
Education, Business and Administration Subcommittee

Additional Pages

March 2026

D73
Office of the Inspector General for Education

Committee Narrative

D73A01.01 Office of the Inspector General

Adopt the following narrative:

Report on Local Cooperation with the Office of the Inspector General for Education: The number of complaints received by the Office of the Inspector General for Education (OIGE) has increased by approximately 43%, from 407 in calendar 2024 to 583 in calendar 2025. The office has indicated that some investigations have been delayed due to challenges obtaining records from certain local education agencies (LEA). In some cases, LEAs require OIGE to obtain subpoenas before providing records. In other cases, records provided were incomplete or did not correspond to the requested documents, requiring additional subpoenas and extending investigation timelines. The committees request that OIGE submit a report identifying the LEAs that required subpoenas for the release of records and describing the factors that contributed to delays in obtaining requested information for cases in calendar 2025 and 2026 year to date.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on LEAs requiring subpoenas for record requests	OIGE	August 1, 2026

F50
Department of Information Technology

Budget Amendment

F50A01.01 Information Technology Investment Fund

Technical Correction to a Department of Legislative Services Recommendation

	<u>Amount Change</u>	
2. Delete general funds for the Maryland Department of Health Medicaid Pharmacy Benefits Electronic Claims System Major Information Technology Development Project and authorize a budget amendment to be processed to replace these funds with federal funds to account for the expected 90% federal fund match for this project. This action will delete general funds in the Information Technology Investment Fund for this project and authorize a budget amendment to be processed to replace these funds with federal funds.	-1,250,000	GF
Total Change	-1,250,000	

F50
Department of Information Technology

Committee Narrative

F50B04.01 State Chief of Information Technology

Add the following narrative:

Report on Agency Artificial Intelligence (AI) Utilization: The committees are interested in understanding how each Executive Branch agency uses AI and mitigates risks or challenges associated with AI use. The committees request the Department of Information Technology (DoIT), in coordination with each Executive Branch agency, submit a report on the utilization of artificial intelligence (AI) by each Executive Branch agency. Each Executive Branch agency shall submit a report to DoIT by October 1, 2026, and DoIT shall submit one report that provides a summary of the information for all agencies. Each agency report to DoIT shall include:

- a description of how the agency is using or piloting AI to improve service delivery, operational efficiency, or public outcomes and
- a description of how the agency is identifying and addressing risks or challenges associated with AI use, including impacts on residents.

It is the intent of the budget committees that the report also be submitted to the Governor and the Joint Committee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Biotechnology.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Agency AI Utilization	DoIT	December 1, 2026

F50
Department of Information Technology

Budget Amendment

F50B04.01 State Chief of Information Technology

Add the following section:

Section XX Artificial Intelligence Implementation

SECTION XX. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) and \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Department of General Services (DGS) may not be expended until DoIT and DGS submit a joint report to the budget committees on artificial intelligence (AI). The report shall include:

- (1) an update on the efforts the State has taken to implement AI statewide in accordance with the State's enablement strategy;
- (2) details on how DoIT prioritizes and focuses on the effective use of AI;
- (3) details on the findings of the AI study roadmap, including the timeline and plans to implement the findings;
- (4) details on the development and implementation of competitive proof of concept procurement for AI systems;
- (5) details on the procurement of systems that employ AI; and
- (6) an update on the regular impact assessments of AI systems.

DoIT, in collaboration with DGS, shall submit the report to the budget committees by November 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: In accordance with Chapter 496 of 2024, DoIT published the State's AI enablement strategy and AI study roadmap. Among other provisions, Chapter 496 also requires DoIT to develop and implement competitive proof of concept procurement for AI systems and conduct regular impact assessments of AI systems. This language restricts funds pending submission of a joint report on AI implementation and procurement and impact assessments of AI systems.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on AI implementation

DoIT
DGS

November 1, 2026

R00A01
Headquarters
State Department of Education

Committee Narrative

R00A01.01 Office of the State Superintendent

Adopt the following narrative:

Free Driver Education Implementation Plan: The committees request that the Maryland State Department of Education submit an implementation plan by September 1, 2026, describing how local education agencies (LEA) can implement free driver education classes to students enrolled in Career and Technical Education programming for which driver’s licenses are relevant and for students seeking jobs that require a driver’s license for employment. The plan should also discuss the resources needed to provide free driver education for the aforementioned student groups, including estimated annual cost per student. The plan should also provide an estimated timeline for implementing the program and recommend statutory or regulatory changes necessary to address barriers to students securing drivers licenses, such as licensing timelines and instructor qualifications. Finally, the plan should describe lessons learned from implementation of a free driver education pilot in Baltimore City and explain how these lessons will be incorporated into implementation in other LEAs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Free driver education implementation plan	Maryland State Department of Education	September 1, 2026

R00A01
Headquarters
State Department of Education

Committee Narrative

R00A01.06 Office of Finance and Operations

Adopt the following narrative:

Report on Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Qualifications: The committees request that the Maryland State Department of Education submit a report by August 1, 2026, with information from all local education agencies on the educational and professional qualifications of each of their CFOs and the job training and professional development provided to them. The description of job training and professional development for CFOs should include the number of days of training and brief summaries of the information covered.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on CFO qualifications	Maryland State Department of Education	August 1, 2026
	Local Education Agencies	

R00A02
Aid to Education
Maryland State Department of Education

Committee Narrative

Report on Enrollment and Counts for Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Programs: The committees request a report by October 1, 2026, on Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) enrollment collection procedures for free and reduced-price meal (FRPM) students; the count of national board certification (NBC) eligible teachers in 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 2024-2025 or 2025-2026;
- count of teachers attempting NBC in school year 2026-2027; ~~and~~
- **count of school counselors who hold NBC in school counseling;**
- **count of school counselors who have enrolled in, registered for, or submitted at least one component of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards school counseling certification process during school year 2024-2025 or 2025-2026; and**
- steps taken by MSDE and LEAs to encourage NBC ~~teachers~~ **staff** to move to low-performing schools.

For CCR student counts, this report and data should include projected CCR counts and funding from fiscal 2028 through 2031 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, 2026

R00A02
Aid to Education
Maryland State Department of Education

Budget Amendment

R00A02.55 Teacher Development

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that public school counselors with National Board Certifications (NