
- projected fiscal 2026 to 2027 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;
- 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 2025 to 2026 in order to reach the calendar 2025 requirement of having all BMPs 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;
- 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;

K00A

- an analysis on how cost effective the existing State funding sources, such as the Bay Restoration Fund, the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund, the Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund, the Clean Water Commerce Account, and the Whole Watershed Fund among others are for Chesapeake Bay restoration purposes; and
- 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Historical and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending	MDP DNR MDA MDE DBM	December 1, 2025

Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund Annual Work and Expenditure Plans: The committees are concerned that 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. Therefore, the committees request that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) submit the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans with the fiscal 2027 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans	DNR	Fiscal 2027 budget submission

Whole Watershed Act Funding Report: The committees recognize the importance of the communication process for successful implementation of the Whole Watershed Act. Therefore, the committees request that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in cooperation with its partner BayStat agencies, submit a report with the fiscal 2027 allowance describing the Whole Watershed Act funding by amount and source; the projects that were selected by March 1, 2025, and the status of each project; use of the fiscal 2027 funding given that the request for proposals is every five years; how projects will be funded over multiple years assuming uncertain appropriations to the Whole Watershed Fund each fiscal year; and preliminary outcomes of the projects selected, including State support provided to project sponsors, nutrient and sediment

K00A

reductions, and any other relevant co-benefits. The report is requested to be submitted with the Governor's fiscal 2027 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Whole Watershed Act funding report	DNR	With the Governor's fiscal 2027 budget submission

FISHING AND BOATING SERVICES

K00A17.01 Fishing and Boating Services

***Report on Recreational Fishing Data Reporting:** Chapter 169 of 2021 required the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to develop a mobile locator application for use by an individual while on the waters of the State to aid in determining the individual's location, in real time, relative to certain natural resource areas. The committees request that DNR report on the feasibility of expanding the use of this application to include the ability to report the recreational harvest of striped bass and other fish species. The report is requested to be submitted by December 1, 2025.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on recreational fishing data reporting</i>	<i>DNR</i>	<i>December 1, 2025</i>

L00A
Department of Agriculture

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that \$121,456 in special funds are reduced and the following new regular positions are deleted: N2617155 and N2617153.

Explanation: This action reduces 2.0 new positions and associated funding in the Maryland Department of Agriculture’s (MDA) fiscal 2026 budget. MDA also has 4.0 new positions and 8.0 contractual conversions in the fiscal 2026 budget, which are not affected by this action. Given the high number of vacancies and positions above budgeted turnover, MDA can reclassify existing vacant positions instead.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

L00A11.11 Capital Appropriation

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that the appropriation made for the purpose of the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program to acquire agricultural land easements shall be reduced by \$15,020,658 contingent on the enactment of SB321 or HB352 authorizing the transfer of State land preservation funding to the General Fund from fiscal 2026 through 2029.

Explanation: This action reduces a portion of the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program fiscal 2026 special fund appropriation contingent on the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025 authorizing the transfer of \$25.0 million in State land preservation funding to the General Fund from fiscal 2026 through 2029. The other programs affected by the transfers are Program Open Space State land acquisition, which does not receive a fiscal 2026 special fund appropriation, and the Rural Legacy Program, both of which are administered by the Department of Natural Resources.

OFFICE OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION

L00A15.04 Resource Conservation Grants

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that the appropriation made for the purpose of the Maryland Leaders in Environmentally Engaged Farming (LEEF) Program shall be reduced by \$500,000 contingent on the failure of SB 428 and HB 506 establishing the LEEF Program.

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Further provided that \$100,000 of the appropriation made for the purpose of the LEEF Program that is contingent on the enactment of SB 428 or HB 506 establishing the program may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) submits a report to the budget committees on the implementation of the program. The report shall describe the program’s final parameters, a detailed spending plan, the criteria for establishing each of the proposed engagement tiers, the incentives available to program participants under each tier, the relationship with other MDA policy and funding programs, and proposed Managing for Results measures and goals to determine program success, including how the program is anticipated to improve agriculture sector outcomes for Chesapeake Bay restoration and increase farming profitability. The report shall be submitted by September 1, 2025, 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 fiscal 2026 budget as introduced includes a \$900,000 general fund appropriation for the new Maryland Leaders in Environmentally Engaged Farming Program, established by SB 428/HB 506 of the 2025 legislative session. The program’s parameters have not been fully defined. Therefore, this budget bill language makes a portion of the funding contingent on the policy bills establishing the program and restricts a portion of the funding pending the submission of a report on the program’s parameters.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
LEEF Program report	MDA	September 1, 2025

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce \$400,000 in general fund grant funding for the new Maryland Leaders in Environmentally Engaged Farming program. The fiscal 2026 budget includes a \$900,000 general fund appropriation for the new program, established by SB 428/HB 506 of the 2025 session. Program funding is unclear due to multiple possible interpretations of the funding parameters in the bills and a related provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025. In addition, the fiscal condition of the State does not warrant the level of expenditure proposed.	-400,000	GF
Total Change	-400,000	0.00

L00A

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	16.00	16.00		0.00
General Fund	5,571,669	5,171,669	-400,000	
Special Fund	16,745,378	16,745,378	0	
Federal Fund	750,000	750,000	0	
Total Funds	23,067,047	22,667,047	-400,000	

L00A15.07 Watershed Implementation

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funding for a U.S. Department of Agriculture federal fund grant that was not awarded. The funding would have been from the Natural Resources Conservation Service’s Regional Conservation Partnership Program.	-2,000,000	FF
Total Change	-2,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	7.50	7.50		0.00
General Fund	576,300	576,300	0	
Federal Fund	2,000,000	0	-2,000,000	
Total Funds	2,576,300	576,300	-2,000,000	

M00B0104
Health Professional Boards and Commissions
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

REGULATORY SERVICES

M00B01.05 Board of Nursing

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce special funds in the Board of Nursing to address a technical error.	-6,030,085 SF	
Total Change	-6,030,085	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	76.00	76.00		0.00
Special Fund	17,538,304	11,508,219	-6,030,085	
Total Funds	17,538,304	11,508,219	-6,030,085	

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 \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of executive direction may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits regulations to the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review to amend the local health department (LHD) match requirement and submits a report to the budget committees summarizing the changes to the regulations. The report shall include the following information:

- (1) a summary of the existing match requirement for each LHD;
- (2) a description of the proposed change to the match requirement and regulation text;
- (3) the rationale behind the new requirement percentages and caps;
- (4) comments and feedback from the Maryland Association of County Health Officers on the new requirements;
- (5) the date that the new regulations will go into effect; and
- (6) estimates of the impact of the regulatory change on each jurisdiction, noting which jurisdictions are likely to be most impacted by the change.

The report shall be submitted within 30 days of the submission of regulations, 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: Section 2-303 of the Health – General Article mandates LHDs to provide a match for State funds, defined as a percentage of the annual appropriation set by the Secretary of Health. With recent increases in the annual core public health services formula appropriation, the match levels have increased significantly for some jurisdictions. During the 2025 legislative session, Maryland Department of Health (MDH) committed to amending the regulations to set a maximum match amount of the sum of the annual growth and 10% of the prior years' local share match requirement, in the case of the legislative appropriation increasing by more than 10% compared to the prior year. This language restricts funding until MDH submits

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(1) regulations to amend the LHD match requirement to the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review and (2) a report to the budget committees on the change in regulations.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on LHD funding match requirement regulations</i>	<i>MDH</i>	<i>Within 30 days of the submission of regulations</i>

Amendment No.

19

OFFICE OF POPULATION HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

M00F02.07 Core Public Health Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation is contingent on the fiscal 2027 budget submission including in a separate program from core public health services formula funding all salary adjustments for State employees at local health departments provided since fiscal 2020, including but not limited to cost-of-living adjustments and increments. It is the intent of the General Assembly that beginning in fiscal 2027, the formula growth factors required by statute apply only to core public health services grant funding budgeted in program M00F02.07 from the prior year, exclusive of salary adjustments. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the fiscal 2027 budget submission to review and comment. Funds restricted pending submission of the fiscal 2027 budget may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if all salary adjustments for State employees at local health departments provided since fiscal 2020 are not in a separate program.

Explanation: The statute mandating annual formula growth to the core public health services budget for local health departments (LHD) does not specify what base amount should be used to apply an annual formula growth. As State employee salaries at LHD and core funding are budgeted together as grants, this growth factor has been applied to cost-of-living adjustments and increments in addition to a base of grant funding. This language states the intent of the General Assembly for budgets beginning in fiscal 2027 to apply formula growth factors only to the core grant funding for public health services, exclusive of salary-related adjustments and restricts funds pending the submission of the fiscal 2027 budget including salary adjustments for State employees at LHD in a separate program from core public health services grant funding.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Separate program for LHD salary adjustments	Maryland Department of Health	With the submission of the fiscal 2027 allowance

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds for Core Public Health Services to eliminate growth from the fiscal 2025 working appropriation level. Per statute, the growth formula does not apply in fiscal 2026.		-2,000,000	GF
Total Change		-2,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	113,500,173	111,500,173	-2,000,000	
Total Funds	113,500,173	111,500,173	-2,000,000	

M00F03
Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds for tobacco use prevention and enforcement programs to the mandated level of \$18.25 million in total funds established by Chapter 37 of 2021.	-5,700,000	GF
 Total Change	 -5,700,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	223.20	223.20		0.00
General Fund	66,323,650	60,623,650	-5,700,000	
Special Fund	68,249,659	68,249,659	0	
Federal Fund	190,209,424	190,209,424	0	
Total Funds	324,782,733	319,082,733	-5,700,000	

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Behavioral Health Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

M00L01.02 Community Services

Modify the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that ~~\$4,017,728~~~~\$9,489,874~~\$6,933,700 of this appropriation shall be reduced contingent upon the enactment of legislation authorizing the transfer of excess special fund balance from ~~the State Board of Acupuncture, the State Board of Dietetic Practice, the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, the State Board of Examiners in Optometry, the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, the State Board of Social Work Examiners, the State Board of Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech Language Pathologists, the State Commission on Kidney Disease, and the State Board of Physicians~~various health occupation boards to the Behavioral Health Administration.

Explanation: A provision in the Budget and Reconciliation Financing Act (BRFA) of 2025 authorizes the transfer of excess board balances to the Behavioral Health Administration. Language in the fiscal 2026 Budget Bill reduces the general fund appropriation contingent on this legislation and increases the special fund appropriation by the same amount. An action in the BRFA alters the health occupation boards from which funds are transferred and increases the total transfer. This action alters the language to reflect changes in the boards from which the transfers will occur and increases the general fund reduction contingent on the authorized transfer. The Maryland Department of Health is authorized to process a budget amendment to increase the special fund appropriation by the additional ~~\$5,472,146~~\$2,915,972 that is transferred under the modified provision.

Amendment No.

20

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that ~~\$250,000~~\$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a letter confirming that it has uploaded data on reimbursements to non-Medicaid providers through the Virtual Data Unit each month through ~~May 15,~~April 2026. The data shall include provider reimbursement spending in M00L01.02 and M00L01.03, separated by program and by service type within each program. The data shall be provided beginning with data through June 2025 submitted July 15, 2025, and on the same date in each subsequent month. *Funds shall be available to be released in \$125,000 increments pending receipt of each letter confirming the submission of data. The first letter shall confirm uploading of data through June 30, 2025 and be submitted by July 20, 2025. The second letter shall confirm the uploading of data for the*

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period from July through October 2025 and be submitted by November 20, 2025. The third letter shall confirm the uploading of data from October through December 2025 and be submitted by January 20, 2026. The fourth letter shall confirm the uploading of data covering the period January through April 2026 and be submitted by May 20, 2026. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of ~~the~~each confirmatory letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of data may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the letter is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: 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. This language restricts funds pending submission of ~~three reports~~four letters confirming data submission of ~~on~~non-Medicaid provider reimbursements.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Submission of data on provider reimbursements	Maryland Department of Health	45 days from the receipt of the confirmatory letter July 20, 2025 November 20, 2025 January 20, 2026 May 20, 2026

Amendment No.

21

Strike the following language:

~~Further provided that \$3,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of behavioral health investments may not be expended for that purpose and may be used only to address pediatric hospital overstays. 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 funds within the Community Services program to be used only to address hospital overstays among children and youth.~~

Amendment No.

22

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Strike the following language:

~~Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of harm reduction in the Behavioral Health Administration may not be expended for that purpose, but instead may be used only to provide funding to public higher education institutions for the purpose of providing drug detection products to students. 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 funds within the Community Services program to be used only to provide funds to public higher education institutions for the purpose of providing drug detection products to students.~~

Amendment No.

23

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 transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to programs M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients, M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements, or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted.

Explanation: This language restricts the entire general fund appropriation for M00L01.02 Community Services for that purpose or for transfer for provider reimbursements in M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients, M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements, or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements.

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$5,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program 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: Chapters 209 and 210 of 2018 established the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program to fund local behavioral health authorities and core service agencies to provide various crisis services throughout the State. Chapters 209 and 210 and subsequent legislation mandated funding through fiscal 2025. In fiscal 2025, the mandated level was \$5.0 million. Although the mandate ended and the prior subprogram code was no longer used to fund the program, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) indicated it planned to fund the program

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through another subprogram. This language restricts the funding MDH indicated is for this purpose to be used only for that purpose.

Amendment No. 24

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation for behavioral health investments due to the inclusion of funding for services that are billable to Medicaid.	-6,900,000	GF
 Total Change	 -6,900,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	82.00	82.00		0.00
General Fund	436,828,619	429,928,619	-6,900,000	
Special Fund	33,115,918	33,115,918	0	
Federal Fund	178,507,486	178,507,486	0	
Total Funds	648,452,023	641,552,023	-6,900,000	

Modify the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$4,017,728 of this appropriation is contingent upon the enactment of legislation authorizing the transfer of excess special fund balance from ~~the State Board of Acupuncture, the State Board of Dietetic Practice, the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, the State Board of Examiners in Optometry, the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, the State Board of Social Work Examiners, the State Board of Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists, the State Commission on Kidney Disease, and the State Board of Physicians~~ various health occupation boards to the Behavioral Health Administration.

Explanation: A provision in the Budget and Reconciliation Financing Act (BRFA) of 2025 authorizes the transfer of excess board balances to the Behavioral Health Administration. An action in the BRFA alters the health occupation boards from which funds are transferred and increases the total transfer. This action alters the language to reflect changes in the boards from which the transfers will occur. The Maryland Department of Health is authorized to process a

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budget amendment to increase the special fund appropriation for the additional \$5,472,146\$2,915,972 that is transferred under the modified provision.

Committee Narrative

Report on Spending to Address Pediatric Hospital Overstays: In recent years in Maryland, bed capacity at State hospital centers and other inpatient settings has not sufficiently met the demand for inpatient behavioral health services. The Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) funds multiple programs to expand the number of appropriate beds to discharge adults and children ready to leave a State hospital as well as programs to support their transition back into their communities. The committees are interested in ensuring that BHA is investing funding in fiscal 2026 to address hospital overstays among children and youth and request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit a report including the following information:

- a fiscal 2026 spending plan for programs and services aimed at addressing pediatric overstays;
- a description of programs and services included in the spending plan;
- summary of any challenges that BHA foresees in fully expending funds per the spending plan; and
- actual fiscal 2026 expenditures from these programs as of October 31, 2025.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on spending to address
pediatric hospital overstays MDH

December 1, 2025

Report on the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program: Chapters 209 and 210 of 2018 established the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program to fund local behavioral health authorities (LBHA) and core service agencies (CSA) to provide various crisis services throughout the State. Chapters 209 and 210 require the Governor to include in the annual budget \$3.0 million in fiscal 2020, \$4.0 million in fiscal 2021, and \$5.0 million in fiscal 2022 for the program. Subsequent legislation mandated \$5.0 million annually for the program from fiscal 2023 through 2025. Although the mandate does not apply to fiscal 2026, the Maryland Department of Health indicates that it has set aside \$5.0 million in the fiscal 2026 allowance to level-fund the grant program as a part of the annual grants to LBHAs and CSAs. Because this funding is not budgeted in the grant program budget, as it has been in prior fiscal

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years, the committees request that the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) submit a report with information tracking spending for this purpose in fiscal 2026, including:

- total funding in the fiscal 2026 budget allocated to behavioral health crisis response grants;
- fiscal 2026 grant award amounts and award dates or anticipated award dates, by grantee and jurisdiction;
- for each grantee, the proposed use of the funds; and
- budget program code and subprogram code where funding is budgeted in fiscal 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Report on the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program</i>	<i>BHA</i>	<i>September 15, 2025</i>

Update on the Transition to the New Administrative Service Organization (ASO): Following approximately nine months of transition planning and implementation, the new behavioral health ASO, Carelon, began processing provider reimbursement claims on January 1, 2025. The committees request that the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) submit a report with an update on the transition with data as of June 30, 2025, including:

- the number of providers enrolled in the new ASO;
- the number of enrolled providers who have successfully logged in and submitted claims;
- a description and outcome of outreach efforts to providers who have not logged in or submitted claims;
- the number of claims processed between January 1 and June 30, 2025, by month and the average number of days from claim submission to process claims;
- the total number of outstanding claims to be processed and the average number of days for which claims have been outstanding;
- the amount of reimbursements issued to providers between January 1 and June 30, 2025, by month;

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- *the total amount of outstanding reimbursements from processed claims to be issued to providers and the average number of days from the date of processing that the reimbursements have been outstanding; and*
- *a list of issues that have arisen in the first six months of operation and the steps taken to address them.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on ASO transition</i>	<i>BHA</i>	<i>August 1, 2025</i>

Report on Timely Payments to Local Nonprofit Core Service Agencies (CSA): Chapter 155 of 2023 established a State policy requiring State agencies to make payment under specific grant agreements with nonprofit organizations within 37 days of (1) the payment becoming due under the grant agreement or, (2) if later, receiving a proper invoice. Interest accrues at the rate of 9% per year on any amount for which a grant-making entity has received and failed to submit a proper invoice to the Comptroller within 30 days of its receipt. The committees request that the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) submit a report detailing its plan to improve the timeliness of grant distribution to comply with the State policy, including:

- *the total number of nonprofit CSAs with which BHA held a grant agreement in each fiscal 2024 and 2025;*
- *the number and share of nonprofit CSAs with a grant agreement in fiscal 2024 and 2025 for which BHA did not meet the required timeframe for distribution of payments;*
- *the number of fourth quarter invoices submitted by nonprofit CSAs in each fiscal 2024 and 2025 that did not meet the required timeframe for distribution of payments;*
- *the number of annual 440 reconciliations submitted by nonprofit CSAs in fiscal 2024 and 2025 that did not meet the required timeframe for distribution of payments;*
- *a description of the current process to track and monitor the timeliness of payments to grantees; and*
- *the steps that BHA has taken and plans to take to ensure timely payment distribution moving forward.*

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<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on timely payments to local nonprofit CSAs</i>	<i>BHA</i>	<i>January 1, 2026</i>

Budget Amendments

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, M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements, or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted.

Explanation: This language restricts the entire general fund appropriation for provider reimbursements in M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients for that purpose or for transfer to M00L01.02 Community Services, M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements, or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements.

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Committee Narrative

CLIFTON T. PERKINS HOSPITAL CENTER

M00L10.01 Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center

Report on Bed Capacity and Patient Length of Stay at Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center (Perkins): Perkins is a State-owned maximum-security hospital center that houses and treats individuals court-ordered to seek treatment with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH). Several concerning patient and staff safety issues at the facility in calendar 2024 led to the dismissal of multiple employees in leadership positions. As of December 31, 2024, the facility carried a vacancy rate of more than 25%. In addition, MDH continues to receive increased numbers of commitment orders, and there is a dearth of appropriate beds to place patients ready for discharge. To better understand the extent to which Perkins can meet the needs of this population in Maryland, the committees request that MDH submit a report with data as of June 30, 2025. The report should include:

- number of total beds at Perkins;
- number of staffed beds at Perkins;
- number of occupied beds at Perkins;
- reasons for unoccupied beds;
- average (mean) length of stay, in days, of patient population each year since fiscal 2018;
- average (median) length of stay, in days, of patient population each year since fiscal 2018;
- number of court orders received to place individuals at Perkins each year between fiscal 2018 through 2024;
- description of current organizational oversight of the facilities; and
- description of reporting systems in place at Perkins for staff to express workplace safety concerns and the processes to evaluate and address concerns.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on bed capacity and patient length of stay at Perkins	MDH	August 1, 2025

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 \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Developmental Disabilities Administration submits a report to the budget committees with all fiscal 2025 closeout budget amendments and reasons for reversions. The report shall also include an update on the total amount of recoupments of bridge payments provided during the Long Term Services and Supports transition, the balance of the accounts receivable reflecting the recoupments, and any spending paid for with accounts receivable.

The report shall be submitted by September 15, 2025, 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 Developmental Disabilities Administration had significant delays in submitting fiscal closeout budget amendments in fiscal 2024 and did not report spending paid for with accounts receivables created for recoupments of bridge payments given in the Long Term Services and Supports transition. The delays in submitting fiscal closeout information presents challenges to understanding agency spending.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Fiscal closeout report and budget amendments	Maryland Department of Health	September 15, 2025

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$2,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report each quarter to the budget committees on spending for the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Community Services program. The report shall include the following data on a monthly basis:

- (1) spending in the Long Term Services and Supports system by service provided, subprogram, number of participants receiving the service, and fund split;
- (2) enrollment by DDA waiver;

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- (3) utilization by service;
- (4) annualized cost estimates for the rest of the fiscal year; and
- (5) monthly rates and year-to-date rates for each service type.

The first report shall be submitted by August 15, 2025, and shall include actual data for the Community Services program in the final quarter of fiscal 2025 and aggregate fiscal 2025 data. The other reports shall be submitted by November 15, 2025, February 15, 2026, and May 15, 2026. The funds may be released in \$500,000 increments following the submission of each report. 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 reports are not submitted to the budget committees. Funds will not be released if reports are late.

Explanation: DDA has completed transitioning all providers from a prospective payment model in the legacy system to a fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursement model in the Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) system. This transition included establishing new rates based on an FFS reimbursement model. During the LTSS transition, actual spending in DDA's Community Services program significantly surpassed the legislative appropriation and spending forecasts of services in LTSS were inaccurate. This language restricts funds budgeted for administration until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits quarterly reports to the budget committees with monthly spending, enrollment, and utilization data.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on community services spending	MDH	August 15, 2025 November 15, 2025 February 15, 2026 May 15, 2026

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), \$250,000 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, 2025; 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.

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The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2026. General funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) 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.

If OLA reports that an agency failed to completely resolve or make adequate progress toward resolving those repeat audit findings, JAEC requests that \$250,000 in general funds is withheld from each agency's appropriation in the fiscal year following the OLA report until more satisfactory progress has been made toward resolution of those 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

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) within the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees that provides details on cost containment actions implemented in fiscal 2025 and 2026. The report shall include the following information:

- (1) For the reduction in State-only funded services:
 - (a) the status of implementation and plan for transitioning eligible individuals onto a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver;
 - (b) efforts taken by DDA to conduct outreach and notify participants of the requirement to apply to a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver;
 - (c) the number of individuals who received State-only funded services as of January 1, 2025, and the number of those individuals who had applied to a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver as of October 1, 2025;

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- (d) the number of individuals receiving State-only funded services found eligible and transitioned onto a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver as of October 1, 2025;
 - (e) the number of individuals receiving State-only funded services found ineligible for a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver, including the most common reasons why individuals were ineligible, and the number of individuals not meeting financial requirements and asset tests;
 - (f) the number of individuals found ineligible for a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver who continue to receive State-only funded services;
 - (g) actual spending on State-only funded services in fiscal 2025 and the first quarter of fiscal 2026; and
 - (h) estimated spending on State-only funded services for fiscal 2026.
- (2) For the day-to-day administrator category of services:
- (a) a description of how the day-to-day administrator category of services was moved out of individual and family directed goods and services and the effective date that the action was implemented;
 - (b) the number of participants utilizing day-to-day administrator services and average amount spent for this service per participant;
 - (c) actual spending data on day-to-day administrator services in fiscal 2025 and the first quarter of fiscal 2026; and
 - (d) estimated spending on day-to-day administrator services for fiscal 2026.
- (3) For the Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) program:
- (a) the number of participants receiving LISS services in the first lottery round of fiscal 2026 and the number of applicants;
 - (b) the average award per participant in the first lottery round of fiscal 2026; and
 - (c) the total amount requested and total amount distributed in the first lottery round of fiscal 2026.

In the report, DDA shall also describe all other cost containment actions implemented or planned in fiscal 2025 and 2026. The report shall include for each action, the expected budgetary impacts by fund type, effect on rates and rate setting, timeline and status of implementation, an update on federal approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid

M00M

Services, and budgetary impact by county for actions related to the geographical differential rates.

The report shall be submitted by October 15, 2025, 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.

Explanation: The fiscal 2026 budget as introduced contains general fund reductions to account for the implementation of various cost containment actions. Sections 20 and 21 of the fiscal 2026 budget add funding to the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to restore various cost containment actions. This language restricts funds pending a report providing detailed information on how cost containment actions are being implemented.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on DDA cost containment actions	MDH	October 15, 2025

Amendment No.

25

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: This annual language restricts funds appropriated to the Community Services program to that use only and prevents budgetary transfers.

Add the following language:

Further provided that to reduce State-only funded services, the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) shall require individuals receiving State-only funded services to apply for a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver and DDA shall continue to provide State-only funded services for individuals who currently receive State-only funded services and are waiting for an eligibility determination and for individuals found ineligible for a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver.

M00M

Further provided that DDA shall not establish a policy that would require youth transitioning into services from high school to enter in the traditional model for their first year of services.

Explanation: The fiscal 2026 budget as introduced contains general fund reductions to account for the implementation of various cost containment actions. This language specifies that DDA will continue funding certain individuals with State funds only and specifies cost containment actions that DDA may not implement in fiscal 2026.

Add the following language:

Further provided that the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) shall not consider the availability of shared hours in a home when approving dedicated hours to support the medical, behavioral, or daytime residential support needs of an individual. DDA also shall not consider the availability of shared hours in a home when the participant:

- (1) has an assessed behavioral need and an approved Behavior Support Plan documenting the need for 1:1 or 2:1 staff-to-participant ratio;
- (2) has an assessed medical need and an approved Nursing Care Plan documenting the need for 1:1 or 2:1 staff-to-participant ratio;
- (3) needs daytime residential support due to retirement, transition from one meaningful day service to another, recovery from health condition and has an approved person-centered plan that documents the need for support; or
- (4) receives less than 40 hours of meaningful day services and has an approved person-centered plan that documents the need for support.

Further provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that this specified criteria for approving dedicated hours shall remain in effect for no less than one year while DDA continues its stakeholder engagements. This language shall not preclude DDA from submitting a waiver amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that makes changes outside the scope of this language, or to ensure that the waivers fully conform with this language.

Further provided that DDA shall reinstate any dedicated hours it removed from an individual's plan in fiscal 2025 that would have been in compliance with this policy, and for which the individual has a current need for dedicated hours. DDA shall also reinstate the loss of any dedicated hours removed from a participant's plan in fiscal 2025 if the participant has a current need for dedicated hours, and:

M00M

- (1) has an assessed behavioral or medical need and an approved Behavior Support Plan or Nursing Care Plan documenting the participant's need for 1:1 or 2:1 staff-to-participant ratio;
- (2) is retired, transitioning from one meaningful day service to another, or recovering from a health condition and the need for support is documented in an approved person-centered plan; or
- (3) receives less than 40 hours of meaningful day services and the need for support is documented in an approved person-centered plan.

Explanation: This language prohibits DDA within the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) from implementing a dedicated hours utilization policy that considers the availability of shared hours in a home before approving the use of dedicated hours to support individuals in certain circumstances and requires that MDH reinstate dedicated hours that were removed from an individual's plan in fiscal 2025 if the individual meets certain requirements. This language expresses the legislature's intent that this policy related to dedicated hours remain in effect for no less than one year and specifies that DDA is not precluded from submitting a waiver amendment to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that makes changes outside of the scope of the language, or to conform with this language.

Amendment No.

26

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 \$500,000 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 on end the wait initiatives for Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) waivers. The report shall include:

- (1) the efforts taken in fiscal 2025 and 2026 year-to-date to implement wait list reduction plans for each HCBS waiver;
- (2) data on Medicaid HCBS provider capacity compared to demand, detailing the Medicaid HCBS waiver programs and local jurisdictions with the lowest supply of available slots and providers;
- (3) actual spending by fiscal year and uses of funding placed in the Dedicated Purpose Account for HCBS end the wait initiatives;
- (4) planned uses of remaining funding in the Dedicated Purpose Account for end the wait initiatives and improvements in HCBS provider capacity; and
- (5) any other efforts by MDH to improve HCBS provider capacity.

The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2025, 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: Chapter 464 of 2022 (the End the Wait Act) required MDH to develop plans to reduce the waitlists for Medicaid HCBS waiver programs by 50% beginning in fiscal 2024. Funding was budgeted in the Dedicated Purpose Account in fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 for end the wait initiatives. This language restricts funds pending a report on end the wait activities and the use of funds placed in the Dedicated Purpose Account for this purpose.

M00Q01

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on end the wait initiatives</i>	<i>MDH</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

Amendment No.

27

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 programs M00Q01.07 Maryland Children’s Health Program or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This 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 or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements.

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$25,000,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation authorizing the use of funds received from litigation related to the enforcement of the Master Settlement Agreement to support Medicaid expenses.

Explanation: Chapters 41 and 42 of 2021 require payments received by the State as a result of litigation related to Maryland’s enforcement of State law regarding the Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) to go into a separate account from the Cigarette Restitution Fund. This language reduces \$25.0 million in general funds under the Medicaid program contingent on the enactment of legislation authorizing the use of funds received from litigation related to the enforcement of the MSA to support Medicaid expenses.

Amendment No.

28

M00Q01

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$247,979,114 of this appropriation made for the purpose of providing medical care and other health care services for adults covered in the Medicaid program under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) expansion may be expended only for that purpose or, contingent on the discontinuation of Medicaid coverage for individuals in the ACA expansion population in accordance with the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025, may be used only for the purpose of providing assistance for medical care expenses and health insurance costs, including subsidies for health insurance plans provided through the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, to adults under the ACA expansion who are disenrolled from Medicaid. Funds not expended for these restricted purposes may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: Effective January 1, 2014, Medicaid coverage expanded to persons below 138% of the federal poverty level, as authorized in the federal ACA. This language restricts general funds budgeted to provide Medicaid coverage of adults enrolled under the ACA expansion to be used for that purpose. If Medicaid coverage for individuals in this population is discontinued due to a provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025, this language allows general funds that are budgeted to serve this population to be used to provide assistance for medical care expenses and health insurance costs, including subsidies for health insurance plans provided through the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, to adults under the ACA expansion who are disenrolled from Medicaid.

Amendment No.

29

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</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 support.	-25,000,000	GF
2. Reduce funding for the Population Health Incentive Program in fiscal 2026 to provide performance incentive payments of up to 0.25% of anticipated capitated rates for managed care organizations. Supplemental Budget No. 1 reduces \$11.0 million in total funds for this purpose, and this action reduces the remaining \$7.0 million in total funds to provide only 0.25% of anticipated capitated rates.	-2,560,257 -4,439,743	GF FF

M00Q01

3.	Reduce funding for Medicaid provider reimbursements to lower rates for managed care organizations in calendar 2025 to the bottom of the actuarially sound level.	-9,100,000	GF
		-16,000,000	FF
4.	Reduce funding for Medicaid provider reimbursements to level fund physician evaluation and management rates at 98% of Medicare rates.	-4,800,000	GF
		-7,400,000	FF
5.	Reduce funding for Medicaid reimbursements based on reduced enrollment expectations in fiscal 2026.	-35,000,000	GF
		-55,000,000	FF
6.	Reduce special funds for Medicaid expenses supported with the Cigarette Restitution Fund (CRF) to transfer the CRF support to Statewide Academic Health Center cancer research grants. A separate action backfills this special fund reduction with general funds.	-15,000,000	SF
	Total Change	-174,300,000	
		-149,300,000	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	4,482,761,660	4,406,301,403 4,431,301,403	-76,460,257 -51,460,257	
Special Fund	833,772,916	818,772,916	-15,000,000	
Federal Fund	7,019,045,995	6,936,206,252	-82,839,743	
Total Funds	12,335,580,571	12,161,280,571 12,186,280,571	174,300,000 -149,300,000	

Amendment No.

30

M00Q01

Add the following language to the federal fund appropriation:

. provided that \$2,231,812,027 of this appropriation made for the purpose of providing medical care and other health care services for adults covered in the Medicaid program under the Affordable Care Act expansion 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 be canceled.

Explanation: Effective January 1, 2014, Medicaid coverage expanded to persons below 138% of the federal poverty level, as authorized in the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA). This language restricts federal funds budgeted to provide Medicaid coverage of adults enrolled under the ACA expansion to be used for that purpose only. If Medicaid coverage for individuals in this population is discontinued due to a provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025, the remaining federal funds that are budgeted for this purpose would be canceled.

Amendment No.

31

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 a report on CFC program spending. The report should include monthly enrollment, utilization, and cost data that aligns with actual fiscal 2025 budget expenditures under the CFC program. Additionally, the report should provide:

- the number of budgeted Community Options waiver slots in fiscal 2025 and 2026;
- the number of Community Options waiver slots filled in fiscal 2025;
- 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);
- an update 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;

M00Q01

- an update on MDH staffing that supports the Community Options waiver, including the number of vacant regular and contractual positions and the status of procuring additional staffing assistance;
- the number of individuals on the Community Options waiver registry as of June 30, 2025; and
- an update on 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, 2025

Quarterly Medicaid Enrollment Change and Application Processing: The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) completed its 12-month unwinding process following the COVID-19 public health emergency on April 1, 2024, in which the department redetermined all Medicaid and Maryland Children’s Health Program (MCHP) participants’ eligibility. To monitor Medicaid and MCHP enrollment trends after the unwinding period, the committees request that MDH submit quarterly reports with the following enrollment data on a monthly basis and divided by eligibility category:

- the number of eligibility renewals completed, including the number and share that were automatically renewed, with modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) cases and non-MAGI cases shown separately;
- the number of new individuals enrolled;
- measures of churn that reflect the number of individuals enrolled who previously received Medicaid or MCHP coverage and the timeframe of when they were last enrolled; and
- the number of individuals disenrolled, shown by reason for disenrollment, identifying procedural disenrollments and disenrollments due to overscale income, aging out, and other common reasons for disenrollment.

Additionally, the committees request that the quarterly reports include the following administrative data on a monthly basis:

M00Q01

- call center volume, average wait times, and any other data related to call center activities that are required to be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and
- measures of application processing times and the total number of applications processed for MAGI cases and non-MAGI cases shown separately.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly reports on Medicaid and MCHP enrollment and applications	MDH	July 15, 2025 October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026

Evaluation of Primary Care Programs and Initiatives: The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) are implementing primary care and population health initiatives in coordination with the State’s Advancing All-payer Health Equity Approaches and Development (AHEAD) model. These efforts include launching the Medicaid Advanced Primary Care Program in fiscal 2026, establishing the Population Health Improvement Fund, and continuing to administer the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) that was first implemented under the Total Cost of Care model (the federal agreement before the AHEAD model). The committees request that MDH, in consultation with HSCRC, submit a report on implementation of the new initiatives, including design and initial activities of the programs, uses of any funding allocated to these initiatives, descriptions of fund sources supporting the initiatives, and estimated cost savings and provider incentives under the Medicaid Advanced Primary Care Program. The report should also include an evaluation of the effectiveness of the existing MDPCP. In particular, this evaluation should outline cost savings from the MDPCP reducing unnecessary utilization or hospitalization for patients participating in the MDPCP over the increased expenditures from provider incentives.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Evaluation of primary care programs and initiatives	MDH HSCRC	November 1, 2025

Medicare and Medicaid Coverage of End-stage Renal Dialysis (ESRD) Patients: The committees request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit a report on Medicare and Medicaid coverage for dually eligible ESRD patients. The report should review Medicare application requirements for ESRD patients in Maryland, specifying Medicare application and eligibility requirements for ESRD patients enrolled in Medicaid. Additionally, the report should include:

M00Q01

- a review of other state policies and processes for enrollment of ESRD patients under 65 years old in Medicaid and Medicare;
- a review of Medicare eligibility and coverage of ESRD patients enrolled in Medicaid to assess Medicare eligibility gaps;
- potential gaps in coverage for ESRD patients enrolled in Medicaid and ways to address these gaps; and
- a process to assist ESRD patients enrolled in Medicaid to apply for Medicare, or if this process is not feasible, a rationale for why a process to assist ESRD patients apply for Medicare would not be feasible.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Medicare coverage of dually eligible ESRD patients	MDH	September 1, 2025

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 programs M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This 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 or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements.

M00Q01

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for reimbursements under the Maryland Children’s Health Program based on reduced enrollment expectations for participants in the Healthy Babies initiative. Supplemental Budget No. 1 reduces \$14.8 million in total funds for this purpose.	-9,824,040 GF	
	-18,187,505 FF	
 Total Change	 -28,011,545	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	240,727,983	230,903,943	-9,824,040	
Federal Fund	447,066,257	428,878,752	-18,187,505	
Total Funds	687,794,240	659,782,695	-28,011,545	

M00Q01.09 Office of Eligibility Services

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funding for 8 long-term vacant positions that have been unfilled for more than two years, including 6 positions in the Office of Eligibility Services and 2 positions in Benefits Management and Provider Services. The Maryland Department of Health is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs within the Medical Care Programs Administration. Supplemental Budget No. 1 transferred 5 long-term vacant positions from the Office of Eligibility Services to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services for Medicaid eligibility determinations for incarcerated individuals prior to release.	-150,006 GF	-8.00
	-278,580 FF	
 Total Change	 -428,586	 8.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	163.60	155.60		8.00
General Fund	6,360,200	6,210,194	-150,006	
Federal Fund	10,358,691	10,080,111	-278,580	
Total Funds	16,718,891	16,290,305	-428,586	

M00Q01

M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements

Add the following language:

Provided that all appropriations provided for program M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements 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, M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients, or M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts funding for provider reimbursements in M00Q01.10 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements to that purpose or for transfer to M00L01.02 Community Services, M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients, or M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements.

Committee Narrative

Study on Cost Savings Associated with Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC): Chapter 275 of 2023 requires the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to apply for federal planning, demonstration, and implementation grants from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to expand CCBHCs in the State. The Budget and Reconciliation Financing Act of 2025 includes a provision that would eliminate this requirement. SAMHSA issued a CCBHC planning grant to MDH in fiscal 2025 totaling \$926,053, but MDH has estimated implementation costs to be unmanageable, given the State's economic outlook. The budget committees are interested in understanding the potential cost savings associated with investing in CCBHCs as well as the feasibility of leveraging federal funding for this purpose in the future. The committees request that MDH, in partnership with the Hilltop Institute, submit a report including the following information:

- anticipated implementation costs to participate in the demonstration program and a description of the methodology used to estimate these costs;
- potential payment for services, including prospective payment methodologies;
- a cost benefit analysis of the CCBHC model that includes potential cost savings related to emergency department visits and potentially avoidable hospital utilization, as well as improved health outcomes for CCBHC participants;
- data collection and analytic needs under the model;
- CCBHC implementation costs and cost savings in other U.S. states;

M00Q01

- description of impact on funding, service delivery, and types of services provided by Maryland CCBHCs currently in operation, should the federal SAMHSA planning and demonstration grants not be pursued; and
- impact on eligibility to participate in the planning and demonstration grant program in the future, should the current SAMHSA award not be accepted.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Study on cost savings associated with CCBHCs	Behavioral Health Administration	May 1, 2026

M00R01
Health Regulatory Commissions
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendments

M00R01.02 Health Services Cost Review Commission

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) submits a report to the budget committees on the alignment of incentives between Medicare Advantage plans and hospitals in Maryland under the All-payer Health Equity Approaches and Development (AHEAD) model and efforts to support Medicare Advantage plans operating in underserved communities. The report shall include:

- (1) a status update on approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for HSCRC's proposed program to incentivize Medicare Advantage plans to reduce hospital utilization and the timeline for program implementation;
- (2) details regarding the design of the program, including:
 - (a) the fund source and financing mechanism for incentives;
 - (b) the method for calculating and sharing hospital utilization savings;
 - (c) eligible and participating Medicare Advantage plans and coverage areas;
 - (d) selected interventions to reduce hospital utilization;
 - (e) the ways that the effect on hospital utilization will be measured; and
 - (f) quality measures that will be monitored under the program;
- (3) the distribution of incentives across local jurisdictions and how the program will target incentives for Medicare Advantage plans operating in underserved communities, particularly in areas in which coverage and availability of Medicare Advantage plans has decreased in recent years;
- (4) how the program supports Medicare Advantage plans that have continually operated in underserved communities in recent years; and
- (5) alternative efforts and recommendations for HSCRC and Maryland hospitals to incentivize and collaborate with Medicare Advantage plans under the AHEAD model if federal approval is not granted for the incentive program.

M00R01

The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2025, 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: At the March 2025 HSCRC meeting, the commission proposed a program to align incentives between Medicare Advantage plans and hospitals in Maryland under the AHEAD model. This language restricts funds pending a report on this program, including the status of federal approval, timeline for implementation, design of the program, distribution of incentives across local jurisdictions, and alternative efforts or recommendations to incentivize Medicare Advantage plans if federal approval is not granted. The report shall also provide information on how the program will target incentives for Medicare Advantage plans operating in underserved communities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on incentives for Medicare Advantage Plans under the AHEAD model	HSCRC	October 1, 2025

Amendment No.

32

Committee Narrative

Registered Apprenticeship Opportunities in Hospitals: The committees are interested in the development and expansion of registered apprenticeships for the healthcare workforce, particularly in hospitals. The committees request that the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) submit a report on registered apprenticeships in hospitals in Maryland, including existing registered apprenticeships by occupation and goals to increase and scale these registered apprenticeships. In the report, HSCRC should identify barriers to developing and scaling registered apprenticeship programs in hospitals. Additionally, the report should discuss ways that HSCRC is working with the hospital industry to address the identified barriers and expand registered apprenticeships.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on apprenticeship opportunities in hospitals	HSCRC	December 1, 2025

M00R01

Budget Amendments

M00R01.03 Maryland Community Health Resources Commission

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by ~~\$90,000,000~~\$60,000,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation to ~~level fund the mandated Blueprint for Maryland's Future Funds for the Consortium on Community Supports program to the FY 2025 appropriation~~reduce the mandated appropriation for the Coordinated Community Supports Partnership Fund.

Explanation: This action alters a contingent reduction to reduce \$60.0 million in special funds from the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund contingent upon the enactment of legislation reducing the mandated appropriation for the Coordinated Community Supports Partnership Fund. The Coordinated Community Supports Partnership Fund supports grants distributed by the Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports.

Amendment No.

33

N00A
Office of the Secretary
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendments

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses in the Office of the Secretary may not be expended until the Department of Human Services submits a report detailing for the fiscal 2025 working appropriation as reflected during the 2025 legislative session and fiscal 2025 actual expenditures:

- (1) Assistance Payments program spending by public benefit program separately by program and fund source;
- (2) Foster Care Maintenance Payments program spending by placement type including average monthly cases, average monthly placement costs, and expenditures, along with detail on flexible fund spending by type of spending with detail for the program by fund source;
- (3) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families revenues, expenditures by program, and ending balance; and
- (4) special and federal fund sources of expenditures by program.

The actual spending detail shall reconcile to information reported to the Comptroller of Maryland or include an explanation of why the information does not reconcile. The report shall also provide explanations of General Fund reversions and special, federal, and reimbursable fund cancellations by program. In addition to the report submission, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2025, 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.

Explanation: The fiscal 2024 closeout process of the Department of Human Services (DHS) included a number of errors including reporting expenditures to the Comptroller of Maryland that did not reflect actual expenditures for certain programs in total or by fund, general fund reversions in error, and overspending certain appropriations without reporting these expenditures. In addition, DHS was delayed in providing information on closeout for entitlement programs and other program spending to the Department of Legislative Services, and data provided was not always able to be reconciled against other reported data or data reported to the Comptroller of Maryland at closeout. This language restricts funds in the DHS Office of the Secretary pending the submission of a report with fiscal 2025 closeout information that

N00A

reconciles to information provided to the Comptroller of Maryland and provides explanations of reverted and canceled funds.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Fiscal 2025 closeout information	DHS	October 1, 2025

N00B
Social Services Administration
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendments

N00B00.04 General Administration – State

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services submits a report to the budget committees that provides data on hospital and hotel stays by children and youth in out-of-home placements. The report shall include, for each month of the period October 2023 through September 2025:

- (1) the number of youth in out-of-home placement served in emergency rooms for psychiatric evaluation or crisis and the average length of stay (ALOS) by month;
- (2) the number of youth in out-of-home placement served separately by medical hospitals and inpatient psychiatric hospitals and ALOS by month;
- (3) 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
- (4) the placement type after discharge separately by type of hospital, including identifying the number of youths placed out-of-state after discharge for fiscal 2024 and fiscal 2025.

In addition, the report shall include, for each month of the period October 2024 through September 2025:

- (1) the number of unique and total youth in out-of-home placements placed in hotels, by jurisdiction;
- (2) the ALOS for youth in out-of-home placements placed in hotels; and
- (3) summary information on youth placed in hotels by age category.

The report shall be submitted by ~~December~~ *November* 1, 2025, 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.

Explanation: The General Assembly continues to be interested in monitoring data about children and youth experiencing stays in emergency rooms or inpatient hospital settings longer

N00B

than is medically necessary. In order to maintain oversight over this issue, the budget committees have adopted annual narrative in recent years requesting that DHS provide a report on hospital stays by children and youth in out-of-home placements. The General Assembly is also interested in understanding more about the number of children and youth experiencing stays in hotels. This language withholds funding until a report with data related to hospital and hotel stays is submitted, which contains current data as of September 1, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on hospital and hotel stays	DHS	December November 1, 2025

Amendment No.

34

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services (DHS) submits a report to the budget committees on the number of child welfare services 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, as of September 1, 2025:

- (1) intake screening;
- (2) child protective investigation;
- (3) consolidated in-home services;
- (4) interagency family preservation services;
- (5) services to families with children – intake;
- (6) foster care;
- (7) kinship care;
- (8) family foster care;
- (9) family foster homes – recruitment and new applications;
- (10) family foster homes – ongoing and licensing;
- (11) adoption;

N00B

(12) interstate compact for the placement of children; and

(13) caseworker supervision.

The report shall also include a discussion of 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.

The report shall also include an update on the status of work done by CWLA to develop new workload standards for child welfare staffing, the completion by DHS of its child welfare workforce analysis, and broader efforts by DHS to improve recruitment and retention of caseworkers.

The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2025, 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.

Explanation: The General Assembly believes that maintaining an adequate child welfare workforce is essential to improving outcomes for children entering State care. In order to maintain oversight over this issue, this language withholds funding until a report with data related to the CWLA caseload standards is submitted, which contains current data as of September 1, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on caseload data and filled positions assigned by jurisdiction for specified caseload types	DHS	November 1, 2025

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 Department of Human Services submits data for fiscal 2024 and 2025, including:

- (1) the percentage of children with no recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months of a first occurrence;
- (2) the rate of victimization per 100,000 days of foster care during a 12-month period;

N00B

- (3) rate of placement moves per 1,000 days of foster care;
- (4) exit to permanency within 12 months of entry into care;
- (5) the number of reports of adult abuse;
- (6) number of indicated or confirmed cases of adult abuse;
- (7) rate of removal into foster care;
- (8) rates of reentry into foster care for children within 12 months following exiting care to reunify with the child’s family of origin; and
- (9) rates of reentry into foster care for children within 12 months following exiting care to guardianship.

The fiscal 2024 data shall be submitted by July 1, 2025, and fiscal 2025 data shall be submitted with the Managing for Results submission during the fiscal 2027 budget process. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of receipt of the fiscal 2027 Managing for Results submission 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.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in receiving updates on the performance analysis measures of the Department of Human Services (DHS). This language withholds funding until Managing for Results (MFR) data are submitted for fiscal 2024 and fiscal 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR data for fiscal 2024 and fiscal 2025	DHS	July 1, 2025 With submission of the fiscal 2027 MFR data

Committee Narrative

Implementation of Provisions of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA): The committees are interested in continuing to receive updates on the implementation of evidence-based prevention practices and other services under provisions of the federal FFPSA and the outcomes of those programs and services for families and children served. 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 2025, including data on jurisdiction and the number of families and children served during the fiscal year;

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- any new evidence-based practices being implemented during fiscal 2026;
- the status of the updated five-year Title IV-E prevention services plan;
- data on the effectiveness of implemented evidence-based practices at preventing occurrences of subsequent maltreatment and out-of-home placements from occurring as well as an evaluation of any other outcomes related to parent and child well-being;
- the current number of providers in the State that have received designation as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) to allow for federal reimbursement under the FFPSA, including if any additional providers received this designation during fiscal 2025 and if future solicitations of applications for QRTP designation are planned; and
- the status of the approval of the State’s revised cost allocation plan, including a discussion of the current ability of DHS to seek federal reimbursement for evidence-based prevention practices.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Update on the implementation of provisions of the federal FFPSA	DHS	November 1, 2025

Child Fatalities Where Abuse or Neglect Are Determined to Be a Contributing Factor:
The committees are interested in receiving updates on the number of child fatalities that involved child abuse and/or neglect. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report that provides data for calendar 2023, 2024 and 2025 separately by age category and jurisdiction.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on child fatalities	DHS	January 7, 2026

N00F00
Office of Technology for Human Services
Department of Human Services

Committee Narrative

N00F00.05 Maryland Total Human-services Integrated Network

Report on the costs, implementation progress, and long-term sustainability of the Maryland Total Human-services Integrated Network (MD THINK): MD THINK has required significant investment and continues to face challenges related to rising costs, delays in implementation, and ongoing system enhancements. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report providing information on how it is working with the Department of Information Technology to address audit findings related to MD THINK as well as the current and future status of the platform, including:

- status of federal certification for the Child Support Management System (CSMS), including anticipated timing if certification is not yet complete;
- planned enhancements and improvements for MD THINK components (Eligibility and Enrollment; the Child, Juvenile, and Adult Management System; and CSMS), including specific timelines and cost estimates;
- projected spending beyond fiscal 2025, including detailed projections for fiscal 2026 through 2029 and anticipated federal contributions;
- maintenance and operations costs and activities, including ongoing support requirements for each MD THINK component;
- efforts to address data integrity issues, including measures taken to improve accuracy, reduce errors, and enhance data validation;
- steps DHS is taking to ensure long-term sustainability of MD THINK, including financial planning and resource allocation;
- plans to enhance data analytics and mobile accessibility, particularly for caseworkers and external users; and
- status of external agency integration, focusing on active and upcoming integration efforts rather than historical integrations.

N00F00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MD THINK costs, implementation progress, and long-term sustainability	DHS	December 1, 2025

N00G00
Local Department Operations
Department of Human Services

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).

Committee Narrative

Monthly Data on Out-of-home Placement of Children and Youth: The committees are interested in receiving updates on Child Welfare Services data. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit monthly reports that provide data for each month of fiscal 2025 separately by jurisdiction on:

- child maltreatment for children and youth in out-of-home placements (*OOHP*) and type of response exercised (investigative and alternative);
- findings for completed investigations;
- children in ~~out-of-home placements~~ *OOHP* through DHS; and
- in-home family preservation services provided by DHS.

In addition to the report submission, data should be provided in an electronic format subject to concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. *The report should also provide an update on the Social Services Administration Data Dashboard and include details on when downloadable data will be made available in accessible formats, such as Excel, and ensuring there can be consistent monthly comparisons by preserving historical data such as offering preset reporting options by month.*

N00G00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on out-of-home placement <i>OOHP</i> of children and youth	DHS	September 1, 2025, and each month thereafter through June 1, 2026

Implementation of the Foster Care Provider Rate Reform: The committees are interested in receiving an update on steps taken to implement the second phase of the new foster care provider rate reform. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report discussing the status of the second phase of the rate reform including steps taken in fiscal 2025 and year to date in fiscal 2026, as well as planned steps in fiscal 2027. DHS is also requested to provide information on the revised rates to be implemented as well as a comparison with costs under the current rate structure for those impacted by the second phase of rate reform. Additionally, the committees request DHS provide data on the number of children served within each class of the new rate structure as well as costs associated with each class for the first phase of rate reform implemented in fiscal 2025. This data should be provided separately for fiscal 2025 actual data and year-to-date in fiscal 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on second phase of rate reform	DHS	November 1, 2025

Costs Associated with Youths in Out-of-home Placements Placed in Hotels: The committees are interested in receiving data on the costs associated with placing youths in out-of-home placements in hotels. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) include in the fiscal 2027 budget detail for fiscal 2025 actual, fiscal 2026 working, and fiscal 2027 allowance that separately identifies payments and anticipated payments for youth in out-of-home placements placed in hotels paid through the Foster Care Maintenance Payments program. The data should be provided as a subprogram within N00G00.01 Foster Care Maintenance Payments and in detail provided with submission of the fiscal 2027 allowance on spending by placement type.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Costs associated with youths in out-of-home placements placed in hotels	DHS	With submission of the fiscal 2027 allowance

N00G00

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.

N00G00.08 Assistance Payments

Add the following language:

Provided that all appropriations provided for program N00G00.08 Assistance Payments 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 be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts funding for the Assistance Payments program, which supports public benefits programs administered to the Department of Human Services (DHS), to that purpose only and prevents budgetary transfers to any other program. This language is consistent with actions on other entitlement programs and is generally similar to language added in prior years, except that it expands the restriction to all fund sources instead of just general funds. In the fiscal 2024 closeout process, DHS transferred special fund appropriation from the Assistance Payments program, which was needed to cover costs in the Assistance Payment program.

N00G00

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce administrative funds for the SUN Bucks program based on current staffing levels and vacancy savings. The Department of Human Services reports that only 80 of the 100 contractual full-time equivalents (FTE) are filled as of January 29, 2025. In addition, the current vacancy rate of 7.6% is substantially higher than budgeted turnover (6.1%), which produces approximately \$2.4 million of savings. A portion of the vacancy savings can be used to support these contractual FTEs.	-1,100,000 GF -1,100,000 FF	
2. Delete administrative funds for the SUN Bucks program to be added to an administrative program. Although for administrative purposes, these funds are included in the budget for the Assistance Payments program, which is used solely for the payment of public benefits. A separate action adds these funds to the Director’s Office of the Family Investment Administration.	-4,700,000 GF -4,700,000 FF	
3. Reduce funding for the Public Assistance to Adults program to better reflect current caseload trends. The caseload declined by 25% in fiscal 2023 and an additional 3% in fiscal 2024, which is not reflected in the fiscal 2026 allowance. This level of reduction would still leave a modest surplus to cover forecasted shortfalls in other public assistance programs.	-1,750,000 GF	
4. Reduce federal funds in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) based on lower than expected caseload. The fiscal 2026 allowance includes approximately \$1.86 billion for SNAP benefits. This level of funding could support more than 450,000 recipients, while the caseload in fiscal 2025 year to date is approximately 382,000. This reduction would leave an anticipated surplus of approximately \$150 million in the event that caseloads or benefits are higher than anticipated.	-200,000,000 FF	
Total Change	-213,350,000	0.00

N00G00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	153,148,213	145,598,213	-7,550,000	
Special Fund	6,421,691	6,421,691	0	
Federal Fund	2,046,614,837	1,840,814,837	-205,800,000	
Total Funds	2,206,184,741	1,992,834,741	-213,350,000	

Committee Narrative

SUN Bucks Participation and Administration: The fiscal 2026 allowance includes funding to support the second year of participation in the SUN Bucks program, formerly known as the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer program. The committees are interested in continuing to monitor the operation of the program. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report that:

- provides details on the administrative costs of the program separately for fiscal 2025 and 2026, including the allocations by object of expenditure and purpose;
- the number of regular positions or contractual full-time equivalents (FTE) supporting the program (including total and filled) and how these positions and contractual FTEs are allocated by budgetary program and/or jurisdiction if allocated within specific jurisdiction position complements;
- the number of children receiving benefits by jurisdiction and month of issuance, the total number of unique recipients, and the dollar amount of benefits provided by jurisdiction and month of issuance;
- the number of children receiving benefits that were directly certified and the number of children receiving benefits for which a separate application was submitted;
- describes collaboration with the Maryland State Department of Education and local education agencies to implement the program; and
- an update on the status of the Summer 2026 program including the timing of submission of the Notice of Intent to Participate and Interim and Final Plan of Operations.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
SUN Bucks participation and administration	DHS	December 1, 2025

N00H00
Child Support Administration
Department of Human Services

Committee Narrative

N00H00.08 Child Support – State

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 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, 2025; September 30, 2025; and December 31, 2025. 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	September 15, 2025 December 15, 2025 February 28, 2026

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 (FIA) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$250,000 of this agency's administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) DHS FIA has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2025; 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 date of the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2026.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) 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 actions 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.

If OLA reports that an agency failed to completely resolve or make adequate progress toward resolving those repeat audit findings, JAEC requests that \$250,000 in general funds be withheld from each agency's appropriation in the fiscal year following the OLA report until more satisfactory progress has been made toward resolution of those 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

N00100

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services submits quarterly reports to the budget committees on application processing times, application denial rates, and case closures for benefit programs. In particular, the report shall include:

- (1) the number of applications processed by benefit type for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Disability Assistance Program (TDAP), and Public Assistance to Adults (PAA) separately by month;
- (2) the average number of days to process applications by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, TDAP, and PAA separately by month;
- (3) 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, TDAP, and PAA separately by month of application;
- (4) the number and percentage of applications denied by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, TDAP, and PAA separately by month;
- (5) the number and percentage of applications denied by reason for denial and by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, TDAP, and PAA separately by month;
- (6) the number of case closures by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, TDAP, and PAA separately by month; and
- (7) the reasons for case closure by benefit type for TCA, SNAP, TDAP, and PAA separately by month.

The first quarterly report shall include data for February through April 2025, and each subsequent report shall provide data for the appropriate quarter. The first report shall be submitted by August 1, 2025, the second report shall be submitted by November 1, 2025, the third report shall be submitted by February 1, 2026, the fourth report shall be submitted by May 1, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the fourth 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 remains interested in tracking the timeliness of application processing as well as the reason for denials and case closures. This language restricts funds pending submission of four quarterly reports on application processing times; application denial rates; reasons for application denials; and case closures for TCA, SNAP, TDAP, and PAA. Similar reports have been requested since fiscal 2022.

N00100

Information Request	Author	Due Date
TCA, SNAP, TDAP, and PAA applications and case closures	DHS	August 1, 2025 November 1, 2025 February 1, 2026 May 1, 2026

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 Department of Human Services (DHS) submits a report to the budget committees on implementation of required actions under the Voluntary Settlement Agreement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights including the number of notifications required to be sent under the agreement, the number of notifications sent, the timeline for sending the notifications, the number of appeals filed as a result of the notifications and any other provisions of the settlement, the number of appeals that resulted in additional benefits required to be paid by DHS, the dollar value of benefits required due to the appeals, the timeline for benefit issuances due to the appeals, and other status updates related to the implementation of the agreement. The report shall be submitted by October 15, 2025, 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.

Explanation: In October 2024, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights announced a settlement agreement with Maryland related to protecting civil rights of persons with disabilities, particularly as it relates to assessments, modifications, or accommodations for individuals with disabilities in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program. The settlement agreement includes a number of requirements of DHS including to provide notices to individuals whose cases were closed under certain circumstances and the development of a new assessment tool. DHS anticipates sending required notifications in spring 2025 and indicates that cases may be required to be reopened and/or retroactive benefits issued if individuals who receive notifications appeal the case closure or sanctions. This language restricts funds pending a report on the notifications sent and the outcomes of appeals, as well as other status updates related to the agreement.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of Voluntary Settlement Agreement implementation	DHS	October 15, 2025

N00100

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services submits a report detailing its grants administration process in the Office of Grants Management. This report shall include information on:

- (1) the process and timeline for determining grant awards and notifying grantees of selections for awards under programs for which grantees must apply to participate, including the Maryland Emergency Food Program, the Statewide Nutrition Assistance Equipment Program, The Emergency Food Assistance Program, and any other program requiring applications;
- (2) the process and timeline for executing grant agreements both for programs under which grantees must apply for participation and grants to specifically identified organizations;
- (3) the process and timeline for distributing funds following the execution of grant agreements;
- (4) the monitoring of grants; and
- (5) efforts that the agency has undertaken or plans to undertake to ensure grant agreements both for annual grants and grants under programs for which grantees must apply are executed within the first quarter of the fiscal year to ensure maximum timelines for grantees to use grant awards.

The report shall include, as part of the timelines, the average number of days for each related step. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees by October 1, 2025, 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.

Explanation: The Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Grants Management is responsible for the distribution of grants to various community organizations through grants specific to organizations and for programs under which organizations may receive funding but are not set aside for specific grants. The General Assembly is interested in better understanding the grants management process of DHS, specifically through the Office of Grants Management. This language restricts funds pending receipt of a report on the process and timelines associated with executing grant agreements and distributing funds to grantees as well as monitoring efforts and actions taken to reduce processing times.

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<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Grants management</i>	<i>DHS</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

Amendment No.

35

N00I00.06 Office of Home Energy Programs

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds for miscellaneous personnel expenses. In fiscal 2025, general funds associated with this type of spending were deleted as part of cost containment actions due to shifting of operational costs to special funds. The Office of Home Energy Programs administrative costs are otherwise fully support with special and federal funds.	-14,607 GF	
 Total Change	 -454,703	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	14.00	14.00		0.00
General Fund	14,607	0	-14,607	
Special Fund	195,435,572	194,995,476	-440,096	
Federal Fund	92,701,274	92,701,274	0	
Total Funds	288,151,453	287,696,750	-454,703	

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

. provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services submits a report with data on energy assistance application processing times by local administering agencies (LAA) and overall program denial rates. The report shall include:

- (1) the number of applications received;
- (2) the average number of days to process an application; and

N00100

- (3) the number and percentage of applications processed within 30 days, 55 days, and longer than 60 days.

The report shall discuss the primary reasons for any substantial changes in processing times that have occurred for individual LAAs between fiscal 2024 and 2026 year-to-date data.

The report shall also provide application denial rates separately by benefit type as well as the share of application denials by reasons separately by benefit type. Data should 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 under Chapters 638 and 639 of 2021. Fiscal 2024 and 2025 end-of-year actual data for denial rates shall be included in the report as well as fiscal 2026 data current through November 1, 2025.

The fiscal 2024 data shall be submitted by August 15, 2025, and fiscal 2025 and 2026 year-to-date data shall be submitted by December 31, 2025. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of receipt of the second 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.

Explanation: The General Assembly continues to be interested in monitoring the application processing times and denial rates for energy assistance. In order to maintain oversight over this issue, the budget committees have adopted annual narrative in recent years requesting that the Department of Human Services (DHS) provide a report. This language withholds funding until a report is submitted for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 year to date.

Information Request	Author	Due Date	
Application processing times and denial rates	DHS	August 15, 2025	December 31, 2025
Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce special funds associated with communication expenses in fiscal 2026 to level with fiscal 2024 actual expenditure.		-440,096	SF
Total Change		-454,703	0.00

N00100

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	14.00	14.00		0.00
General Fund	14,607	0	-14,607	
Special Fund	195,435,572	194,995,476	-440,096	
Federal Fund	92,701,274	92,701,274	0	
Total Funds	288,151,453	287,696,750	-454,703	

Add the following language to the federal fund appropriation:

provided that \$23,287,887 of this appropriation made for the purpose of energy assistance shall be used for energy assistance only. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled.

Explanation: Budget detail indicated that \$23,287,887 of the fiscal 2026 allowance was labeled as an expense for Call Center. The Department of Human Services has indicated that was an error, and the funds are Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program grants to be used for energy assistance benefits. Given the high demand in the program, this language restricts the use of that fund for energy assistance benefits to ensure the funds are used for the intended purpose.

Committee Narrative

Energy Assistance Participation Rates for Vulnerable Populations: The committees are interested in receiving data on energy assistance participation rates for vulnerable populations for federal fiscal 2024 and 2025. The federal fiscal 2024 data should be submitted by July 1, 2025, and federal fiscal 2025 data should be submitted with the Managing for Results (MFR) submission during the fiscal 2027 budget process.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR data for federal fiscal 2024 and 2025	Department of Human Services	July 1, 2025 With the fiscal 2027 submission of MFR data

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 (MD Labor) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit for Unemployment Insurance issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$250,000 of this agency's administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) MD Labor has taken corrective action with respect to repeat audit findings related to procedures to ensure that individuals were not filing claims using a foreign Internet Protocol address, regular claims and adjudications processed by the claims center as well as output reports of manual wage entries, and controls over reissued debit cards on or before November 1, 2025; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing the repeat audit findings related to procedures to ensure that individuals were not filing claims using a foreign Internet Protocol address, regular claims and adjudications processed by the claims center as well as output reports of manual wage entries, and controls over reissued debit cards along with a determination that each of those repeat findings was corrected.

The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2026.

Further provided that MD Labor shall submit a report to the budget committees detailing steps taken to address a finding related to the establishment of procedures to match State higher education institution enrollment records to identify claimants and efforts to work with OLA to resolve this finding. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees by May 1, 2026.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) 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.

If OLA reports that an agency failed to completely resolve or make adequate progress toward resolving those repeat audit findings, JAEC requests that \$250,000 in general funds is withheld from each agency's appropriation in the fiscal year following the OLA report until more satisfactory progress has been made toward resolution of those repeat findings. This language applies that restriction for three of the repeat findings. However, for the remaining repeat audit

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finding, the language requires MD Labor to submit a report on the efforts undertaken to work with OLA to resolve the finding related to the establishment of procedures to match State higher education institution enrollment records to identify claimants but does not require that finding to be resolved to have the funds released.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of corrective actions related to the most recent fiscal compliance audit for Unemployment Insurance	OLA	45 days before the release of funds
Steps taken to resolve a repeat finding related to the establishment of procedures to match higher education enrollment records	MD Labor	May 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

P00G01.07 Workforce Development

Efforts to Prioritize High School Registered Apprenticeships: The Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor) is responsible for approving new registered apprenticeship programs as well as changes to current programs and ensuring compliance with State and federal requirements. Registered Apprenticeships are available to individuals aged 16 and older and may last from one to six years, with most being three to four years and requiring a minimum of 144 hours of classroom instruction per year. The committees request the Maryland Registered Apprenticeship Development Advisory Board include in its annual report to the General Assembly, the Maryland Office of Registered Apprenticeship Development's (MORAD) efforts to prioritize registered apprenticeships beginning in high school. The report should summarize apprenticeship programs designed for high school students and actions taken by MORAD and MD Labor to support these programs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Annual Report</i>	<i>MD Labor</i>	<i>December 31, 2025</i>

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Budget Amendments

P00H01.01 Office of Unemployment Insurance

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$33,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Unemployment Insurance Administrative Expense Fund is contingent on the enactment of legislation establishing an administrative fee for unemployment insurance.

Explanation: This action adds language making the \$33.0 million from the new special fund (Unemployment Insurance Administrative Expense Fund) for the Office of Unemployment Insurance contingent on the enactment of legislation establishing the administrative fee.

Committee Narrative

Unemployment Insurance (UI) Performance Status: Despite the number of unemployment insurance claims returning to a prepandemic level, the Office of Unemployment Insurance has been unable to reach the 87% goal of providing benefits within 21 days. Between January 2023 and December 2024, the percentage of benefits provided within 21 days has fluctuated between 78.4% to 54.1% and has not returned to prepandemic levels when the goal was consistently met. In addition, the Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor) has also been dealing with a backlog of appeals, as the percentage of appeals processed within 45 days by the Lower Appeals Division has decreased from 96% in fiscal 2019 to 19% in fiscal 2024. In order to identify the factors impacting the performance of the Office of Unemployment Insurance, the committees request MD Labor submit a report including:

- the reason for the decrease in performance for both the percentage of claims paid within 21 days and the processing of appeals;
- corrective actions that have been or will be taken to address the low percentage of claims paid within 21 days and appeals processed timely;
- a timeline for additional corrective actions; and
- changes as a result of these corrective actions.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
UI benefit payment performance and performance of appeals processing	MD Labor	October 1, 2025

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Budget Amendments

P00J01.01 Division of Paid Leave

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that the appropriation made for the purpose of funding the Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) program shall be reduced by \$15,183,330 contingent on the failure of legislation delaying the implementation of the FAMLI program.

Explanation: Supplemental Budget No. 1 reduces the entire special fund appropriation contingent on the enactment of legislation delaying the FAMLI program implementation. However, if the legislation fails, the original appropriation is maintained. This language reduces the special fund appropriation for the Division of Paid Leave by \$15,183,330 contingent on the failure of legislation delaying the implementation of the FAMLI program, reflecting the amount of the allowance that is greater than is needed to support the program's operation in fiscal 2026.

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Administration and Offices
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

Q00A01.01 General Administration

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 the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits a report to the budget committees describing how the agency has incorporated feedback from the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) about the previous medical and mental health contract's structure and lack of oversight into the current contract. The report shall include the following:

- (1) a detailed justification of the agency's decision to re-enter a fixed-fee payment structure, including an explanation of why the methodology selected is in the State's best interest and whether the agency intends to renegotiate the contract structure;
- (2) the personnel terms and mandated staffing levels required in the medical and mental health contracts for both Corrections and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services;
- (3) the monthly staffing and vacancy levels of Centurion of Maryland for positions supporting the contract, broken out by Corrections and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services and by medical and mental health services;
- (4) an update on the development of a contingency plan outlining the agency's efforts to supplement medical and mental health services and personnel should its contractors fail to meet the terms of the contract;
- (5) a timeline and strategy to achieve and maintain contract staffing levels and ensure that hourly rates paid to the contract's health care professionals are competitive with similar positions across the State;
- (6) a description of the procedures to ensure invoices accurately reflect the resources provided by the contractors and to identify and address inaccurate staffing reports collected from the contractors;
- (7) a description of the procedures to guarantee contractors complete medical and mental health examinations within the required timeframes as well as investigate and resolve inmate complaints in a timely manner; and

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- (8) determinations and outcomes regarding liquidated damages, including the monthly amount charged and collected through the submission of the report and future estimates of liquidated damages.

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than August 1, 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: A November 2024 fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) contained nine findings related to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) medical and mental health contracts and procurements from April 2018 to December 2023. During this period, the agency contracted with YesCare. Issues with the structure and oversight of the YesCare contracts may also apply the new contract with Centurion of Maryland. This language restricts funding pending a report discussing OLA's feedback, the changes made to the new medical and mental health care contracts, staffing levels supporting the new contract, and liquidated damages.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on health care contract structure and oversight	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

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 the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits a report to the budget committees describing the agency's procurement strategy for completing the Computerized Criminal History (CCH) and Electronic Patient Health Record (EPHR) projects. In addition to providing a strategy to complete the projects, the CCH portion of the plan shall include the following:

- (1) a project status update;
- (2) evidence that the agency has procured a program manager to carry out the project;
- (3) a comprehensive review of neighboring states' criminal history systems;
- (4) justification for each cancellation and reissuance of the request for proposals; and
- (5) an explanation of the agency's decision to pursue an in-house solution.

The EPHR portion of the plan shall include the following:

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- (1) a project status update, including an update on compliance with the Duvall v. Moore consent decree, in regard to the legacy and future systems; and
- (2) justification for the utilization of an Interagency Cooperative Purchasing Agreement.

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than September 1, 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 CCH major information technology (IT) project has experienced multiple delays, largely due to multiple cancellations and reissuances of the request for proposals. The estimated completion date for this project has been pushed back from the initial estimate of fiscal 2022 to fiscal 2028. Similarly, the EPHR is behind schedule and is estimated to complete two years after the expiration of the Duvall v. Moore decree in June 2026, opening the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) up to litigation. This action restricts funding pending a report including status updates and plans to complete both projects.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Strategy for completing major IT projects	DPSCS	September 1, 2025

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 a report to the budget committees on the impact of incarceration on the future outcomes of returning offenders. The report shall include three-year recidivism numbers for the fiscal 2016 through 2022 release cohorts and an analysis of recent recidivism trends, including a comparison to past years and other states. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than November 15, 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 General Assembly is interested in a more detailed examination of recidivism than what is provided in the annual Managing for Results data submission. This action restricts funds for administration pending statistics on three-year term recidivism data and an analysis of recidivism trends.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Recidivism report	DPSCS	November 15, 2025

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits a letter to the budget committees confirming the submission of all reports requested in the 2025 Joint Chairmen's Report due between July 1, 2025, and January 25, 2026, assigned to DPSCS. The letter shall be submitted within 30 days of the submission of the last outstanding report requested during the identified time period, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the letter for review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the letter may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the letter is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: DPSCS is responsible for submitting responses to the Joint Chairmen's Report (JCR) as requested by the Maryland General Assembly and the budget committees. In fiscal 2025, DPSCS submitted multiple reports after the due date, with some reports submitted more than 90 days late. This action restricts funds until DPSCS submits a letter to the budget committees confirming the submission of all reports requested in the 2025 JCR with due dates between July 1, 2025, and January 25, 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Letter confirming the submission of reports requested in the 2025 JCR	DPSCS	Within 30 days of the submission of the last outstanding report with a due date of January 25, 2026, or earlier.

Amendment No.

36

Committee Narrative

Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) Report: The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by December 1, 2025, on the following items:

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- 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, 2025

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 the COVID-19 pandemic, and there was little opportunity for the budget committees to review the effect this had on offender rehabilitative efforts. The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) add data tables to the department's annual Managing for Results submission starting with the fiscal 2027 allowance that provide:

- annual counts of programming participants by primary assignment and facility;
- counts of participants by secondary, tertiary, or subsequent programming assignments by facility; and
- annual counts of nonparticipants by facility.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Correctional program participation measures	DPSCS	With the submission of the fiscal 2027 allowance and annually thereafter

Public Information Act (PIA) Compliance Report: The PIA allows citizens to access public records that pose no public interest to withhold. The Maryland PIA Compliance Board has repeatedly ruled that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has violated the PIA over the years, but there has been little indication that compliance is improving. The committees request that DPSCS submit a report by August 1, 2025, on PIA compliance. The report should include a recent history of actions taken to resolve cases brought before the

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Maryland PIA Compliance Board. The report should also include detailed descriptions of strategies and objectives that will bring DPSCS into compliance with the PIA, including ways these efforts will address:

- training and education of staff;
- systemic sources of nonresponsiveness to requests or wrongful denial of records;
- regulatory changes needed;
- ways that the department can proactively share information with the public to preempt the need for a PIA request; and
- other challenges in complying with the law.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
PIA compliance report	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

Blockchain Technology Report: The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by August 15, 2025, on the potential use of blockchain technology for managing inmate records including, but not limited to, criminal records, medical records, and identifying documents like Social Security cards and birth certificates. The report should discuss existing challenges with collecting, storing, and releasing the personal records of currently and formerly incarcerated individuals and how blockchain technology can address those issues and streamline the records management process. The report should consider the feasibility of integrating this technology and any concerns the agency may have regarding its use.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Blockchain technology report	DPSCS	August 15, 2025

Budget Amendments

Q00A01.10 Administrative Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that ~~\$250,000~~\$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of overtime earnings may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

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(DPSCS) submits a report on a plan to eliminate the use of mandatory overtime. The report scope shall include the entire department. The report shall first include a detailed strategic plan to eliminate the need for mandatory overtime, including the identification of staffing levels that the department must achieve at each facility so that voluntary overtime levels are sufficient to cover all staffing needs. The plan shall identify the amount of mandatory overtime use by reason and the number of staff that would need to be hired to satisfy the overtime needs in each category. The plan shall justify these levels using a National Institute of Corrections approved staffing matrix. The plan shall identify how the department prioritizes overtime for qualified officers with low pay rates to minimize unnecessary expenses. In addition to the strategic plan, the report shall also include:

- (1) a breakdown of total correctional officer (CO) overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from July 2024 to October 2025, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual; and
- (2) a breakdown of mandatory CO overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from July 2024 to October 2025, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual.

The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2025, 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. Overtime has climbed quickly as the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) struggles to fill CO positions. Overworked COs are less equipped to address safety issues, and assaults have increased alongside overtime in correctional and detention facilities. This language restricts overtime funding for DPSCS Administration and Offices – Administrative Services until a report is submitted detailing overtime trends, efforts to reduce overtime, and a plan to eliminate mandatory overtime use.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Overtime strategic plan	DPSCS	November 1, 2025

Amendment No.

37

Q00A

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of Administrative Services may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) 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 three 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 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, 2025, with each of the following quarterly reports submitted to the budget committees no later than January 25, 2026, April 25, 2026, and July 25, 2026, respectively. 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: Correctional officer vacancies within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) remain high at 10.8% as of December 1, 2024. The quarterly reports required in fiscal 2026 will continue the cooperation between DPSCS and the budget committees to track all departmental hiring and the success of recent staffing initiatives. This action restricts funding for administration pending the submission of the second of four quarterly reports on hiring and attrition within DPSCS.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly hiring and attrition reports	DPSCS	October 25, 2025 January 25, 2026 April 25, 2026 July 25, 2026

Q00B
Corrections
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

Division of Correction – Headquarters

Q00B01.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, 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 (DPSCS) submits a report to the budget committees, in collaboration with experts, technical assistants, and transgender stakeholders, on the treatment of transgender individuals in correctional facilities. The report shall contain data for fiscal 2022 through 2025 on the following items:

- (1) annual total of transgender individuals in each of the agency’s correctional facilities and pretrial detention centers by gender identity;
- (2) annual totals of transgender individuals in each DPSCS correctional facility by housing placement category, including administrative segregation, disciplinary segregation, mental health unit, medical unit, dormitory, double cell, single cell, and all other housing placement categories, disaggregated by the gender of the housing placement and by the gender identity of the transgender individual;
- (3) the number and share of transgender individuals placed in restrictive housing, disaggregated by reason for placement and compared to the cisgender population;
- (4) annual average and median length of time transgender individuals spent in restrictive housing overall and disaggregated by reason for placement into restrictive housing compared to their cisgender peers for each DPSCS correctional facility;
- (5) annual number of requests by transgender individuals to transfer housing assignments, disaggregated by type of housing transfer request (including but not limited to transfer to a different gendered unit or facility, transfer into or out of a medical or mental health unit or facility, or transfer into or out of restrictive confinement) and the outcomes of those requests;
- (6) annual number of housing placement assessments for transgender individuals pursuant to DPSCS Executive Directive OPS.131.0001;
- (7) annual number of requests by transgender individuals to receive gender-affirming care and the outcomes of those requests disaggregated by type of medical care;

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- (8) annual number of requests by individuals identified as vulnerable under Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standard 115.41 and by transgender individuals for privacy in showers, bathrooms, and while changing clothing, and the outcomes of those requests;
- (9) annual number of PREA complaints filed and investigated and the outcome for complaints made by transgender individuals compared to cisgender peers;
- (10) annual number of complaints received, number of complaints that were investigated, and outcomes of each complaint for each correctional facility regarding violence, sexual abuse, harassment, discrimination against transgender individuals, other abuse, access to gender-affirming health care, and access to gendered commissary items;
- (11) the number and dollar amount of settlements paid to transgender individuals during each fiscal year from fiscal 2022 to 2025;
- (12) all policies regarding transgender individuals and/or gender dysphoria, including but not limited to intake procedures, identification of transgender individuals, provision of gender-affirming health care, housing assignment, safety from violence and sexual abuse, and access to gendered commissary items;
- (13) a plan to issue guidelines that, at a minimum, are the equivalent of PREA Standard 115.42; and
- (14) an analysis of whether the above DPSCS policies are being implemented and followed at each correctional facility and an analysis of the education and training that DPSCS staff receive regarding LGBTQ+ individuals, along with a discussion of any obstacles to implementation and compliance.

The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2025, 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: Transgender inmates are subject to high rates of violence, sexual abuse, and inappropriate housing assignments, such as unwarranted restrictive housing. Committee narrative in the 2024 Joint Chairmen’s Report requested that DPSCS submit a report on the treatment of transgender individuals by October 1, 2024. However, as of February 1, 2025, DPSCS had not submitted the requested report. This language restricts funding for general administration until DPSCS submits a report, in collaboration with experts, technical assistants, and transgender stakeholders, on the treatment of transgender individuals.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the treatment of transgender individuals	DPSCS	October 1, 2025

Q00B

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$700,000 in general funds made for the purpose of inmate healthcare expenses is reduced. The Secretary is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

Explanation: As of March 10, 2025, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) estimates that it is owed \$700,000 in liquidated damages from Centurion of Maryland, the medical and mental health care contractor for Corrections and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services. This amount accounts for damages accrued during February 2025, as DPSCS agreed to waive damages for the six-month period beginning August 1, 2024, and concluding January 28, 2025. This action reduces the general fund appropriation by \$700,000 to account for liquidated damages the agency expects to collect.

Committee Narrative

Delinquent Payments Report: A June 2024 audit conducted by the Office of Legislative Audits found that Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE) failed to collect late payments, mostly from State agencies. The committees request that MCE within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) provide a report on the status of the payments owed by State and non-State customers, including whether any additional delinquent payments have accrued since its June 2024 fiscal compliance audit. The report should be provided by October 30, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on delinquent payments to MCE	DPSCS	October 30, 2025

Women's Prerelease Programming: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) was required by the Corrections Services Article §§ 3-301 through 3-305 to operate a comprehensive rehabilitative prerelease unit for women by November 1, 2023. The committees note that DPSCS has been consistently delayed in meeting the statutory requirement to build a new, standalone, prerelease facility. While design for the new facility has been delayed, DPSCS is still required to provide evidence-based and gender-responsive services to incarcerated women in its custody and has reportedly begun to do so. However, the amount of information on the new programming is limited, and the committees seek further details into the department's plans to comply with the comprehensive and gender-responsive programming requirements of the statute. The committees ask that DPSCS provide a report on the following information on the women's prerelease unit at the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women no later than August 1, 2025:

Q00B

- an overview of the current prerelease program for women;
- goals and objectives;
- curriculum and activities, including particular attention to work release and job-related services;
- eligibility requirements;
- the number of applicants, individuals approved, individuals denied, current population, and average daily population for each month in fiscal 2025 in Project FRESH and any other prerelease programming for women;
- resources dedicated to the program, including staff, funding, and facility space;
- a literature review of the program’s evidence-based practices for preparing women to reenter society;
- a plan to measure program effectiveness, including any outcomes or performance data that will be measured and reported;
- a summary of participant satisfaction and feedback on the program;
- an evaluation of the inclusivity and accessibility of the program for women with various backgrounds and needs;
- implementation challenges and future steps for improvement or expansion within the existing facility during the delay in constructing the new facility; and
- a comparison to the opportunities, resources, and conditions provided in men’s prerelease facilities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on women’s prerelease programming	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

Reentry Passport Program Rollout: The Reentry Passport Program is expected to provide all previously incarcerated individuals with access to an online portal after release where they can store and retrieve critical documents like their Social Security card or their birth certificate. Previous expectations set the Reentry Passport Program to be available for all returning citizens

Q00B

by fall 2023. However, the program remains in the pilot phase, and more work is needed to be done by the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) so that all returning citizens will have access to this service moving forward. The committees request that DPSCS submit a report by October 1, 2025, on the Reentry Passport Program rollout. The report should document the progress of expanding the existing pilot and future plans to fully implement the program, including:

- the number of individuals who already have Reentry Passport accounts;
- the dates that those individuals gained access to the passport;
- the list of functional passport functions;
- the list of nonfunctional/upcoming passport functions;
- the exact timeline by which all returning citizens will be able to access the passport;
- historic levels of returning citizens monthly;
- projected levels of returning citizens that will require new access to the passport monthly;
- projected levels of returning citizens that will require ongoing access to the passport monthly;
- the list of documents that must be uploaded;
- the list of documents that may be uploaded;
- the process by which documents are uploaded, and by whom;
- the process by which returning citizens access documents;
- ways that the Maryland Total Human-services Integrated Network supports the initiative;
- challenges to full rollout; and
- the potential impact on recidivism.

Q00B

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reentry Passport program rollout	DPSCS	October 1, 2025

Q00C
Community Supervision
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

Q00C02.01 Division of Parole and Probation – Support Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$150,000 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 to the budget committees on its strategy to improve the safety of community supervision agents. The report shall include:

- (1) a description of the equipment provided to parole and probation agents as well as a comparative analysis of equipment provided by other states with similar community supervision populations;
- (2) a detailed explanation of the protocols developed to improve safety and supervision when an agent is on a home visit, including an update on the implementation of a police escort policy and the associated costs; and
- (3) an action plan for safely resuming home visits, including an explanation of any budgetary impacts associated with the extended suspension of home monitoring.

The report shall be submitted by October 15, 2025, 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 revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds from the Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) until the agency submits a report to the budget committees detailing safety equipment purchased, personnel transferred and added to DPP, and other efforts to promote agents' safety following the death of Agent Davis Martinez during a home visit.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on parole and probation agent safety efforts	DPSCS	October 15, 2025

Q00C

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$428,790 of this appropriation made for the purpose of purchasing body-worn cameras for community supervision agents is contingent upon enactment of legislation allowing the use of a body-worn digital recording device by a correctional officer.

Explanation: This action adds language to make the funding for body-worn cameras for community supervision agents contingent on the enactment of legislation.

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that body-worn camera policies and procedures be a mandatory subject of collective bargaining in any agreement between the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) and the employee union authorized to act on behalf of parole and probation agents.

Further provided that \$150,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until DPSCS, in consultation with the employee union authorized to act on behalf of parole and probation agents, submits a report to the budget committees on body-worn cameras for community supervision agents. The report shall include the following:

- (1) all estimated costs associated with providing body-worn cameras to community supervision agents;
- (2) actual fiscal 2026 year-to-date spending on body-worn cameras for community supervision agents;
- (3) policies and procedures regarding the use of body-worn cameras, specifying any differences for community supervision agents and other DPSCS employees; and
- (4) details on activities or pilot programs employed to train community supervision agents on the use of body-worn cameras.

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than January 1, 2026. 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 expresses the intent of the General Assembly that the usage of body-worn cameras be a mandatory subject of collective bargaining between DPSCS and the

Q00C

employee union authorized to act on behalf of parole and probation agents. This language also restricts funds pending a report with details on the cost, policies, and training associated with the usage of body-worn cameras for community supervision agents.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on body-worn cameras for community supervision agents	DPSCS	January 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

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 overall are decreasing but remain high in some regions. The committees request a report due by September 15, 2025, from DPP on the following:

- the exact breakdown of support staff and general supervision caseloads by office into DPP supervision levels for fiscal 2024;
- the exact breakdown of case closures by reason, region, and office; and
- a description of strategies that DPP is using to reduce caseload ratios and prevent agents from taking on too many cases.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
DPP caseload report	Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services	September 15, 2025

Report on Assessment Tools: The Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) has delayed the replacement of the assessment tools used to classify offenders placed on community supervision and the role of these tools in case management. This issue is of particular concern with regard to maintaining proper caseloads for agents as well as providing agents with a reliable framework for addressing the individual needs of each offender. The committees request that DPP submit a report, due September 1, 2025, on the transition to new screening tools used in community supervision. The report should include the following:

- a description of the new tools and process;
- improvements made to previous assessment processes;

Q00C

- the transition timeline;
- challenges to implementation;
- alternatives considered, including the reasons for deciding against alternatives;
- a progress update on training initiatives to improve the accuracy of risk assessment administration and scoring; and
- an analysis of the reliability of the new screening tools to predict recidivism and security risk and/or compliance with conditions of supervision.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on assessment tools	Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services	September 1, 2025

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

Budget Amendments

Q00T04.09 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, 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 a report to the budget committees on compliance with the Duvall v. Moore decree. The report shall include:

- (1) an update on the compliance status of each of the provisions;
- (2) the total number of motions issued;
- (3) a summary of any costs associated with the compliance process;
- (4) a strategy and timeline for reaching full compliance by the June 2026 deadline; and
- (5) a discussion of the utilization and effectiveness of third-party consultants in the compliance process.

The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2025, 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 revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The deadline to comply with the medical and mental health provisions in the Duvall v. Moore decree have been extended four times from the original deadline of June 2020. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) must reach full compliance by June 2026 or face litigation regarding the conditions of pretrial detention. This language restricts funds for administration pending a report on compliance with the decree.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status update on compliance with Duvall v. Moore decree	DPSCS	November 1, 2025

R00A01
Headquarters
Maryland State Department of Education

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that \$243,233 in general funds, \$140,168 in special funds, and \$141,544 in federal funds of this appropriation made for the purpose of 5.0 new positions shall be reduced. The Maryland State Department of Education is authorized to allocate this reduction across the agency's programs. Further provided that 5.0 new positions are abolished.

Explanation: This action adds language to reduce personnel expenditures for 5.0 new positions within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) due to the fiscal condition of the State and recognizing available long-term vacant positions. New positions abolished are N2619039; N2619040; N2619041; N2619042; and N2619043. The language authorizes MSDE to allocate the reduction in funding and positions across programs.

Committee Narrative

R00A01.01 Office of the State Superintendent

Report on Accounting Practices: The committees request that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS) submit a closeout report by October 1, 2025. 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;
- allocations and expenditures by local education agency for the School Resource Officer grant program; the Hate Crimes Grant; the Safe Schools Fund (SSF) Grant; and any other one-time grants, programs, or evaluations administrated by MCSS; and;
- expenditures and closeout balances by program for fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 and estimated closeout balances for fiscal 2026 and 2027, for the SSF.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on accounting practices	MCSS MSDE	October 1, 2025

R00A01

Report on State Education Agency 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 State Education Agency (SEA) federal stimulus funds. To ensure proper monitoring of the use of these funds, the committees request that MSDE report by January 1, 2026, on all SEA program expenditures distributed as part of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. This report should include:

- 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	January 1, 2026

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 grant program for local education agencies (LEA), Maryland Leads. To ensure proper oversight of this program and funding, the committees request that MSDE report by December 1, 2025, on the Maryland Leads program. The report should include the following information:

- a summary of progress on Maryland Leads objectives to date;
- LEA implementation plans by Maryland Leads subprogram;
- expenditures by LEA and subprogram for fiscal 2024 and 2025, including expenditures on personnel;
- standardized assessment measures, outcome measures, and progress, by LEA and program, on the framework implemented by MSDE to remediate student learning loss;

R00A01

- documentation of improvements in literacy and mathematics proficiency, by LEA, grade, and subprogram, as the result of Maryland Leads initiatives; and
- documentation of how MSDE shares Maryland Leads information with the public, either on the MSDE website, LEA websites, or by other means.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Maryland Leads	MSDE	December 1, 2025

Report on Science of Reading and State Literacy Policy: In January 2024, the State Board of Education (SBOE) passed Resolution 24-01 adopting Science of Reading (SoR) as Maryland’s official approach to literacy instruction and required local education agencies (LEA) to align their literacy instruction to SoR starting in school year 2024-2025. As part of this resolution, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) was tasked with drafting a comprehensive literacy policy for grades prekindergarten through grade 3 aligned with SoR and MSDE’s strategic plan. MSDE also received a total of \$47.2 million from federal and nonprofit grants to implement initiatives to improve early literacy proficiency and SoR professional development. To ensure proper oversight of this program and funding, the committees request that MSDE and the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) report by September 1, 2025, on SoR and State literacy policy. The report should include the following information:

- a summary of the final version of the State literacy policy adopted by SBOE;
- expenditures on SoR by LEA including allocations through State allocations, Maryland Leads federal stimulus funds, and other federal and nonprofit grants;
- a summary of materials related to readiness for promotion policies, implementation, and LEA reporting;
- a summary of the key objectives in LEA literacy plans submitted to AIB in calendar 2024 and reported progress on these objectives submitted in LEA annual reports due September 2025;
- progress on teacher training, preparation, and support for the State literacy policy and SoR instruction;
- status of the student support model for student reading improvement plans; and
- a timeline for completion of the adolescent literacy plan for grades 4 through 12.

R00A01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on SoR and State literacy policy	AIB MSDE	September 1, 2025

Workgroup on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in K-12 Education: *The committees request that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) create a workgroup to study AI in K-12 education. The workgroup should study the following:*

- *implementation guidelines for AI adoption aligned with Maryland's Digital Learning Standards;*
- *evaluation frameworks to assess the educational impact of AI tools and the AI tools' compliance with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and State privacy laws;*
- *ethical usage protocols addressing algorithmic bias mitigation and equitable access strategies;*
- *professional development programs for educators on AI literacy and classroom integration techniques; and*
- *policy recommendations for AI procurement standards and data governance models.*

The workgroup should also conduct a streamlined AI needs assessment with the following components:

- *evaluation of local school system AI readiness;*
- *a catalog of AI utilization patterns;*
- *analysis of effectiveness metrics; and*
- *identification of support requirements.*

MSDE should submit a final report containing the workgroup's findings and recommendations, including results of the AI needs assessment, to the committees by January 15, 2026.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report of the workgroup on AI in K-12 education</i>	<i>MSDE</i>	<i>January 15, 2026</i>

R00A01

Report on Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) Education and Pilot Program: *The committees are interested in the establishment of a pilot program for CDL education and licensing as part of the State’s career and technical education (CTE) curriculum. The committees request that by November 1, 2025, the Maryland State Department of Education submit a report on the feasibility of implementing a CDL pilot program that would include 40 hours of classroom instruction, 6 hours of driving with an instructor, and 60 hours of driving with an adult. The report should include the following information:*

- *pilot design using the criteria specified above and timeline for implementation;*
- *program costs including personnel, curricular materials, and instruction;*
- *feasibility of implementation in all 24 local education agencies (LEA);*
- *access and availability for student need-based financial assistance;*
- *opportunities for elective credit and/or integration of this CTE program into a current program of study;*
- *how dual enrollment students would be accommodated;*
- *whether a pilot program could allow students in grade 11 and grade 12 grade to earn their CDL when they graduate or turn 18 years old;*
- *how a pilot program might improve the State’s CDL pipeline of individuals entering driving careers; and*
- *any liabilities or concerns expressed by LEAs regarding the establishment of a pilot program or a CTE CDL program.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Report on CDL education and pilot program</i>	<i>Maryland State Department of Education</i>	<i>November 1, 2025</i>

Study on the Feasibility of Establishing a \$25 Per Hour Minimum Wage for Noncertificated Education Support Professionals (ESP): *The committees are interested in compensation for ESPs and the impact that current compensation rates have on retaining and recruiting individuals who are interested in careers as ESPs. In response to committee narrative in the 2024 Joint Chairmen’s Report, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) provided self-reported data on ESP compensation and job conditions from the 2023-2024 school year that found 57% of ESPs have considered leaving their current role due to their pay and benefits.*

R00A01

Similarly, a majority of ESPs reported working more than one job and an increase in their workload due to vacancies or reductions in force. The committees request that by August 1, 2025, MSDE report on the feasibility of increasing the minimum wage for ESPs to \$25 per hour. The report should include the following information for the most recent school year in which data have been collected:

- the number of ESPs by local school system and job classification;
- the number of vacant ESP positions by local school system;
- the number of ESPs statewide that earn less than \$25 per hour, by local school system and job classification; and
- an estimate of the amount that would need to be added to major education aid as specified under § 5-201(l) of the Education Article and/or the target per pupil foundation amount under § 5-201(s) of the Education Article, to establish a mandatory \$25 per hour minimum wage for ESPs statewide.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Study on the feasibility of establishing a \$25 minimum wage for noncertificated ESPs</i>	<i>MSDE</i>	<i>August 1, 2025</i>

Budget Amendments

R00A01.03 Office of the Deputy for Teaching and Learning

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce Blueprint for Maryland’s Future special funds for the Maryland School Leadership Academy by \$31.2 million. to level fund the program with the current working appropriation for training for leaders.	-3,200,000	SF
	-1,200,000	SF
Total Change	-3,200,000	
	-1,200,000	

R00A01

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	156.75	156.75		0.00
General Fund	6,919,617	6,919,617	0	
Special Fund	13,843,069	10,643,069 12,643,069	-3,200,000 -1,200,000	
Federal Fund	26,158,958	26,158,958	0	
Total Funds	46,921,644	43,721,644 45,721,644	-3,200,000 -1,200,000	

Amendment No.

38

R00A01.05 Office of Information Technology

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Reduce Blueprint for Maryland's Future special funds for administration of the Concentration of Poverty Grant Program by \$1.0 million. The remaining \$2.0 million in funds in this allowance can be utilized for this purpose.</i>	-1,000,000 SF	
<i>Total Change</i>	-1,000,000	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	163.50	163.50		0.00
General Fund	8,151,241	8,151,241	0	
Special Fund	4,206,597	3,206,597	-1,000,000	
Federal Fund	32,527,528	32,527,528	0	
Total Funds	44,885,366	43,885,366	-1,000,000	

Amendment No.

39

R00A02
Aid to Education
Maryland State Department of Education

Budget Amendments

R00A02.01 State Share of Foundation Program

Strike the following language from the special fund appropriation:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$73,128,727 contingent upon the enactment of legislation delaying implementation of the collaborative time per pupil amount.~~

~~**Explanation:** This action strikes language that would have reduced \$73.1 million of the special fund appropriation from the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Fund in the Maryland State Department of Education – Aid to Education – State Share of Foundation Program budget, R00A02.01, contingent on legislation delaying the collaborative time per pupil amount. This action is consistent with actions in HB 504, as amended, to retain current law for the collaborative time per pupil amount.~~

R00A02.02 Compensatory Education

Strike the following language from the special fund appropriation:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$31,299,669 contingent upon the enactment of legislation delaying implementation of the collaborative time per pupil amount.~~

~~**Explanation:** This action strikes language that would have reduced \$31.3 million of the special fund appropriation from the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Fund in the Maryland State Department of Education – Aid to Education – Compensatory Education budget, R00A02.02, contingent on legislation delaying the collaborative time per pupil amount. This action is consistent with actions in HB 504, as amended, to retain current law.~~

Committee Narrative

R00A02.07 Students With Disabilities

Report on the Nonpublic Placement Program: The committees request a report on costs for the Nonpublic Placement program; implementation of nonpublic school special education teacher pay parity related to the Teacher Pay Parity Act (Chapter 648 of 2023); and actions taken by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) to implement this program. The committees request that MSDE submit a report by October 1, 2025, including (1) program closeout data for fiscal 2025 by provider, including annual reimbursement costs and any costs that could not be covered within the fiscal 2025 appropriation; (2) actions taken in calendar 2024

R00A02

and 2025 to implement Chapter 648; and (3) planned actions related to implementation of Chapter 648 and efforts to achieve pay parity in future years.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the nonpublic placement program	MSDE	October 1, 2025

Report on the Autism Waiver Program: The committees request a report by November 1, 2025, on the Autism Waiver program, which is managed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). This status update should provide information on the (1) current number of individuals on the Autism Waiver waitlist; (2) the number of slots utilized in fiscal 2025; (3) the number of slots in use in fiscal 2026; (4) a timeline for increasing utilized slots to the target level; and (5) projected costs for Autism Waiver services through fiscal 2031 by year based on the timeline for increasing utilized slots.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the autism waiver program	MSDE	November 1, 2025

Budget Amendments

R00A02.24 Limited English Proficient

Strike the following language from the special fund appropriation:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$9,750,947 contingent upon the enactment of legislation delaying implementation of the collaborative time per pupil amount.~~

Explanation: This action strikes language that would have reduced \$9.8 million of the special fund appropriation from the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund in the Maryland State Department of Education – Aid to Education – Limited English Proficient budget, R00A02.24, contingent on legislation delaying the collaborative time per pupil amount. This action is consistent with actions taken in HB 504, as amended, to retain current law for the collaborative time per pupil amount.

R00A02

R00A02.55 Teacher Development

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$8,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of Collaborative Time Innovation Demonstration Grants is contingent on the enactment of SB 429 or HB 504 delaying the implementation of the collaborative time per pupil amount.

Explanation: This action specifies that \$8.0 million in Blueprint for Maryland’s Future special funds for Collaborative Time Innovation Demonstration Grants in Teacher Development, R00A02.55, subprogram 5589, is contingent on the enactment of SB 429 or HB 504 delaying the collaborative time per pupil amount as funds for a demonstration grant are not required if funds to implement collaborative time are provided in the fiscal 2026 budget.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce Blueprint for Maryland’s Future special funds for the Grow Your Own Educators program by \$14.3 million to level-fund the program with the fiscal 2025 working appropriation for the Maryland Leads Grow Your Own Staff program.	-14,334,000	SF	
	-14,000,000	SF	
2. Delete Blueprint for Maryland’s Future special funds for Collaborative Time Innovation Demonstration grants	-9,000,000	SF	
	-1,000,000	SF	
Total Change	-23,334,000		
	-15,000,000		

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	96,000	96,000	0	
Special Fund	74,797,161	-51,463,161	-23,334,000	
		59,797,161	-15,000,000	
Federal Fund	31,679,678	31,679,678	0	
Total Funds	106,572,839	83,238,839	-23,334,000	
		91,572,839	-15,000,000	

Amendment No.

40

R00A02

Committee Narrative

R00A02.59 Child Care Assistance Grants

Child Care Scholarship (CCS) Program Quarterly Reports: The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has implemented a series of significant changes under the CCS program. These changes, along with increasing program enrollment, have contributed to higher costs and shortfalls in fiscal 2023, 2024 and 2025. In response to these financial pressures, the department has proposed an enrollment freeze as a cost-saving measure to control program expenditures and align them with available funding. The committees request that MSDE submit quarterly reports with the following information:

- CCS expenditures by fund, including Child Care and Development Fund spending carried over from prior fiscal years;
- fiscal 2026 year-to-date spending and annualized cost estimates, noting the adequacy of remaining State and federal fund sources;
- the number of scholarships awarded by income eligibility category by month, total expenditures for those scholarships, and average cost per child;
- 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 *by county and family income levels*; and
- updates on the implementation of the enrollment freeze, including the anticipated savings and how the freeze will affect the program's budget.

In its September 2025 report, MSDE should include actual data for the CCS program in the final quarter of fiscal 2025 and aggregate fiscal 2025 data. All reports should provide data on a monthly basis for fiscal 2026 year to date.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CCS quarterly expenditure reports	MSDE	September 15, 2025 December 15, 2025 March 15, 2026 June 15, 2026

R00A02

Budget Amendments

R00A02.60 Blueprint for Maryland's Future Grant Program

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Eliminate Blueprint for Maryland's Future special funds for the Academic Excellence Fund because the program is duplicative to Blueprint Training for Teachers and other local professional development programming.</i>	-19,000,000	SF
<i>Total Change</i>	-19,000,000	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
<i>Special Fund</i>	88,523,027	69,523,027	-19,000,000	
<i>Total Funds</i>	88,523,027	69,523,027	-19,000,000	

Amendment No.

41

Committee Narrative

Report on Enrollment and Counts for Blueprint for Maryland's Future Programs: The committees request a report by October 1, 2025, on Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) enrollment collection procedures for free and reduced-price meal (FRPM) students; teacher counts for national board certified (NBC) for the career ladder program; and student counts for the college and career readiness (CCR) program.

For FRPM student enrollment, this report should include data by local education agency (LEA) and school for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), including the percentage of FRPM students in the fiscal year prior to entry into CEP; and greater than comparisons by LEA and school used to calculate compensatory education enrollment.

For NBC teachers counts, the report should include the following data by LEA and school-type (either low-performing and non-low-performing) if applicable:

- count of teachers eligible for a fiscal 2026 award and their year of NBC attainment;
- count of teachers who attempted NBC but did not attain it in either school year 2023-2024 or 2024-2025;

R00A02

- count of teachers attempting NBC in school year 2025-2026; and
- steps taken by MSDE and LEAs to encourage NBC teachers to move to low-performing schools.

For CCR student counts, this report and data should include projected CCR counts and funding from fiscal 2027 through 2030 based on expanded CCR standard.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on enrollment and counts for Blueprint for Maryland's Future programs	MSDE	October 1, 2025

Budget Amendments

R00A02.63

Amend the following language:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$9,876,396 contingent upon the enactment of legislation delaying implementation of the collaborative time per pupil amount~~

, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$4,884,663 contingent upon the enactment of legislation delaying implementation of the collaborative time per pupil amount.

Explanation: This action strikes language that would have reduced \$9.9 million of the special fund appropriation in the Maryland State Department of Education – Aid to Education – Education Effort Adjustment budget, R00A02.63, contingent on the enactment of legislation delaying the collaborative time per pupil amount. This action is consistent with actions in HB 504, as amended, to retain current law for the collaborative time per pupil amount. *This action restores language from the budget as introduced to reduce funds from the special fund appropriation in the Maryland State Department of Education – Aid to Education – Education Effort Adjustment budget, R00A02.63, contingent on the enactment of legislation delaying the collaborative time per pupil amount but modifies the amount of the reduction to \$4.9 million consistent with amendments to SB 429.*

Amendment No.

42

R00A02

Committee Narrative

Report on the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP): The committees request a report on learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic and costs for MCAP assessment development and implementation. The committees request by November 1, 2024, that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) submit a report on MCAP, which should include, but is not limited to:

- a timetable for MCAP administration for all assessments for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years, including field testing and pilots for new assessments;
- details on MCAP measurement of student learning loss in the 2025-2026 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 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years by LEA, program, grade level, and assessment, including alternative assessments and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment;
- anticipated changes, if any, to assessments for virtual school students in the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years;
- expenditures in fiscal 2025 and 2026, and anticipated allowances for fiscal 2027, for each MCAP assessment, assessments under development, and administration, including contractual expenditures by vendor;
- information pertaining to any formal review of MCAP assessments and standards in calendar 2026 and 2027 by MSDE, by curriculum and assessment, including any anticipated changes to MCAP assessments as a result of that review and the projected costs of those changes; and
- alignment of MCAP goals and outcomes with Blueprint for Maryland’s Future outcome measures.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MCAP	MSDE	October 1, 2025

Reports on Local Education Agency (LEA) COVID-19 Federal Stimulus Fund Expenditures: In fiscal 2021, 2022, and 2023, LEAs received a total of \$256.6 million as authorized in the RELIEF Act (Chapter 39 of 2021) and allocated in the fiscal 2022 Budget Bill

R00A02

(Chapter 357 of 2021) for tutoring, behavioral health, summer school, school reopening, and transitional supplemental instruction. As part of mandated reporting in Chapter 55 of 2021, the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Program – Revisions, LEAs were required to report on expenditures of these funds to the General Assembly and the Accountability and Implementation Board through calendar 2023. LEAs were to submit a report consistent with the requirements of the previous report by December 1, 2024, as part of committee narrative in the 2024 Joint Chairmen's Report. At the time of the submitted responses, LEAs reported carrying balances as the deadline for expenditures had not passed. Therefore, the committees request that the 24 LEAs submit a final closeout report by October 1, 2025, consistent with the requirements of the previously mandated report on COVID-19 federal stimulus fund expenditures, which requested the following information: (1) the county board's use of federal funding to address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on education; and (2) State funding received to implement the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Program, including a description of the amount of funding spent on student instruction. Additionally, as part of this submission, LEAs should review previous reports for this purpose and document corrections in this final report.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reports on LEA COVID-19 expenditures	LEAs	October 1, 2025

Report on Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Programs (RTAP): *The budget committees request that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), in consultation with the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) and Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor), develop a RTAP framework that provides a talent pipeline for the education system. The framework should include:*

- *a timetable and steps required to design, register, and implement an RTAP program;*
- *projected staffing needs for MSDE to design and implement the RTAP;*
- *teacher vacancy trend data across the State;*
- *recommended licensure areas based on vacancies and conditionally licensed teachers;*
- *identification of funding sources to offset costs;*
- *identification of employers, related instruction providers, and collective bargaining units prepared to implement an MSDE-sponsored RTAP;*
- *recommendations to promote a state-scaled, multi-employer approach to RTAPs; and*

R00A02

- *recommendations to promote on-the-job skills-based teacher training.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on registered teacher apprenticeship programs</i>	<i>MSDE MHEC MD Labor</i>	<i>December 15, 2025</i>

Reports on Unassigned Fund Balances: *In order to monitor the status of local education agency (LEA) fund balances, the budget committees request that LEAs submit quarterly reports on transfers into unassigned fund balances; the reasons that LEAs were not able to expend available funds; and intended future expenditures of unassigned fund balances. As part of the first quarterly report, LEAs should also identify any policy or target established by the county regarding the percentage of operating expenditures that are allowable in the unassigned fund balance. The budget committees also request that by August 15, 2025, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) develop a template for LEAs to use for the submission of these reports.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Reports on unassigned fund balances</i>	<i>LEA MSDE</i>	<i>September 30, 2025 December 31, 2025 March 31, 2026 June 30, 2026</i>

R00A03
Funding for Educational Organizations
Maryland State Department of Education

Budget Amendments

R00A03.05 Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$617,522 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 Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) Program scholarship award that a student is awarded in accordance with paragraph (6) above.

Further provided that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) shall submit a report to the budget committees by January 15, 2026, 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 2024-2025 school year by the student; and (c) if the student attended the same nonpublic school in the 2024-2025 school year, whether, what type, and how much nonpublic scholarship aid the student received in the 2024-2025 school year and will receive in the 2025-2026 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;

R00A03

- (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;
- (12) the number of students who received BOOST Program scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year who are attending public school for the 2025-2026 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 2024-2025 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 requires MSDE to report by January 15, 2026, 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 2024-2025 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 \$617,522 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, 2026

R00A06
Maryland Center for School Safety
Maryland State Department of Education

Budget Amendments

R00A06.02 Maryland Center for School Safety – Grants

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds to the Maryland Center for School Safety for the School Resource Officer grant program by \$5.0 million. This reduction will be backfilled with special funds from the Safe Schools Fund balance.	-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>
General Fund	13,000,000	8,000,000	-5,000,000	
Special Fund	13,600,000	13,600,000	0	
Total Funds	26,600,000	21,600,000	-5,000,000	

R12 Accountability and Implementation Board

Committee Narrative

R12A01.01 Accountability and Implementation Board

Status Report on the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future (Blueprint) Implementation: The committees request that the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) submit a report by September 1, 2025, on agency actions to implement Blueprint. This report shall include a timeline and detailed information on the progress in completing and/or implementing the following programs, reports, and measures:

- calendar 2025 and 2026 local education agency (LEA) Blueprint implementation plans and current status relative to minimum school funding requirements;
- calendar 2024 and 2025 State agency Blueprint implementation plans;
- collaboration with the Maryland State Department of Education , the State Board of Education, the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board, and the teacher preparation workgroup to revise teacher preparation program requirements;
- targeted training on Blueprint and any changes to training and/or funding for 2025-2026 school year;
- progress on the independent evaluation of Blueprint implementation and outcomes;
- LEA and Career and Technology Education Committee technical assistance Phase I and II grants, including use of funds; roles and responsibilities of strategic facilitators; categorized expenditures by LEA; and AIB collaboration, training, and accountability measures for grantees;
- LEA career ladder implementation plans;
- LEA career counseling programs for middle and high school students and accompanying fiscal reports;
- monthly Blueprint financial reporting on minimum funding requirements; and
- progress to determine Blueprint final outcome measures, baseline data, and targets for early childhood education; college and career readiness; career ladder; student support personnel; or any other outcome measures under development.

R12

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Status report on Blueprint
implementation

AIB

September 1, 2025

R13M00
Morgan State University

Budget Amendments

R13M00.00 Morgan State University

Add the following language to the unrestricted fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the general administration may not be expended until Morgan State University (MSU) submits a report to the budget committees on the development of East North Avenue in the City of Baltimore. The General Assembly requests that MSU convene a group of stakeholders to create a plan for long-term development for East North Avenue. The report shall include tentative redevelopment plans, MSU's stakeholder and community engagement efforts, and the role of stakeholders in development of the plans. This report shall be submitted by January 15, 2026, 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 and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending a report on MSU's development plans in East North Avenue.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
East North Avenue development report	MSU	January 15, 2026

Strike the following language:

~~Further provided that since Morgan State University (MSU) has had four or more repeat findings in the most recent compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$250,000 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, 2025; 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 date of the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2026.~~

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) 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

R13M00

~~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.~~

~~If OLA reports that an agency failed to completely resolve or make adequate progress toward resolving those repeat audit findings, JAEC requests that \$250,000 in general funds is withheld from each agency's appropriation in the fiscal year following the OLA report until more satisfactory progress has been made toward resolution of those 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 the funds

Amendment No.

43

R14D00
St. Mary's College of Maryland

Budget Amendments

R14D00.00 St. Mary's College of Maryland

Add the following language to the unrestricted fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses for St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) may not be expended until SMCM submits a report to the budget committees and the St. Mary's County Delegation on actions taken to address the findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) in December 2024. The report shall include how each finding has been addressed, actions taken and planned to be taken to implement recommendations made by OLA, and a timeline for fully implementing all of the recommendations by OLA. In addition, the report shall address other actions planned and taken by SMCM to improve financial management practices. The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2025, 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 fiscal compliance audit of SMCM released by OLA in December 2024 has raised concerns about the financial management practices at SMCM. This language restricts funds until SMCM submits a report detailing actions taken to address the findings in the audit and other efforts to improve financial management practices.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Actions taken to address OLA audit findings and improve financial management practices	SMCM	December 1, 2025

Amendment No.

44

R15P00
Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission

Budget Amendments

R15P00.02 Administration and Support Services

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 for that purpose until the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission (MPBC) submits a report to the budget committees providing information on the status of corrective actions taken to address findings related to the affiliated foundation and the retention and provision of documents to the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) included in the fiscal compliance audit released by OLA in October 2024. Specifically, the report shall address actions to review procedures related to its collections process, underwriting and sponsorship agreements; monitoring of revenue generating activities; review of annual conflict of interest disclosures; and eliminating payments of certain State funds to the affiliated foundation. The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2025, 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: In October 2024, OLA released a fiscal compliance audit for MPBC including six findings. This language restricts funds until MPBC submits a report regarding the status of actions taken to address the findings related to the affiliated foundation contained within the audit.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Actions taken or planned to be taken to address findings related to the affiliated foundation in the fiscal compliance audit released in October 2024.	MPBC	October 1, 2025

R30B30
University of Maryland Global Campus
University System of Maryland

Committee Narrative

R30B30.00 University of Maryland Global Campus

National Marketing Campaign: The University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) undertook an expansive national campaign to expand its reach, spending approximately \$326 million from fiscal 2020 to 2025. The committees are interested in the results of this multimillion dollar campaign. The committees request that UMGC submit a report by December 1, 2025, detailing the amount spent in each fiscal year, as well as the number and dollar value of each media contract used, and the students gained from each contract. The report should also include the metrics on how the institution determined the enrollment gains from the campaign. UMGC should address the details of any planned or implemented new marketing campaigns not related to the initial \$500 million campaign.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
National marketing campaign	UMGC	December 1, 2025

R62I00
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Budget Amendments

R62I00.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$150,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) submits a report to the budget committees providing detail on the Howard P. Rawlings Educational Excellence Awards program with detail separately for the Guaranteed Access Grant and Educational Assistance Grant. The report shall provide data for fiscal 2025 detailing the number of new and renewal awards separately by month for each program; dollar amounts awarded and paid to the institution for new and renewal awardees in each program; the amount of unspent appropriation transferred to the Need-based Student Financial Assistance Fund at the close of the fiscal year; and the average amount of time between when the student accepts an award and when the account of the student is credited and, if different, the average amount of time between when the student accepts an award and payment to the institution. In addition, MHEC shall discuss efforts to notify applicants in a timely manner about the status of the application and the determination of receipt of an award. The report shall be submitted by December 8, 2025, and 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: *The General Assembly is interested in understanding the details on the Educational Excellence Awards (EEA) program. This language restricts funds pending a report on fiscal 2025 award data and the average amount of time between when a student accepts an award and when the institution receives payment, as well as outreach efforts undertaken to ensure timely notification of receipt of the award.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Report on data and information of the Educational Excellence Awards program</i>	<i>MHEC</i>	<i>December 8, 2025</i>

Amendment No.

45

R62I0010
Student Financial Assistance
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Committee Narrative

R62I00.10 Educational Excellence Awards

Impact of Credit Completion Requirement on Financial Aid Awards: The committees are interested in the impact that the 30-credit-hour requirement had on students in the 2024-2025 academic year and the 2025-2026 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. 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 12, 2025

Next Generation Scholars (NGS) Postsecondary Outcomes: 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 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 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	MHEC	December 1, 2025

R62I0010

Budget Amendments

R62I00.48 Maryland Community Colleges Promise Scholarship Program

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds within the Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship Program due to lower projected expenditures. The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) has consistently underspent the appropriation in the last three years. In fiscal 2024, MHEC awarded less than the appropriation by approximately \$7.2 million. MHEC also awarded less than the appropriation in fiscal 2022 and 2023 by \$8.9 million and \$10.8 million, respectively.	-3,000,000 GF -1,500,000 GF	
Total Change	-3,000,000 -1,500,000	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	15,000,000	-12,000,000 13,500,000	-3,000,000 -1,500,000	
Total Funds	15,000,000	12,000,000 13,500,000	3,000,000 -1,500,000	

Amendment No. 46

R62I00.49 Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarships

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce special funds within the Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarship Program due to lower projected expenditures. The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) has consistently underspent the appropriation in the last two years. In fiscal 2023 and 2024, MHEC awarded less than the appropriation by approximately \$4.4 million and \$4.7 million, respectively.	-4,000,000 SF	
Total Change	-4,000,000	0.00

R62I0010

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Fund	18,000,000	14,000,000	-4,000,000	
Total Funds	18,000,000	14,000,000	-4,000,000	

R62I00.52 Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers

Strike the following language from the general fund appropriation:

~~provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$4,800,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation reducing the mandate for the Police Officer and Probation Officer Loan Assistance Repayment Program.~~

Explanation: This action strikes language that would have reduced \$4.8 million of the general fund appropriation from the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers in the Maryland Higher Education Commission budget, R62I00.52, contingent on legislation reducing the mandate for the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers. A separate action reduces funding for the program by \$3.0 million instead of \$4.8 million in fiscal 2026.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds within the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program (LARP) for Police Officers due to lower projected expenditures. The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) has consistently underspent the appropriation in the last two years. In fiscal 2024, MHEC awarded less than the appropriation by approximately \$5.0 million. MHEC also awarded less than the appropriation in fiscal 2023 by approximately \$1.5 million. This action provides \$2.0 million for LARP for Police Officers in fiscal 2026.	-3,000,000	GF
Total Change	-3,000,000	

R62I0010

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	5,000,000	2,000,000	-3,000,000	
Total Funds	5,000,000	2,000,000	-3,000,000	

Amendment No. **47**

R62I00.53 Maryland Police Officers Scholarship Program

Strike the following language from the general fund appropriation:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$4,500,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation reducing the mandate for the Police Officer and Probation Officer Scholarship Program.~~

Explanation: This action strikes language that would have reduced \$4.5 million of the general fund appropriation from the Maryland Police Officers Scholarship Program in the Maryland Higher Education Commission budget, R62I00.53, contingent on legislation reducing the mandate for the Maryland Police Officers Scholarship Program. A separate action reduces funding for the program by \$3.0 million instead of \$4.5 million in fiscal 2026.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds within the Maryland Police Officers Scholarship Program due to lower projected expenditures. The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) has consistently underspent the appropriation in the last two years. In fiscal 2024, MHEC awarded less than the appropriation by approximately \$4.9 million. MHEC also awarded less than the appropriation in fiscal 2023 by approximately \$8.5 million. This action provides \$2.0 million for the scholarship program in fiscal 2026.	-3,000,000	GF
Total Change	-3,000,000	

R62I0010

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	5,000,000	2,000,000	-3,000,000	
Total Funds	5,000,000	2,000,000	-3,000,000	

Amendment No. **48**

Committee Narrative

Outreach to Police Officers and Probation Agents: *The committees are interested in the Maryland Higher Education Commission’s (MHEC) outreach to police officers and probation agents about the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers and Probation Agents and the Maryland Police Officers and Probation Agents Scholarship Program. The committees request that MHEC submit a report identifying communication initiatives for these programs including a targeted communication campaign to advertise these financial aid programs to current and aspiring police officers and probation agents within the State. The report shall provide information on:*

- *how often the website was updated for each program;*
- *the number of high schools, colleges, police departments, and probation offices notified about each program;*
- *frequency of communication (in-person, phone calls, e-mails, and mail) with high schools, colleges, police departments, and probation offices about each program; and*
- *other communication efforts to reach potentially eligible recipients.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Report on outreach initiatives to police officers and probation agents for financial aid</i>	<i>MHEC</i>	<i>December 19, 2025</i>

R75T0001 Higher Education

Budget Amendments

R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the general administration may not be expended until Morgan State University (MSU) submits a report to the budget committees on the development of East North Avenue in the City of Baltimore. The General Assembly requests that MSU convene a group of stakeholders to create a plan for long-term development for East North Avenue. The report shall include tentative redevelopment plans, MSU's stakeholder and community engagement efforts, and the role of stakeholders in development of the plans. This report shall be submitted by January 15, 2026, 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 and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending a report on MSU's development plans in East North Avenue.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
East North Avenue development report	MSU	January 15, 2026

Strike the following language:

~~Further provided that since Morgan State University (MSU) has had four or more repeat findings in the most recent compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$250,000 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, 2025; 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 date of the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2026.~~

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

R75T0001

~~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.~~

~~If OLA reports that an agency failed to completely resolve or make adequate progress toward resolving those repeat audit findings, JAEC requests that \$250,000 in general funds is withheld from each agency’s appropriation in the fiscal year following the OLA report until more satisfactory progress has been made toward resolution of those 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 \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses for St. Mary’s College of Maryland (SMCM) may not be expended until SMCM submits a report to the budget committees and the St. Mary’s County Delegation on actions taken to address the findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) in December 2024. The report shall include how each finding has been addressed, actions taken and planned to be taken to implement recommendations made by OLA, and a timeline for fully implementing all of the recommendations by OLA. In addition, the report shall address other actions planned and taken by SMCM to improve financial management practices. The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2025, 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 fiscal compliance audit of SMCM released by OLA in December 2024 has raised concerns about the financial management practices at SMCM. This language restricts funds until SMCM submits a report detailing actions taken to address the findings in the audit and other efforts to improve financial management practices.

R75T0001

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Actions taken to address OLA audit findings and improve financial management practices</i>	<i>SMCM</i>	<i>December 1, 2025</i>

Amendment No.

50

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 15, 2025

Report on Fiscal 2026 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Settlement Funds: The committees remain interested in the HBCU settlement funds. The committees request that Bowie State University (BSU), Coppin State University (CSU), Morgan State University (MSU), and University Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) each submit a report on the plans for the fiscal 2026 HBCU settlement funds. The reports should include how the fiscal 2026 funding will be used for scholarships and financial aid support services, faculty recruitment and development, expanding and improving existing academic programs, developing and implementing new academic programs, academic support, and marketing at each institution.

R75T0001

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on fiscal 2026 HBCU settlement funds	BSU CSU MSU UMES	November 1, 2025

R95C00
Baltimore City Community College

Committee Narrative

R95C00.00 Baltimore City Community College

Enrollment and the Mayor’s Scholars Program (MSP): The committees request a report on MSP that includes updated information on MSP for the 2024-2025 academic year and that identifies what additional actions are being taken to increase enrollment per full-time equivalent student. Additionally, the report should provide the following information on MSP: (1) the number of applications received for all cohorts, 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 all cohorts; (3) the number of students in all cohorts applicable who have successfully completed at least 15 credits each semester, or a total of 30 credits in their 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Enrollment and MSP	Baltimore City Community College	December 15, 2025

S00A
Department of Housing and Community Development

Budget Amendments

DIVISION OF NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce 1.0 new position (N2614942). The Department of Housing and Community Development has 26 vacant positions as of December 31, 2024. The function of the new position could be filled by reclassifying an existing vacant position.	-155,581 GF	-1.00
Total Change	-155,581	-1.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	56.00	55.00		-1.00
General Fund	23,078,519	22,922,938	-155,581	
Special Fund	15,141,608	15,141,608	0	
Federal Fund	15,108,226	15,108,226	0	
Total Funds	53,328,353	53,172,772	-155,581	

Committee Narrative

Implementation Status of the Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program: Chapter 210 of 2024 created the Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program and Fund to provide rental assistance for eligible student households at community schools. Families may be eligible for assistance under the program if a student in the family is enrolled in a community school receiving funding under the Concentration of Poverty School Grant Program and is housed in a rental property where at least one household member is at risk of homelessness. The committees request that the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) submit a report on the status of the program’s implementation, including a description of actions taken since the start of fiscal 2025 and actions planned to be taken in fiscal 2026.

S00A

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Implementation status of the Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program</i>	<i>DHCD</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

Budget Amendments

S00A24.02 Neighborhood Revitalization - Capital Appropriation

Strike the following language from the general fund appropriation:

~~; provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$50,000,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation allowing mandated funds for the Continuing the CORE Partnership Fund to be funded through general obligation bonds~~

Explanation: This is a technical amendment to strike a contingency.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete general funds for Baltimore Vacants Reinvestment Initiative (BVRI) under the Strategic Demolition Fund that are contingently reduced by the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025. BVRI is fully funded using general obligation bond funds.	-50,000,000	GF
 Total Change	 -50,000,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	50,000,000	0	-50,000,000	
Special Fund	2,244,000	2,244,000	0	
Federal Fund	28,114,000	28,114,000	0	
Total Funds	80,358,000	30,358,000	-50,000,000	

T00
Department of Commerce

Budget Amendments

DIVISION OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

T00F00.01 Managing Director of Business and Industry Sector Development

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation for out-of-state/routine operations travel in the Office of the Managing Director of Business and Industry by \$457,241 to the fiscal 2024 actual expenditures level.	-457,241	GF
 Total Change	 -457,241	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	8.00	8.00		0.00
General Fund	1,702,555	1,245,314	-457,241	
Special Fund	102,467	102,467	0	
Total Funds	1,805,022	1,347,781	-457,241	

Committee Narrative

Mitigation of Impacts from Dredging Related to Sparrows Point Container Terminal Project:
The Department of Commerce (Commerce) is requested to provide a report in conjunction with Tradepoint Atlantic (TPA) on the mitigation measures that will be taken to reduce or avoid impacts on the Pleasant Yacht Club and the North Point Yacht Club from dredging operations related to TPA’s Sparrows Point Container Terminal Project. In addition to discussions on mitigating impacts for both clubs, the report should detail either:

- (1) *how the planned dredging operations will be adjusted to preserve the Pleasant Yacht Club property and pier in a manner that will allow the operations of the yacht club to continue onsite; or*
- (2) *how the yacht clubs will be compensated in the event the planned dredging operations cannot be adjusted.*

T00

The dredging plan is subject to approval by the Army Corps of Engineers, and the report should summarize any changes to the plan, including required mitigation.

The report should be provided to the budget committees by October 1, 2025.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on plans to mitigate the impact of dredging operations on yacht clubs</i>	<i>Commerce TPA</i>	<i>October 1, 2025</i>

Budget Amendments

T00F00.04 Office of Business Development

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete grant funding to Ignite Capital.	-1,000,000	GF
Total Change	-1,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	22.00	22.00		0.00
General Fund	5,102,383	4,102,383	-1,000,000	
Special Fund	26,324,390	26,324,390	0	
Total Funds	31,426,773	30,426,773	-1,000,000	

T00F00.05 Office of Strategic Industries and Entrepreneurship

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Reduce funding for the Industry 4.0 program.</i>	-4,000,000	GF
2. Reduce grant funding to the Maryland Tech Council for the BioHub Maryland Initiative.	-1,500,000 -750,000	GF GF
3. Reduce funding for the Build Our Future Grant Pilot Program by \$3 million to the fiscal 2025 working appropriation level of \$7 million.	-3,000,000	GF

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Total Change -4,500,000
-7,750,000

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	15.00	15.00		0.00
General Fund	21,412,297	-16,912,297 13,662,297	-4,500,000 -7,750,000	
Special Fund	466,777	466,777	0	
Total Funds	21,879,074	17,379,074 14,129,074	-4,500,000 -7,750,000	

Amendment No.

51

T00F00.30 Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise Zone Program

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for the Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise Zone business rental assistance program due to an available fund balance and the underutilization of the program.	-750,000	GF
 Total Change	 -750,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	750,000	0	-750,000	
Total Funds	750,000	0	-750,000	

T00F00.31 Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

provided that, contingent on the enactment of SB 611 or HB 859 promoting access to health insurance for child care professionals, \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund may not be expended for that purpose but instead may be transferred by budget amendment to D78Y01.01 Maryland Health Benefit

T00

Exchange (MHBE) to be used only for the purpose of conducting a targeted outreach campaign to help child care workers enroll in health insurance and conducting a survey of the landscape and availability of health insurance among child care providers. Further provided that MHBE shall submit a report to the budget committees on their survey findings by January 1, 2026. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled.

Explanation: This language transfers funding to MHBE for the purpose of promoting access to health insurance or childcare professionals and for conducting a survey on the landscape and availability of such access, contingent on the enactment of legislation.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on a survey of the landscape and availability of health insurance among childcare providers	MHBE	January 1, 2026

T00F00.33 Maryland New Start Microloan Program

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for the Maryland New Start Microloan Program due to an available fund balance.	-300,000	GF
Total Change	-300,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	300,000	0	-300,000	
Total Funds	300,000	0	-300,000	

DIVISION OF TOURISM, FILM AND THE ARTS

T00G00.03 Maryland Tourism Development Board

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for the Tourism Development Board.	-3,183,300	GF
Total Change	-3,183,300	0.00

T00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	13,366,600	10,183,300	-3,183,300	
Special Fund	2,000,000	2,000,000	0	
Federal Fund	127,000	127,000	0	
Total Funds	15,493,600	12,310,300	-3,183,300	

Committee Narrative

T00G00.05 Maryland State Arts Council

Report on the Use of Grant Funds: The committees request that the Department of Commerce (Commerce) and Board of Public Works (BPW) each submit a report on the dollar amount of grant funds by year for fiscal 2024 through 2026 provided to the Baltimore Mayor’s Office of Art and Culture or to the Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts (BOPA). Commerce should report on funds provided either directly and through funding provided to the Maryland State Arts Council or any other funding. BPW should report on funds provided through direct grants or for which the entities are subrecipients of other grants. The reports should include detail on how those funds have been used by the recipients, including details on expenses for which employees were reimbursed.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reports on grant funds provided to the Baltimore Mayor’s Office of Art and Culture or to BOPA	Commerce BPW	January 15, 2026

Budget Amendments

T00G00.08 Preservation of Cultural Arts Program

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$460,000 of this special fund appropriation for the purpose of the Preservation of Cultural Arts Program may be expended only for the purpose of providing grants to the following organizations:

- (1) \$200,000 as a grant to the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company to support Shakespeare Beyond;

T00

(2) \$150,000 as a grant to the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra; and

(3) \$110,000 as a grant to the Columbia Festival of the Arts.

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

***Explanation:** This language restricts the use of a portion of funds in the Preservation of Cultural Arts Program to be used only for grants to certain organizations.*

Amendment No.

52

U00A
Department of the Environment

Committee Narrative

LAND AND MATERIALS ADMINISTRATION

U00A06.01 Land and Materials Administration

Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund Annual Report: Section 9-275(c) of the Environment Article specifies that an annual status report on the Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund is due on or before November 1 of each year, which was not consistently met before the inclusion of annual budget bill language or committee narrative. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) submit the Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund annual status report on November 1, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund annual report	MDE	November 1, 2025

COORDINATING OFFICES

U00A10.01 Coordinating Offices

Enforcement and Inspection Position Strength Assessment: The committees are interested in the enforcement and inspection positions strength of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). Therefore, the committees request that MDE and MDA submit a report on the following:

- an evaluation of the adequacy of Maryland’s current authorized compliance and enforcement positions in the departments. In completing the assessment, the departments shall 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 assess the impact of the role that technology has played on compliance and enforcement responsibilities;
- a comparison of the size, roles, responsibilities, and inspection workload of the departments’ compliance and enforcement positions to neighboring or similar states;
- 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;

U00A

- the number of regular positions and contractual full-time equivalents associated with the inspections, including the number of vacancies for fiscal 2013 through 2025 actuals, and fiscal 2026 current and fiscal 2027 estimated appropriations; and
- a description of the use of and outcomes from any next generation compliance techniques to increase compliance with Maryland’s environmental regulations.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Enforcement and inspection position strength assessment	MDA MDE	January 1, 2026

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 2025, 2026, and 2027 estimated and an explanation for any changes between each of these years, including revenues credited to and expenditures debited from the net assets;
- overhead rates for fiscal 2025, 2026, and 2027 estimated;
- project reserve fund status by beginning balance, approved retainage, funds withdrawn, and interest earned for fiscal 2025 and 2026 for the State Reimbursable Project Contingency Fund, the Eastern Correctional Institution Steam Turbine Contingency Fund, the Department of Natural Resources Project Contingency Fund, and any other project reserve funds created by MES, including justification for any approved retainage or funds withdrawn in any project reserve fund during fiscal 2025 or 2026; and
- justification for the changes in reimbursable project funding for fiscal 2025, 2026, and 2027 estimated.

The report should be submitted in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) with the fiscal 2027 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MES funding statement	MES DBM	With the fiscal 2027 budget submission

Implementation of a Recycling Program in Ocean City: The committees request that the Maryland Environmental Service (MES) complete the following analysis related to recycling operations in the Town of Ocean City and submit a report containing its findings by December 1, 2025:

- evaluate the current status of the Town of Ocean City’s waste management program;
- review the Town of Ocean City’s previous waste management and recycling programs; and

U10B00

- evaluate options for recycling collection and processing for the Town of Ocean City, including a discussion on drop-off locations, curbside collection, or other alternatives.

A report containing the results of this analysis should be submitted by December 1, 2025. The committees further request that the Town of Ocean City work with MES on data collection and costs for existing and prior waste management programs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on establishing a recycling program in Ocean City	MES	December 1, 2025

V00A
Department of Juvenile Services

Budget Amendments

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

V00D01.01 Office of the Secretary

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) submits a report to the budget committees and the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee by September 1, 2025, regarding certain practices of the department, recidivism data, information about evaluation that DJS performs related to youth outcomes, and the availability of evidence-based services for youth. The report shall include:

- (1) a discussion of departmental practices and operational plans related to the case management system and the reporting of information about certain cases or referrals. DJS shall include its plan for creating or obtaining a case management system that meets its business requirements for effectively managing cases and analyzing youth outcomes. The department shall describe the feasibility of including an inventory of noncontractual community service providers in the current case management system and a potential future system. Additionally, the department will report to the committees whether and when it ceased the practice of resolving referrals at intake due to a failure of the youth or their parent or guardian to appear at an initial intake conference. DJS shall describe any changes made to the case management system to track information about referrals that are resolved at intake, if applicable;
- (2) a description of the importance or weight that a youth's history of legal proceedings has for the Intake Decision Tool and the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument, particularly for youth previously referred to DJS for an alleged felony or previously found delinquent of a felonious offense;
- (3) recidivism data, including measures related to the department's overall and long-term recidivism trends that considers any rereferral to DJS to be recidivism. The data should be provided for at least fiscal 2018 through 2024. The department shall also provide recidivism rates for youth who were referred to DJS through a Child in Need of Supervision complaint and for youth who participated in contractual community-based services;
- (4) information about the department's evaluation of youth outcomes. DJS shall report to the committees whether it regularly and systematically evaluates the performance of contractual community-based service providers based on the outcomes experienced by youth; and

V00A

(5) information about the availability of evidence-based services for youth by local jurisdiction. DJS shall describe any plans it has or recent actions it took to make additional evidence-based services available.

In addition to the report submission, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. 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 Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA) published an evaluation of DJS on December 16, 2024. During the 2025 session, the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee; the Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment subcommittee of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee; and the House Judiciary Committee held hearings related to the evaluation and invited OPEGA and DJS to discuss the evaluation’s findings. This language restricts \$500,000 pending the submission of information related to departmental practices and risk assessment tools, recidivism data that considers any rereferral to DJS to be recidivism, recidivism data for specific youth populations, the department’s evaluation of youth outcomes for contractual community-based services providers, and the availability of evidence-based services for youth. The report also requires DJS to report information about its current case management system and a potential replacement system.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on departmental practices and tools, recidivism, evaluation, and the availability of evidence-based services	DJS	September 1, 2025

Amendment No.

53

Committee Narrative

Report on a Community Case Management Specialist (CMS) Apprenticeship Program: The Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) has community CMS positions to provide community supervision to youth the court has adjudicated delinquent and placed on probation or aftercare. The committees request that DJS submit a report on opportunities for the department to develop a registered apprenticeship program for its community CMS positions, including the value and design of such a program. To develop the report, DJS should consult with any exclusive bargaining representatives of the employees, the Department of Budget and Management, and

V00A

the Maryland Department of Labor. The report should include the following:

- *a review of apprenticeship programs for similar positions and fields in other states and countries;*
- *a discussion of how an apprenticeship program would affect current minimum qualification requirements for CMS positions;*
- *any barriers to implementation of an apprenticeship program, including current laws and/or regulations;*
- *the resources needed to support an apprenticeship program; and*
- *the benefits of an apprenticeship program and expected impact on DJS staffing levels.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on a community CMS apprenticeship program</i>	<i>DJS</i>	<i>December 1, 2025</i>

Budget Amendments

V00E01.02 Facility Operations Administration and Support

Strike the following language:

~~provided that \$3,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of opening the Catoctin Treatment Center may not be expended for that purpose, but instead may be used only to reopen the Alfred D. Noyes Children's Center as an adolescent drug treatment center that serves as a treatment alternative to detention. 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 funding provided for opening the Catoctin Treatment Center to be used for the purpose of reopening the Alfred D. Noyes Children's Center (Noyes) as an adolescent drug treatment center instead. Previously, the Department of Juvenile Services operated Noyes as a detention center, but it was closed in October 2022.~~

Amendment No.

54

W00A
Department of State Police

Committee Narrative

W00A01.01 Office of the Superintendent

Report on Consent Decree and Federal Grants: In July 2022, the Department of Justice announced that it would be investigating the Department of State Police (DSP) to determine if the department’s hiring and promotional practices had violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. A consent decree was filed in October 2024 and provisionally approved in the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland in November 2024. The Board of Public Works approved the department’s use of \$2.75 million in general funds for required monetary awards in October 2024, and in January 2025, approved the use of \$357,500 in general funds to procure two entry-level selection tests to replace the existing written and physical fitness tests, with the contract’s anticipated delivery date being July 1, 2025. Final approval of the consent decree was expected in March 2025. In February 2025, the federal government filed to dismiss the case without a stated reason and without instruction for how DSP was to proceed. The committees request that DSP submit a report providing an update on the consent decree and any future court rulings relevant to this matter. The department should also update the committees on how it will address these issues if the case is closed.

The report should also identify the federal grant funding that the department is a current recipient of or regularly receives, provide information on the likelihood of receiving those federal grants in the future, and describe contingency plans it has if the federal funding becomes unavailable in fiscal 2026. The report should also describe contingency plans if federal funding becomes unavailable in future State fiscal years for which information is available and how the department addressed any federal funds that became unavailable in fiscal 2025, if applicable.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on consent decree and federal grants	DSP	July 1, 2025

Quarterly Reports on Personnel Measures: *The Department of State Police (DSP) has maintained a high monthly vacancy rate (over 10.0%) for its regular positions since January 2021, averaging 11.6% between then and January 2025. During this period, the vacancy rate among civilian positions exceeded that of sworn positions. In recent years, the department has also engaged in workforce assessment and performance perspective programs to assess its employees’ experiences. The committees request that DSP present a plan for decreasing its vacancy rate in fiscal 2026 and submit quarterly reports on its recruitment plans, hiring measures, retention efforts, attrition rate, and number of employees eligible to retire. Where applicable, information should be provided for both sworn and civilian positions and for each month of the quarter. The quarterly reports should include the following:*

W00A

- *updates on the performance perspectives program, recent recruitment activities, and recent employee retention activities;*
- *a description of what is planned to address the performance perspectives program, recruitment, and retention in the upcoming quarter, as well as any other plans the department may develop to fill vacancies; and*
- *the total number of authorized positions, the total number of filled positions, the number of open positions for which the department is actively hiring, the number of job applications received, the number of positions hired, the number of separations, the attrition rate, and the number of employees eligible to retire. All of these measures should be provided separately for sworn and for civilian employees.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Quarterly reports on personnel measures</i>	<i>DSP</i>	<i>July 10, 2025 October 10, 2025 January 10, 2026 April 10, 2026</i>

Budget Amendments

W00A01.02 Field Operations Bureau

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$1,047,270 in special funds are reduced and the following 15 new regular positions are deleted: N2619124, N2619125, N2619126, N2619127, N2619128, N2619129, N2619130, N2619131, N2619132, N2619133, N2619134, N2619135, N2619136, N2619137, and N2619138.

Explanation: This action reduces reclassification special fund expenditures that appear to be double budgeted and reduces 15.0 new positions in the Department of State Police’s fiscal 2026 budget. Given that the positions were initially funded as reclassifications, it is assumed that these cadet positions will be filled using existing vacant positions and, therefore, the new positions are not needed.

W00A

W00A01.08 Vehicle Theft Prevention Council

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce fiscal 2026 grant funding for the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council to the expected level of expenditures.	-690,724 SF	
Total Change	-690,724	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Fund	3,265,724	2,575,000	-690,724	
Total Funds	3,265,724	2,575,000	-690,724	

**X00A00
Public Debt**

Budget Amendments

X00A00.01 Redemption and Interest on State Bonds

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general obligation bond debt service to be consistent with a \$900 million June 2025 bond sale and \$30 million in upfront savings from a June 2025 refunding bond sale.	-27,000,000	GF
Total Change	-27,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	181,700,000	154,700,000	-27,000,000	
Special Fund	1,254,100,000	1,254,100,000	0	
Federal Fund	2,600,000	2,600,000	0	
Total Funds	1,438,400,000	1,411,400,000	-27,000,000	

Committee Narrative

~~**Adopt State Policy of Having Multiple General Obligation (GO) Bond Sales:** State procurement policy goals include providing a framework whereby procurements allow the State to get maximum benefits from its purchasing power. Consistent with this policy, GO bonds are sold by competitive sealed bids. Generally, at least three bidders are required for each sale. To further increase purchasing power, the State Treasurer's Office (STO) has divided tax-exempt GO bonds into multiple bidding groups in each sale. These policies strengthen the State's purchasing power. To keep costs low, Maryland has historically divided issuances into multiple sales in each fiscal year. Since fiscal 2022, the State has combined issuances into one large bond sale. Advantages to having multiple sales each year include (1) smaller and more competitive sales; (2) diversification of risks associated with the timing of bond sales; and (3) reduced budgetary uncertainty when approving annual operating budgets. STO should return to the policy of having multiple annual bond sales if total issuances exceed \$700 million. If there are two sales, the second sale's competitive bids should be opened before the second week of March so that debt service costs are known before the operating budget is enacted.~~

X00A00

Study Group to Reevaluate General Obligation (GO) Bond Issuance Assumptions: The budget bill authorizes GO bonds. There are no costs to these authorizations until bonds are sold. Capital projects often take years to complete, so there has been a consistent level of authorized but unissued debt. To estimate GO bond issuances, the State relies on a formula developed over 30 years ago. In recent years, the pace of capital spending has slowed. Historically, the amount of authorized but unissued debt has been about 20% of all authorized debt. This increased to 24% at the end of fiscal 2023 and 27% at the end of fiscal 2024. In recognition of recent trends, the State Treasurer’s Office (STO) should convene an interim study group to evaluate GO bond issuances and determine if revised policies are appropriate. The study group should report its findings to the Capital Debt Affordability Committee at its calendar 2025 briefings. The study group should include the Department of Budget and Management and the Department of Legislative Services.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Review GO bond issuance formulas	STO	October 1, 2025

**Y01A
State Reserve Fund**

Budget Amendments

Y01A01.01 Revenue Stabilization Account

Strike the following language to the general fund appropriation:

~~, provided that \$419,999,483 of this appropriation shall be reduced contingent upon enactment of legislation eliminating the required Revenue Stabilization Account appropriation for fiscal 2026.~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not needed for the General Assembly to reduce the appropriation directly.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the appropriation to the Revenue Stabilization Account. Adequate funding exists to meet Spending Affordability Committee goals without the statutory appropriation in fiscal 2026.	-419,499,483	GF
 Total Change	 -419,499,483	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	419,499,483	0	-419,499,483	
Total Funds	419,499,483	0	-419,499,483	

Dedicated Purpose Account

Y01A02.01 Dedicated Purpose Account

Strike the following language to the general fund appropriation:

~~, provided that \$25,000,000 of this appropriation shall be reduced contingent upon enactment of legislation eliminating the fiscal 2026 payment to the Retirement Health Benefits Trust Fund.~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not necessary for the General Assembly to reduce the appropriation directly.

Y01A

Strike the following language to the general fund appropriation:

~~Further provided that \$25,000,000 of this appropriation shall be reduced contingent upon enactment of legislation reducing the amount of retirement reinvestment contributions.~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not necessary for the General Assembly to reduce the appropriation directly.

Amend the following language to the general fund appropriation:

OPEB Sweeper	25,000,000
Pension Sweeper	25,000,000

Explanation: This action amends line-item appropriations for funds that are being reduced by the General Assembly.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funds for the Pension Trust Fund sweeper contribution. Adequate funding exists to meet State obligations without the statutory appropriation in fiscal 2026.	-25,000,000	GF
2. Delete funds for the other postemployment benefits trust fund sweeper contribution.	-25,000,000	GF
Total Change	-50,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	120,750,000	70,750,000	-50,000,000	
Special Fund	180,000,000	180,000,000	0	
Total Funds	300,750,000	250,750,000	-50,000,000	

Y01A

Y01A03.01 Economic Development Opportunities Program Account

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that ~~\$15,000,000~~\$16,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent on the enactment of legislation establishing the Strategic Closing Fund within the Department of Commerce.

Explanation: SB 427/HB 498 includes language renaming the Economic Development Opportunities Program Account to the Strategic Closing Fund and establishing it within the Department of Commerce. This language makes funding for the account contingent on the enactment of the legislation.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for the Economic Development Opportunities Program Account, commonly referred to as the Sunny Day Fund, due to the State’s budget constraints.	-10,000,000	GF
	-9,000,000	GF
 Total Change	 -10,000,000 -9,000,000	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	25,000,000	-15,000,000 16,000,000	-10,000,000 -9,000,000	
Total Funds	25,000,000	15,000,000 16,000,000	10,000,000 -9,000,000	

Amendment No.

55

F50
Department of Information Technology

Fiscal 2025 Deficiency

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 the fiscal 2025 proposed deficiency appropriation for the State Board of Elections (SBE) New Campaign Reporting Information System (NCRIS) Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP). This reduction aligns the proposed deficiency appropriation with SBE’s estimated requirement to support NCRIS MITDP in fiscal 2025.	-193,000	GF
 Total Change	 -193,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	1,703,446	1,510,446	-193,000	
Total Funds	1,703,446	1,510,446	-193,000	

H00
Department of General Services

Fiscal 2025 Deficiency

H00H01.03 Miscellaneous Grants – Capital Appropriation

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

. provided that \$16,000,000 of this appropriation for the purpose of funding the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project shall be used to provide a grant to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation for the dredge material placement costs associated with the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project. 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 language directs funds appropriated for the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project be provided as a grant to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation.

Amendment No.

56

M00M
Developmental Disabilities Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Fiscal 2025 Deficiency

M00M01.02 Community Services

Add the following language:

Provided that the Developmental Disabilities Administration shall not eliminate the geographical differential rate paid for services in certain local jurisdictions in fiscal 2025.

Explanation: The fiscal 2025 working appropriation, including deficiency appropriations in the fiscal 2026 budget as introduced, contain general fund reductions to account for the implementation of various cost containment actions. This language specifies a cost containment action that the Developmental Disabilities Administration may not implement in fiscal 2025.

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that to reduce State-only funded services, the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) shall require individuals receiving State-only funded services to apply for a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver and DDA shall continue to provide State-only funded services for individuals who currently receive State-only funded services and are waiting for an eligibility determination and for individuals found ineligible for DDA-operated Medicaid waivers.

Explanation: The fiscal 2025 working appropriation, including deficiency appropriations in the fiscal 2026 budget as introduced, contain general fund reductions to account for the implementation of various cost containment actions. This language specifies that DDA will continue funding certain individuals with State funds only and specifies how DDA shall implement a cost containment action in fiscal 2025.

Add the following language:

Provided that the Developmental Disabilities Administration shall not eliminate the Low Intensity Support Services program in fiscal 2025.

Explanation: The fiscal 2025 working appropriation, including deficiency appropriations in the fiscal 2026 budget as introduced, contain general fund reductions to account for the implementation of various cost containment actions. This language specifies a cost containment action that Developmental Disabilities Administration may not implement in fiscal 2025.

M00Q01
Medical Care Programs Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Fiscal 2025 Deficiency

M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding from a fiscal 2025 deficiency appropriation to account for an authorized transfer of funds from the Revenue Stabilization Account (Rainy Day Fund) to cover Medicaid shortfalls in fiscal 2025. Section 31 of the fiscal 2025 Budget Bill authorized a transfer of up to \$100 million from the Rainy Day Fund for this purpose.	-100,000,000	GF
 Total Change	 -100,000,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	473,424,174	373,424,174	-100,000,000	
Special Fund	8,641,412	8,641,412	0	
Federal Fund	197,709,845	197,709,845	0	
Total Funds	679,775,431	579,775,431	-100,000,000	

M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements

Add the following language:

Provided that all fiscal 2025 deficiency appropriations 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, M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients, or M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts the entire general and federal fund deficiency appropriation for provider reimbursements in M00Q01.10 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements to that purpose or for transfer to M00L01.02 Community Services, M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients, or M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements.

N00G00
Local Department Operations
Department of Human Services

Fiscal 2025 Deficiency

N00G00.01 Foster Care Maintenance 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 or transferred shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This annual language restricts general funds appropriated for foster care maintenance payments deficiency 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).

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 fund portion of the deficiency appropriation in the Assistance Payments program for the Temporary Disability Assistance Program to that purpose only. This restriction prevents a transfer of general funds to other programs consistent with actions on other entitlement programs and on the funding for the Assistance Payments program in fiscal 2025 included in the budget as enacted.

N00I00
Family Investment Administration
Department of Human Services

Fiscal 2025 Deficiency

N00I00.06 Office of Home Energy Programs

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce special funds associated with communication expenses in fiscal 2025 to level with fiscal 2024 actual expenditures.	-440,096	SF
Total Change	-440,096	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Fund	8,720,017	8,279,921	-440,096	
Federal Fund	22,171,207	22,171,207	0	
Total Funds	30,891,224	30,451,128	-440,096	

R62I0010
Student Financial Assistance
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Fiscal 2025 Deficiency

R62I00.52 Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

R62I00.52 Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers

To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to reduce the appropriation for fiscal 2025 for the Police Officer and Probation Officer Loan Assistance Repayment Program based on projected expenditures.

General Fund Appropriation, provided that this appropriation is contingent upon the enactment of legislation reducing the funding for the Police Officer and Probation Officer Loan Assistance Repayment Program ~~3,675,000~~ -3,375,000

***Explanation:** This language modifies the fiscal 2025 deficiency appropriation to reduce the amount withdrawn from the program contingent on a provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025 that reduces the mandate. This action provides \$500,000 for the Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers in fiscal 2025 rather than \$200,000.*

Amendment No. 57

R62I00.53 Maryland Police Officers Scholarship Program

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

R62I00.53 Maryland Police Officers Scholarship Program

To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to reduce the appropriation for fiscal 2025 for the Police Officer and Probation Officer Scholarship Program based on projected expenditures.

General Fund Appropriation, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by ~~\$3,675,000~~ \$3,375,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation reducing the funding for the Police Officer and Probation Officer Scholarship Program ~~-3,675,000~~
-3,375,000

R62I0010

***Explanation:** This language modifies the fiscal 2025 deficiency appropriation to reduce the amount withdrawn from the program contingent on a provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025 that reduces the mandate. This action provides \$500,000 for the scholarship program in fiscal 2025 rather than \$200,000.*

Amendment No.

58

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.

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.

Sections

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 (Department of Budget and Management Paid Telecommunications), 0839 (Human Resources Shared Services), 0874 (Office of Attorney General Administrative Fee), 0876 (Department of Information Technology Information Technology Services Allocation), 0894 (State Personnel System Allocation), 0897 (Enterprise Budget System Allocation), and 1303 (rent paid to the Department of General Services) 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 2025 and 2026. 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.

Add the following section:

Section 19 Fiscal 2025 Reductions

SECTION 19. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds are reduced immediately upon passage of this budget from the fiscal 2025 appropriation in the following manner:

(1) — \$9,000,000 in general funds is reduced from the fiscal 2025 appropriation for program M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients within the Behavioral Health Administration that was made for the purpose of provider reimbursements for behavioral health services for the Medicaid eligible population;

Sections

- ~~(2)~~ (1) \$8,000,000 in general funds is reduced from the fiscal 2025 appropriation for program R62I00.56 Teacher Development and Retention Program within the Maryland Higher Education Commission that was made for the purpose of the Teacher Development and Retention Program;
- ~~(3)~~ (2) \$4,000,000 in special funds is reduced from the fiscal 2025 appropriation for program R62I00.49 Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarship Program within the Maryland Higher Education Commission that was made for the purpose of the Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarship Program;
- ~~(4)~~ (3) \$3,000,000 \$1,500,000 in general funds is reduced from the fiscal 2025 appropriation for program R62I00.48 Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship Program within the Maryland Higher Education Commission that was made for the purpose of the Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship Program; and
- (4) *\$2,000,000 in general funds is reduced from the fiscal 2025 appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within Board of Public Works (BPW) for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Association of Boards of Education to establish direct primary care health centers for school system employees, county government employees, and families of these employees in Prince George's County; and*
- (5) *\$250,000 in special funds from the Transportation Trust Fund is reduced from the fiscal 2025 appropriation for program J00A01.02 Operating Grants-In-Aid within The Secretary's Office within the Maryland Department of Transportation that was made for the purpose of providing Baltimore County a grant to develop a pilot project to increase transportation opportunities for K-12 students not already being bused by public school systems.*
- ~~(5)~~ *\$900,000 in general funds is reduced from the fiscal 2025 appropriation for program D26A07.03 Community Services within the Department of Aging that was made for the purpose of the Senior Care program.*

Explanation: This action adds language reducing fiscal 2025 appropriations in various agencies. *The action restores funds for two purposes and partially restores funds for an additional item. In addition, this action adds two new reductions which are replaced with funds provided for similar purposes in Section 20 and 21, respectively.*

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 20 Fiscal 2025 Legislative Additions

SECTION 20. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds are added, and shall be available immediately upon this budget, to the fiscal 2025 working appropriation in the following manner:

- (1) \$34,224,704 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00M01.02 Community Services within the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) within the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) for the purpose of restoring cost containment actions proposed for fiscal 2025 and shall be used as follows:
 - (a) \$18,267,595 for the purpose of maintaining reasonable and customary wages for self-directed services at the current level. Further provided that DDA shall not lower reasonable and customary wages for self-directed services during fiscal 2025 compared to the wages in effect on November 21, 2024;
 - (b) \$13,600,000 for the purpose of fully funding dedicated support hours. Further provided that DDA shall not consider the availability of shared hours in a home when approving dedicated hours to support the medical, behavioral, or daytime residential support needs of an individual. MDH shall also ~~restore~~reinststate any dedicated hours it removed from an individual's plan in fiscal 2025 that would have been in compliance with this policy, and for which the individual has a current need for dedicated hours; and
 - (c) \$2,357,109 for the purpose of fully funding the wage exception process for self-directed services. Further provided that DDA shall not eliminate the wage exception process for self-directed services in fiscal 2025.

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) \$3,000,000 in special funds from the Transportation Trust Fund is added to the fiscal 2025 appropriation for program J00A01.03 Facilities and Capital Equipment within the Maryland Department of Transportation, The Secretary's Office for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation for the dredge material placement costs associated with the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled; and
- (3) \$2,000,000 in general funds is added to the fiscal 2025 appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Association of Boards of Education to establish direct primary care health centers for school system employees,

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county government employees, and families of these employees in Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City. 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 funds added to the fiscal 2025 appropriation. The fiscal 2025 working appropriation, including deficiency appropriations in the fiscal 2026 budget as introduced, contain general fund reductions totaling \$96,603,839 to account for the implementation of various cost containment actions. This action fully restores funding for certain cost containment actions and prohibits certain cost containment actions. *This action also adds a grant.*

Amendment No.

60

Add the following section:

Section 21 Fiscal 2026 Legislative Additions

SECTION 21. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds are added to the fiscal 2026 appropriation in the following manner:

- (1) \$132,240,000 in general funds and \$15,000,000 in special funds from the Community Services Trust Fund are added to the appropriation for program M00M01.02 Community Services within the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) within the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) for the purpose of restoring funds and modifying cost containment actions proposed for fiscal 2026. The funding shall be used as follows:
 - (a) \$51,850,000 for the purpose of restoring funds for dedicated support hours. Further provided that the hourly payment rate for dedicated hours for *Community Living Group Home, Community Living Group Home Enhanced, and Supported Living* for fiscal 2026 shall be set at 86% of the fully loaded brick used to determine rates in fiscal 2026. DDA shall not consider the availability of shared hours in a home when approving dedicated hours to support the medical, behavioral, or daytime residential support needs of an individual;
 - (b) \$37,690,000 for the purpose of funding a geographical differential rate paid for services in local jurisdictions where a geographical differential rate was paid in fiscal 2025. Further provided that DDA shall set the geographical differential rate for each service that is more than 10% above standard rates set for the rest of the State as of January 1, 2025, to ~~no more than~~ 10% above the standard rates set for the rest of the State. DDA shall not eliminate the geographical differential rates of up to 10%;

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- (c) \$36,000,000 for the purpose of maintaining reasonable and customary wages for self-directed services at the current level. Further provided that DDA shall not lower reasonable and customary wages for self-directed services in fiscal 2026 compared to the wages in effect on November 21, 2024;
- (d) \$12,700,000 for the purpose of allowing wage exceptions for self-directed services that do not exceed 15% above the reasonable and customary wages for the standard maximum wage and 10% above the standard maximum wage for the geographical differential maximum wage;
- (e) \$7,000,000 for the purpose of removing the day-to-day administrator category of services from Individual and Family Directed Goods and Services and placing this category on a separate service line; and
- (f) \$2,000,000 for the Low Intensity Supports Services (LISS) program. Further provided that DDA shall establish a cap of ~~\$500~~\$1,000 per LISS participant per fiscal year.

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 or be canceled;

- (2) \$27,000,000 in special funds is added for the purpose of funding the following programs and projects with pay-as-you-go funds in the following budget codes:
 - (a) \$9,000,000 in special funds from the energy efficiency, all other sectors distribution of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions for Higher Education for R13M00 Morgan State University to fund the design and construction of the new Science Center. 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 SEIF;
 - (b) \$9,000,000 in special funds from the energy efficiency, all other sectors distribution of the SEIF is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions for Higher Education for R30B24 Towson University to fund the construction and capital equipping of the demolition, renovation, and reconstruction of Smith Hall for the College of Fine Arts and Communication. 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 SEIF;
 - (c) \$5,000,000 in special funds from the energy efficiency, all other sectors distribution of the SEIF is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions for Higher Education for R30B21

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University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus to fund the construction of a new School of Social Work building. 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 SEIF; and

- (d) \$4,000,000 in special funds from the energy efficiency, all other sectors distribution of the SEIF is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions for Higher Education for R30B22 University of Maryland, College Park Campus to fund the construction and capital equipping of the new interdisciplinary engineering building – Zupnik Hall. 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 SEIF;
- (3) \$17,139,584 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program A15000.01 Disparity Grants within Payments to Civil Divisions of the State for the purpose of increasing the maximum amount of uncapped disparity grants local jurisdictions can receive from 75% to 90%, to be added as follows:
 - (a) \$11,377,893 for Prince George’s County;
 - (b) \$2,700,591 for Wicomico County;
 - (c) \$1,450,347 for Somerset County;
 - (d) \$831,802 for Dorchester County; and
 - (e) \$778,951 for Caroline County.

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) \$15,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements – Medical Care Programs Administration within MDH for the purpose of provider reimbursements in Medicaid. 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) \$10,000,000 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 for the purpose of providing funding to the University of Maryland Enterprise Corporation for quantum. 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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- (6) \$10,000,000 in special funds from the Expedited Service Fund is added to the appropriation for program E50C00.01 Office of the Director within the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) for the purpose of general operating expenses contingent on the enactment of HB 352 or SB 321 expanding the allowable use of expedited service fees collected by SDAT to include general operating costs. Funds for this added purpose may be transferred across programs within SDAT for the same purpose. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;
- (7) \$6,622,088 in special funds from the Transportation Trust Fund is added to the appropriation for program J00A01.03 Facilities and Capital Equipment - The Secretary's Office within the Maryland Department of Transportation, The Secretary's Office for the purpose of providing equal grants to Montgomery County and Prince George's County to improve pedestrian and bicycle access to Purple Line stations. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;
- (8) \$5,000,000 in special funds from the Safe Schools Fund is added to the appropriation for program R00A06.02 Maryland Center for School Safety – Grants within the Maryland Center for School Safety for the purpose of funding the School Resource Officer 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 Safe Schools Fund;
- (9) \$4,700,000 in general funds and \$4,700,000 in federal funds is added to the appropriation for N00I00.04 Director's Office within the Family Investment Administration within the Department of Human Services to be used for administrative expenses for the federal SUN Bucks 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 or be canceled;
- (10) \$3,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00L01.02 Community Services within the Behavioral Health Administration within MDH for the purpose of addressing pediatric hospital overstays. 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) \$2,200,000 in general funds and 9.0 regular positions are added to the appropriation for program F10A02.08 Statewide Expenses within the Department of Budget and Management for the purpose of transferring funds and 9 regular positions to a new department created by HB 1253, contingent on the enactment of HB 1253 establishing the department. Funds for this added purpose may be transferred to the new department for the same purposes. 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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- (12) \$2,000,000 in special funds from the Cigarette Restitution Fund is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within MDH for the purpose of funding Statewide Academic Health Center Cancer Research Grants. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;
- (13) \$1,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program C81C00.01 Legal Counsel and Advice within the Office of the Attorney General for the purpose of supporting operations. Funds may be transferred within the Office of Attorney General for the purpose of supporting operations of the Office. 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) \$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 providing funding to the 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;
- (15) \$1,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to Living Classrooms Foundation, Inc. to support Baltimore's Sail 250. 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) \$1,295,435 in general funds and 11.0 regular positions are added within the Comptroller of Maryland for the following uses:
- (a) \$1,000,000 to the appropriation for program E00A05.01 Compliance Administration for the purpose of 8.0 auditor positions to establish a high value audit team to complete complex business audits;
 - (b) \$195,849 to the appropriation for program E00A01.02 Financial and Support Services for the purpose of 1.0 human resources specialist trainee position in the Office of Human Resources and 1.0 administrator position in the Office of Equity and Transformation; and
 - (c) \$99,586 to the appropriation for program E00A08.01 Office of Policy, Public Works and Investment, The Office of Public Engagement and Communications, General Accounting for the purpose of 1.0 research statistician position.

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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;

- (17) \$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 and Policy 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;
- (18) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program J00D00.01 Port Operations within the Maryland Port Administration within the Maryland Department of Transportation for the purpose of providing a grant to Baltimore Operation Sail, Ltd., also known as Sail Baltimore, for maintenance dredging in the Baltimore Harbor, including tipping fees for the placement of dredged material, in preparation for Sail250. 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) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D40W01.07 Management Planning and Educational Outreach within the Department of Planning for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Center for History and Culture. 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;
- (20) \$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 for the purpose of providing a grant to The Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. Center for Education, Justice and Ethics. 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) \$300,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R62I00.05 within the Senator John A. Cade Funding Formula for the Distribution of Funds to Community Colleges within the Maryland Higher Education Commission for the purpose of funding additional funding for the College of Southern Maryland. 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) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program C00A00.10 Clerks of the Circuit Court within the Judiciary for the purpose of funding to support additional staffing for the Baltimore City Circuit Court. 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) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the fiscal 2026 appropriation for program

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- D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works (BPW) for the purpose of providing a grant to the City of Hagerstown for the Hagerstown Public Safety Project Feasibility Study. 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) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program C81C00.05 Consumer Protection Division within the Office of the Attorney General for the purpose of ticket scalping investigations and enforcement. 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) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program Y01A02.01 Dedicated Purpose Account within the State Reserve Fund for the purpose of providing funds to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation to conduct an economic and land use study for Greater Bladensburg. 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
- (26) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00L01.02 Community Services within the Behavioral Health Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of a grant to Hygea Healthcare to support operations of the Middle River 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.;
- (27) *\$3,000,000 in special funds from the Transportation Trust Fund is added to the appropriation for program J00A01.03 Facilities and Capital Equipment within the Maryland Department of Transportation, The Secretary's Office for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation for the dredge material placement costs associated with the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;*
- (28) *\$1,125,000 in special funds from the Program Open Space State allocation provided to Baltimore City is added to the fiscal 2026 appropriation for program K00A05.10 Outdoor Recreation Land Loan within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the purpose of providing a grant to Baltimore City Recreation and Parks for the Clifton Park project. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;*
- (29) *\$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children for the purpose of providing an operating grant to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Maryland to expand services. Funds not expended for this added*

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

- (30) \$326,456 in general funds is added to the fiscal 2026 appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works (BPW) for the purpose of providing a grant to the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Art and Culture for the Artscape Festival. 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) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program N00I00.07 Office of Grants Management within the Family Investment Administration within the Department of Human Services for the purpose of a grant to the Maryland Community Action Partnership to provide a match for the Community Services Block Grant to support a two-generation model of service delivery. 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) \$250,000 in special funds from the Transportation Trust Fund is added to the appropriation for program J00A01.02 Operating Grants-In-Aid within The Secretary's Office within the Maryland Department of Transportation for the purpose of providing a grant to The Associated Jewish Federation of Baltimore to develop a pilot project to increase transportation opportunities for K-12 students not already being bused by public school systems. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;
- (33) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program P00G01.07 Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Maryland Department of Labor for the purpose of providing a grant to Dwyer Workforce Development to support healthcare workforce training. 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) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A01.01 Office of the State Superintendent within Headquarters within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of establishing a pilot program for commercial driver's license education and licensing as part of the State's career and technical education curriculum. 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) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation to support operating expenses for STEM centers. Funds not expended for

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

- (36) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of supporting the Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies 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;
- (37) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the fiscal 2026 appropriation for program K00A04.01 Statewide Operations within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the purpose of funding the Deep Creek Lake Mechanical Harvester 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;
- (38) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00R01.01 Maryland Health Care Commission within the Health Regulatory Commissions within MDH for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Patient Safety Center. 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) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00G00.05 Maryland State Arts Council within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Merriweather Arts and Culture Center. Further provided that these added funds shall not be included in the fiscal 2027 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;
- (40) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Division of Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for a grant to Humanim for iHomes. 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) \$150,000 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 a grant to Roca, Inc. to expand services outside of Baltimore City. 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) \$150,000 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 facility assessment of the France-Merrick Performing Arts Center in

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Baltimore City. 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) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Autism Society of Maryland to expand 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;
- (44) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters within the Governor's Office for Crime Prevention and Policy for the purpose of providing an operating grant to Vehicles for Change Inc. to provide training in automotive repair to formerly incarcerated individuals. 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) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00F00.04 Office of Business Development within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Minority Business Economic Council to support MBE Night in Annapolis. 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) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program W00A01.01 Office of the Superintendent within the Department of State Police for the purpose of providing an operating grant to the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association for professional development. 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) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the fiscal 2026 appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works (BPW) for the purpose of providing a grant to Parks & People. 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) \$100,000 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 providing funds for the StarTUp at the Armory. 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) \$100,000 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,

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College Park for the purpose of providing a grant to the TerpsEXCEED 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;

- (50) \$100,000 in special funds from the Uninsured Employers' Fund is added to the appropriation for program C98F00.01 General Administration within the Workers' Compensation Commission for the purpose of a special monitor contingent on the enactment of SB 219 or HB 193 requiring the Workers' Compensation Commission to designate a special monitor to assess the financial condition of the Uninsured Employers' 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 special fund or be canceled;
- (51) \$65,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Assateague Coastal Trust Coast Kids program for educational programming. 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) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of a grant to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Washington, D.C. for the Built by Love Impact 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;
- (53) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Bright Minds Foundation for educational programming. 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) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program J00H01.06 Statewide Programs Operations within the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) within the Maryland Department of Transportation for the purpose of a grant to the Maryland Senior Rides Program within Transportation Association of Maryland, which provides transportation services for low- and moderate-income seniors throughout 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; and
- (55) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R13M00 Morgan State

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University for the purpose of supporting the Center for Equitable Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Systems for the purpose of completing an Artificial Intelligence needs assessment for the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and provide assistance to MSDE on a task force related to artificial intelligence in K-12 education. 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 funds added to the fiscal 2026 allowance.

Amendment No.

61

Add the following section:

Section 22 Executive Long-term Forecast

SECTION 22. 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 four 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 it is to be provided.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Executive forecasts	Department of Budget and Management	With submission of the Governor’s Fiscal 2027 Budget Books

Add the following section:

Section 23 Across-the-board Reductions and Higher Education

SECTION 23. 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

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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.

Add the following section:

Section 24 Reporting Federal Funds

SECTION 24. 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 2027 Budget Books

Add the following section:

Section 25 Federal Fund Spending

SECTION 25. 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

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budgetary and accounting procedures established for the administration of all public funds.

- (2) For fiscal 2026, 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.

Add the following section:

Section 26 Reporting on Budget Data and Organizational Charts

SECTION 26. 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 units included in the State budget, including the Judiciary, shall prepare and submit items for the fiscal 2027 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 2026 except as indicated elsewhere in this Act; however, this may not preclude the placement of additional information into the budget books. For actual fiscal 2025 spending, the fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2027 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 2025 spending, the fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2027 allowance. The agencies shall exercise due diligence in reporting this data and ensuring correspondence between reported position and expenditure data for the actual, current,

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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 2027 Budget Bill affecting fiscal 2026 or 2027, 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, 2025, 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 2025, 2026, and 2027 budget data and provides for the submission of department, unit, agency, office, and 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 2027 Budget Books
List of subprograms	DBM	September 1, 2025

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Add the following section:

Section 27 Interagency Agreements

SECTION 27. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before August 1, 2025, 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 2025 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;
- (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

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- (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, 2025, 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 2025.

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 2026 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 2026 without prior approval of the Secretary of Budget and Management.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Consolidated report on interagency agreements	DBM	December 1, 2025

Add the following section:

Section 28 Budget Amendments

SECTION 28. 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 and Policy 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).

Sections

- (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 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,

Sections

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 2026 appropriation detail as shown in the Governor’s budget books submitted to the General Assembly in January 2026 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 2027 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.
- (10) Further provided that budget amendments submitted for a fiscal year that has ended must be submitted to the budget committees no later than October 31 of the next fiscal year to be considered for approval.

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

Add the following section:

Section 29 Maintenance of Accounting Systems

SECTION 29. 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 2025 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 2025 to program R00A02.07 Students With Disabilities for nonpublic placements have been disbursed

Sections

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 2025 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 2025 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, 2025, and submitted on a monthly basis thereafter.
- (6) It is the intent of the General Assembly that general funds appropriated for fiscal 2025 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 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, 2025, and monthly thereafter

Add the following section:

Section 30 Positions Abolished in the Budget

SECTION 30. 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

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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.

Add the following section:

Section 31 Injured Workers' Insurance Fund Accounts

SECTION 31. 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.

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, 2025

Add the following section:

Section 32 The "Rule of 100"

SECTION 32. 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, 2025, 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

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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 two 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:

- (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, 2026, the status of positions created with non-State funding sources during fiscal 2023 through 2026 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 2023 through 2026	Department of Budget and Management	June 30, 2026

Add the following section:

Section 33 Annual Report on Authorized Positions

SECTION 33. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That immediately following the close of fiscal 2025, 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 2025 and on the first day of fiscal 2026. Authorized positions shall include all positions authorized by the General Assembly in the personnel detail of the budgets for fiscal 2025 and 2026, including

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nonbudgetary programs, the Maryland Transportation Authority, the University System of Maryland self-supported activities, and Maryland Correctional Enterprises. The Department of Budget and Management shall also prepare a report during fiscal 2026 for the budget committees upon creation of regular FTE positions through Board of Public Works action and upon transfer or abolition of positions. It shall note, at the program level:

- (1) where regular FTE positions have been abolished;
- (2) where regular FTE positions have been created;
- (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 2026 Budget Books shall also be provided.

Further provided that this report shall also be submitted as an appendix with the Governor's Fiscal 2027 Budget Books, and that the report shall provide information that is consistent with information in the individual agency pages of the Budget Books and with data provided to the Department of Legislative Services.

Explanation: This annual language provides reporting requirements for regular positions and contractual FTEs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Total number of FTEs on June 30, 2025, and July 1, 2025	Department of Budget and Management (DBM)	July 14, 2025
Report on the creation, transfer, or abolition of regular positions	DBM	With the Governor's fiscal 2027 budget submission and as needed

Add the following section:

Section 34 Annual Report on Health Insurance Receipts and Spending

SECTION 34. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Budget and Management shall include as an appendix in the Governor's Fiscal 2027 Budget Books an accounting of the fiscal 2025 actual, fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and fiscal 2027 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:

Sections

- (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 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 the submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2027 Budget Books

Add the following section:

Section 35 Out-of-home Placements Report

SECTION 35. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$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 the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) 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 October 15) of out-of-home placements and entries by jurisdiction, by agency, and by placement type for fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025;
- (2) the total number and one-day counts (as of October 15) of out-of-state placements, including the number of family home, community-based, and

Sections

noncommunity-based-out-of-state placements for fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 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 GOC 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, 2026, 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 required by Section 8-703(e) of the Human Services Article. It is also annually requested to be submitted to the budget committees. This report is a useful evaluative tool to assess the wellbeing 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Out-of-home placements report	GOC Department of Human Services Department of Juvenile Services Maryland Department of Health Maryland State Department of Education	January 1, 2026

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 36 Uniform Crime Report

SECTION 36. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation within the Department of State Police (DSP) may not be expended until DSP submits the Crime in Maryland, 2024 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, 2025, from local jurisdictions who provide the data for inclusion in the UCR, DSP shall notify the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP). 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 2026 upon receipt of notification from DSP. GOCPP 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 GOCPP shall submit a report to the budget committees indicating any jurisdiction from which crime data was not received by November 1, 2025, and the amount of SAPP funding from each jurisdiction.

Explanation: This 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. Though data contributors were able to provide the department with 2021 and 2022 crime data on time, there were delays in compiling the 2021 and 2022 UCRs due to the inability for all contributors to submit data in compliance with the new federal reporting system. The 2023 UCR was submitted in December 2024.

This language withholds a portion of the general fund appropriation until the budget committees receive the 2024 UCR. The language also specifies that GOCPP, 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 GOCPP must submit a report to the budget committees that includes information on any jurisdiction that did not report crime data by November 1, 2025, and the amount of SAPP funding that is withheld from each jurisdiction.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
2024 UCR data verification	DSP	November 1, 2025
2024 UCR	DSP	45 days prior to expenditure of funds

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 37 State Child Fatality Review Team

SECTION 37. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That ~~\$100,000~~\$250,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Department of Human Services (DHS) Social Services Administration and ~~\$100,000~~\$250,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Prevention and Health Promotion Administration may not be expended until MDH and DHS submit a joint report to the budget committees indicating that the State Child Fatality Review Team has met publicly, the dates of the meetings to discuss child fatalities, a summary of the meeting, and the anticipated date for release of the annual report. The report shall be submitted by November 15, 2025, 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.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in receiving updates on the State Child Fatality Review Team. This language withholds funds in DHS and MDH pending submission of a joint report detailing meetings of the State Child Fatality Review Team and the release of the annual report.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on meeting discussing child fatalities	DHS MDH	November 15, 2025

Amendment No.

62

Add the following section:

Section 38 Vacancy Savings

SECTION 38. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds appropriated for salary and fringe adjustments and other personnel expenses are hereby reduced by \$109,611,402 in general funds, \$18,629,276 in special funds, and \$11,291,406 in federal funds to account for vacant positions. Funding shall be reduced from within programs in the Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, and Judicial Branch agencies in Section 1 of this Act in accordance with a schedule determined by the Governor, the Presiding Officers, and the Chief Judge.

Explanation: The fiscal 2026 allowance assumes employee turnover of 7.26% on average across Executive Branch agencies, excluding higher education. Vacancies in the first half of fiscal 2025 have been 10% of the total position allotment on average. This action increases the average budgeted turnover rate to 9.50%.

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 39 Judiciary Merit Raises

SECTION 39. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funding provided for Judiciary employee merit raises is hereby decreased by ~~\$14,020,764~~\$13,020,764 in general funds and \$1,557,863 in special funds.

Explanation: Due to the fiscal condition of the State, and to be consistent with actions taken for other State employees, this action reduces the funding set aside for Judiciary employee merit raises.

Amendment No.

63

Add the following section:

Section 40 Supplemental Statewide Funding Reduction

SECTION 40. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That for fiscal year 2026, the general fund appropriations in Section 1 of this Act for the Executive Branch shall be reduced by \$97,000,000. This reduction may be allocated to any object or subobject of expenditure related to agency operations in accordance with a schedule determined by the Governor, except that the reduction shall not be applied to: (1) Debt Service; (2) K-12 Education; (3) the Maryland Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Administration; (4) the Department of Human Services Assistance Payments Program; or (5) Medical Assistance eligibility. The Department of Budget and Management shall submit detail on the allocation of these reductions by program, to the budget committees and the Department of Legislative Services by July 1, 2025.

Explanation: This action represents a placeholder for reductions expected in a Supplemental Budget No. 2.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reduction Detail	DBM	July 1, 2025

Add the following section:

Section 41 Reduce 151 New Positions

SECTION 41. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That 150.5 full-time equivalent new regular positions in the fiscal 2026 allowance shall be abolished. The Department of Budget and Management shall abolish these positions in a schedule which excludes the following:

Sections

- (1) new positions recommended for reduction by the Department of Legislative Services;
- (2) 44.0 positions transferred from the Maryland Transportation Authority to the Maryland Department of Transportation;
- (3) 92.0 new positions added to the Maryland Transit Administration for service reliability;
- (4) 78.0 new positions added to the Maryland Transit Administration Police for patrolling the Purple Line; and
- (5) 125.0 new positions added to the Maryland Department of Labor, Division of Unemployment Insurance.

Further provided that Statewide expenses are hereby reduced by \$11,542,125 in General Funds, \$3,114,453 in Special Funds, and \$1,867,925 in Federal Funds.

Explanation: This action requires that the Department of Budget and Management reduce 151 new positions added in a variety of State agencies in fiscal 2026. This action is expected to result in \$11.5 million in general fund cost saving in fiscal 2026. This action also reduces the structural deficit in future years by lowering base personnel costs.

Amendment No.

64

Technical Amendment

Budget Amendments

Sections

Amend the following language:

SECTION ~~19~~. ~~41~~. 42.

Explanation: Technical amendment to renumber sections.

Amend the following language:

SECTION ~~20~~. ~~42~~. 43.

Explanation: Technical amendment to renumber sections.

Amendment No.

65

C81C
Office of the Attorney General

Supplemental Budget No. 1

C81C00.01 Legal Counsel and Advice

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation shall be funded with special funds from the Mortgage Loan Servicing Practices Settlement Fund only contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the fund.

Explanation: This action requires the appropriation for Legal Counsel and Advice, C81C00.01, to be funded with special funds from the Mortgage Loan Servicing Practices Settlement Fund only and makes the appropriation contingent on language allowing the fund to be used for this purpose. As introduced, Supplemental No. 1 would have funded this appropriation with the Consumer Protection funds.

**C90G00
Public Service Commission**

Supplemental Budget No. 1

C90G00.08 Public Utility Law Judge

Delete the following language to the special fund appropriation:

~~**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**~~

~~**2. C90G00.08 Public Utility Law Judge**~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 8 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for two additional positions and operating expenses to support agency workload.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Public Utility Law Judge I Public Service Commission	1.00	90,852
Assistant General Counsel II, PSC	1.00	90,852
Fringe Benefits		83,966
Turnover Expectancy		<u>58,963</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		206,707
Object .04 Travel		14,244
Object .09 Supplies and Materials		3,534
Object .11 Equipment Additional		<u>3,534</u>
		228,019
Special Fund Appropriation		228,019

Explanation: Delete 2.0 new positions and associated funding provided in Supplemental Budget No.1. The Public Service Commission has 33 vacant positions as of December 31, 2024. The roles for the new positions can be filled by reclassifying existing vacant positions.

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

Supplemental Budget No. 1

D13A13.08 Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation for local government clean energy projects is contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the use of Alternative Compliance Payment revenues in the Strategic Energy Investment Fund in fiscal 2026 only.

Explanation: Supplemental Budget No. 1 provides \$50.0 million for local government clean energy projects. Under current law, these funds must be used to directly benefit low- and moderate-income communities or households, overburdened communities, or underserved communities. This action makes the appropriation contingent on legislation authorizing the expanded use of funds.

D15A05
Boards, Commissions, and Offices

Supplemental Budget No. 1

D15A05.05 Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT – BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND OFFICES

6. D15A05.05 Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 13 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide additional resources to the Office of Immigrant Affairs.

Personnel Detail:

Administrator IV	3.00	289,599
Administrator VII	2.00	234,406
Fringe Benefits		230,703
Turnover		-188,677
Reclassifications		<u>110,250</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		676,281
Object .04 Travel		100,000
Object .08 Contractual Services		85,000
Object .09 Supplies and Materials		9,250
Object .11 Additional Equipment		17,500
Object .12 Grants, Subsidies and Contributions		<u>350,000</u>
		1,238,031
		<u>561,750</u>

General Fund Appropriation	1,238,031
	<u>561,750</u>

Explanation: Delete 5.0 new positions and associated funding provided in Supplemental Budget No.1. The Boards, Commissions, and Offices has 5 vacant positions as of December 31, 2024. The roles for the new positions can be filled by reclassifying existing vacant positions.

Amendment No.

66

**D40W01
Department of Planning**

Supplemental Budget No. 1 – Fiscal 2025 Deficiency

D40W01.04 Planning Coordination

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

~~DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING~~

20. ~~D40W01.04~~ — ~~Planning Coordination~~

~~To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to supplement the appropriation for fiscal year 2025 to provide funds for two positions to support the work of CH 213 of 2024 and the Permitting Council.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Administrator IV	1.00	95,533
GIS Analyst Lead/Advanced	1.00	74,727
Fringe Benefits		50,470
Turnover		188,471
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		33,259

~~General Fund Appropriation~~ ~~33,259~~

Explanation: This action deletes new positions and associated funding provided in Supplemental Budget No. 1. The agency has sufficient vacancies to fill these roles.

D40W01.04 Planning Coordination

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

21. ~~D40W01.04~~ — ~~Planning Coordination~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 22 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for two positions to support the work of CH 213 of 2024 and the Permitting Council.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Administrator IV	1.00	95,533
GIS Analyst Lead/Advanced	1.00	74,727
Fringe Benefits		80,856
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		252,116

D40W01

~~General Fund Appropriation~~

252,116

Explanation: This action deletes new positions and associated funding provided in Supplemental Budget No. 1. The agency has sufficient vacancies to fill these roles.

M00A01
Office of the Secretary
Maryland Department of Health

Supplemental Budget No. 1

D76A01.01 Maryland Office of the Inspector General for Health

Strike the following language:

~~**MARYLAND OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR HEALTH**~~

~~**28. D76A01.01 Maryland Office of the Inspector General for Health**~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 26 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to support contractual conversions.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Internal Auditor I	1.00	62,752
Administrative Officer III	1.00	68,943
Clinical Pharmacist	2.00	168,458
Fringe Benefits		149,088
Turnover Expectancy		<u>502</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		449,743
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		-449,743
General Fund Appropriation		0
Federal Fund Appropriation		0

Explanation: Supplemental Budget No. 1 adds 4.0 new positions to the Office of the Inspector General for Health through contractual conversion. However, the Executive Department carries a sufficient number of vacancies that could be repurposed to fill these roles. This action deletes the 4.0 new positions.

H00
Department of General Services

Supplemental Budget No. 1

H00H01.03 Miscellaneous Grants – Capital Appropriation

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$15,000,000 of this appropriation for the purpose of funding the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project shall be used to provide a grant to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation for the dredge material placement costs associated with the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project. 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 language directs funds appropriated for the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project be provided as a grant to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation.*

Amendment No.

67

H00H01.03 Miscellaneous Grants – Capital Appropriation

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation for the purpose of funding the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project shall be used to provide a grant to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation for the dredge material placement costs associated with the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project. 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 language directs funds appropriated for the Tradepoint Atlantic Sparrows Point Container Terminal project be provided as a grant to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation.*

Amendment No.

68

H00

H00H01.03 Miscellaneous Grants – Capital Appropriation

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

45. H00H01.03 Miscellaneous Grants – Capital Appropriation

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 45 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds realigned from the Dedicated Purpose Account for the Hagerstown Public Safety Project Feasibility Study.

Object .12 Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	250,000	<u>0</u>
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Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete general funds provided in Supplemental Budget No.1 that realigned funds from the Dedicated Purpose Account for the Hagerstown Public Safety Project Feasibility Study to Miscellaneous Grants under the Department of General Services.	-250,000	GF

Explanation: Supplemental Budget No. 1 realigned the funding to the Department of General Services – Miscellaneous Grants – Capital Appropriation. However, the funding is not capital eligible. A separate action realigns the funding to the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to the City of Hagerstown for the Hagerstown Public Safety Project Feasibility Study.

Total Change	-250,000	0.00
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<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	2,750,000	2,500,000	-250,000	
Total Funds	2,750,000	2,500,000	-250,000	

J00A01
The Secretary's Office
Maryland Department of Transportation

Supplemental Budget No. 1

J00A01.03 Facilities and Capital Equipment

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation for the purpose of implementation of the State's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan is contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the use of Alternative Compliance Payment revenues in the Strategic Energy Investment Fund in fiscal 2026 only.

Explanation: This action makes the special fund appropriation in Supplemental No. 1 for solar energy projects contingent on legislation authorizing the expanded use of the funds.

L00A
Department of Agriculture

Supplemental Budget No. 1

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

L00A11.03 Central Services

Strike the following language to the general fund appropriation:

~~49. L00A11.03—Central Services~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 63 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for a contractual conversion.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Office Clerk II	1.00	38,300
Fringe Benefits		26,323
Turnover Expectancy		11,545
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		53,078
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		53,078
		0

~~General Fund Appropriation~~ ~~0~~

Explanation: This action deletes a contractual conversion in Supplemental Budget No. 1. A position can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

OFFICE OF MARKETING, ANIMAL INDUSTRIES, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

L00A12.05 Animal Health

Strike the following language to the special fund appropriation:

~~50. L00A12.05—Animal Health~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 64 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for a contractual conversion.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Office Secy I	1.00	45,276
Fringe Benefits		28,403
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		73,679
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		39,611

L00A

~~-34,068~~

~~Special Fund Appropriation~~

34,068

Explanation: This action deletes a contractual conversion in Supplemental Budget No. 1. A position can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

L00A12.08 Maryland Horse Industry Board

Strike the following language to the special fund appropriation:

51. L00A12.08 — Maryland Horse Industry Board

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 64 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for a contractual conversion.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Agric Marketing Spec III	1.00	63,258
Fringe Benefits		33,761
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		97,019
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		61,566
		-35,453

~~Special Fund Appropriation~~

35,453

Explanation: This action deletes a contractual conversion in Supplemental Budget No. 1. A position can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

OFFICE OF PLANT INDUSTRIES AND PEST MANAGEMENT

L00A14.02 Forest Pest Management

Strike the following language to the general fund and special fund appropriations:

53. L00A14.02 — Forest Pest Management

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 66 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for four contractual conversions.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Agricultural Inspector I	4.00	169,739
Fringe Benefits		110,223

L00A

Turnover Expectancy	<u>27,397</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits	<u>252,565</u>
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees	<u>214,358</u>
	<u>38,207</u>

General Fund Appropriation	<u>0</u>
Special Fund Appropriation	<u>-38,207</u>

Explanation: This action deletes 4.0 contractual conversions in Supplemental Budget No. 1. Positions can be reallocated from existing vacancies for these roles.

L00A14.05 Plant Protection and Weed Management

Strike the following language to the special fund and federal fund appropriations:

~~54. L00A14.05 Plant Protection and Weed Management~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 66 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for three contractual conversions:~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Agricultural Inspector III	1.00	52,414
Agricultural Inspector II	1.00	49,270
Office Secy I	1.00	37,271
Fringe Benefits		86,138
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		225,093
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		187,262
		37,831

Special Fund Appropriation	13,243
Federal Fund Appropriation	24,588

Explanation: This action deletes 3.0 contractual conversions in Supplemental Budget No. 1. Positions can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

L00A

L00A14.09 State Chemist

Strike the following language to the special fund appropriation:

~~55. L00A14.09 State Chemist~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 66 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for a contractual conversion:~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Office Clerk II	1.00	36,093
Fringe Benefits		25,666
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		61,759

Special Fund Appropriation	61,759
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Explanation: This action deletes a contractual conversion in Supplemental Budget No. 1. A position can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

P00
Maryland Department of Labor

Supplemental Budget No. 1

Amend the following language:

85. P00G01.07 Workforce Development

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 91 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds realigned from the Dedicated Purpose Account for the Office of Strategic Initiatives.

Personnel Detail:

Prgrm Mgr	6.00	526,344
Administrator IV	1.00	87,724
Administrator V	1.00	93,648
Fringe Benefits		271,769
Turnover		-244,871
Reclassification		<u>265,386</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		1,000,000
General Fund Appropriation		1,000,000

Explanation: This action deletes 8 new positions added in Supplemental Budget No. 1 for the Office of Strategic Initiative but retains the funding provided. The Maryland Department of Labor has sufficient existing vacant positions that can be reclassified to serve these roles.

P00G01.15 Cyber Maryland Program

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 92 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds realigned from the Dedicated Purpose Account for the Cyber Workforce Grants and Baltimore Cyber Range.

Object .12 Grants, Subsidies and Contributions.....	3,300,000
	<u>1,300,000</u>
	<u>3,300,000</u>

Explanation: This action is technical to implement the recommendation.

P00

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funds for Cyber Workforce Grants due to the State's fiscal condition and the availability of other funds for this purpose. This action leaves funds added in this item for the Baltimore Cyber Range.	-2,000,000	GF
Total Change	-2,000,000 0	

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	3,300,000	-1,300,000 3,300,000	-2,000,000 0	
Total Funds	3,300,000	1,300,000 3,300,000	2,000,000 0	

Amendment No. **69**

Amend the following language:

88. P00H01.01 Office of Unemployment Insurance

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 92 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide additional capacity in anticipation of a surge in unemployment claims due to anticipated layoffs of federal employees and contractors.

Personnel Detail:

UI Professional II	15.00	773,640
Fringe Benefits		<u>364,440</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		1,138,080
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		1,016,756
Object .08 Contractual Services		<u>1,835,500</u>
		3,990,336
General Fund Appropriation		3,990,336

Explanation: This action deletes 15 new positions added in Supplemental Budget No. 1 for the Office of Unemployment Insurance. This action leaves the funding which would have supported the new positions, which can be used to support contractual full-time equivalent positions as well as contractual services. In addition, if regular positions are needed, existing vacancies can be reclassified to serve these roles.

R00A01
Headquarters
Maryland State Department of Education

Supplemental Budget No. 1

Amend the following language:

95. R00A01.03 Office of the Deputy for Teaching and Learning

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 102 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for contractual conversions and position realignments.

Personnel Detail:

Fiscal Services Administrator	5.00	479,955
Program Manager Senior IV	1.00	116,548
Program Manager Senior II	1.00	102,426
Staff Specialist III Education	1.00	69,323
Fringe Benefits		348,218
Turnover Expectancy		-213,794
Object .01 Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits		902,676
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		-605,423
		297,253
General Fund Appropriation		297,658
Special Fund Appropriation		106,051
Federal Fund Appropriation		-106,456

Explanation: This action deletes 8 new positions added in Supplemental Budget No. 1 for the Office of the Deputy for Teaching and Learning but retains the funding provided. The Maryland State Department of Education has sufficient existing vacant positions that can be reclassified to serve these roles.

R00A01.04 Division of Early Childhood

Amend the following language:

96. R00A01.04 Division of Early Childhood

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 102 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for contractual conversions and position realignments.

Personnel Detail:

Fiscal Services Administrator V	1.00	95,991
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R00A01

Fringe Benefits	<u>43,515</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits	139,506

Federal Fund Appropriation	139,506
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Explanation: This action deletes 1 new position added in Supplemental Budget No. 1 for the Division of Early Childhood but retains the funding provided. The Maryland State Department of Education has sufficient existing vacant positions that can be reclassified to serve these roles.

Amend the following language:

97. R00A01.05 Office of the Deputy for Organizational Effectiveness

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 102 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for contractual conversions and position realignments.

Personnel Detail:

Fiscal Services Administrator V	1.00	95,991
Program Manager Senior I	1.00	95,991
Fiscal Accounts Technician Supervisor	1.00	53,808
Program Manager I	-1.00	-104,126
Program Senior Management Senior II	1.00	136,040
Education Program Specialist	1.00	123,179
HR Specialist	1.00	53,808
Fringe Benefits		<u>210,047</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits		664,738
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		<u>-534,856</u>
		129,882

Special Fund Appropriation	-106,051
Federal Fund Appropriation	235,933

Explanation: This action deletes 3 new positions added in Supplemental Budget No. 1 for the Office of the Deputy for Organizational Effectiveness but retains the funding provided. The Maryland State Department of Education has sufficient existing vacant positions that can be reclassified to serve these roles.

Amend the following language:

98. R00A01.06 Office of the Deputy for Operations

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 102 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for contractual conversions and position realignments.

R00A01

Personnel Detail:

Administrative Manager Senior III	-1.00	109,247
Program Manager I	1.00	104,126
Program Senior Management Senior II	-1.00	-136,040
Education Program Specialist	-1.00	-104,126
HR Specialist	-1.00	-53,808
Fringe Benefits		-44,607
Turnover Expectancy		<u>-35,451</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages, and Fringe Benefits		-179,712
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		<u>-77,116</u>
		-256,828
General Fund Appropriation		121,261
Federal Fund Appropriation		-378,089

Explanation: This action deletes 1 new position added in Supplemental Budget No. 1 for the Office of the Deputy for Operations but retains the funding provided. The Maryland State Department of Education has sufficient existing vacant positions that can be reclassified to serve these roles.

R00A03
Funding for Educational Organizations
Maryland State Department of Education

Supplemental Budget No. 1

R00A03.07 Non-Public School Health and Security

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that this appropriation shall be funded with special funds from the Cigarette Restitution Fund only.

Explanation: This action requires the appropriation for the Nonpublic School Health and Security Program, R00A03.07, to be funded with special funds from the Cigarette Restitution Fund only.

T00
Department of Commerce

Supplemental Budget No. 1

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

T00A00.08 Division of Administration and Technology

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

121. T00A00.08 Division of Administration and Technology

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 135 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for IT system improvements, realigned from the Dedicated Purpose Account.

Object .08 Contractual Services 800,000
0

Explanation: This action is technical.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funds realigned for Economic Agenda Information Technology Investments (IT) Investments allocated for a customer management system and other IT tools in the Department of Commerce.	-800,000	GF	
Total Change	-800,000		0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	800,000	0	-800,000	
Total Funds	800,000	0	-800,000	

T00

DIVISION OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

T00F00.01 Managing Director of Business and Industry Sector Development

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

123. T00F00.01 Managing Director of Business and Industry Sector Development

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 136 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation to support the Certified Sites Program, realigned from the Dedicated Purpose Account.

Object .12 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions	7,000,000	
	<u>3,500,000</u>	

Explanation: This action is technical.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funds realigned from the Dedicated Purpose Account for the Certified Sites Program due to the State’s fiscal condition. This action leaves \$3.5 million for this program.	-3,500,000	GF
 Total Change	 -4,500,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	17,292,500	12,792,500	-4,500,000	
Total Funds	17,292,500	12,792,500	-4,500,000	

T00

Amend appropriation for the purpose indicated:

124. T00F00.01 Managing Director of Business and Industry Sector Development

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 136 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation to support the Strategic Infrastructure Revolving Fund, realigned from the Dedicated Purpose Account.

Object .14 Land and Structures10,000,000
9,000,000

Explanation: This action is technical.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Reduce funds realigned from the Dedicated Purpose Account for the Strategic Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund.</i>	-1,000,000	GF
 <i>Total Change</i>	 -3,500,000	 -4,500,000

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
<i>General Fund</i>	17,292,500	-13,792,500	-3,500,000	
		12,792,500	-4,500,000	
<i>Total Funds</i>	17,292,500	13,792,500	3,500,000	
		12,792,500	-4,500,000	

Amendment No.

70

M00L
Behavioral Health Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Supplemental Budget No. 1

M00L01.02 Community Services

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Amendment No. 3:

On page 74, in line 33, after “Physicians” insert “, further provided that \$2,430,383 of this appropriation is contingent upon the enactment of HB 352 or SB 321 of 2025 allowing the use of Opioid Restitution Funds for this purpose”.

Explanation: This modification is a technical amendment to clarify the provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025 upon which the appropriation is contingent.

M00M
Developmental Disabilities Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Supplemental Budget No. 1

Amend the following language:

Amendment No. 4

On page 77, in line 9, strike beginning with “Further” through “Program” in line 13 and in line ~~15~~21 strike beginning with “, provided” “Further” through “Program.” in line ~~20~~25.

Explanation: This action makes a technical change to correct the line references to strike the correct contingent language.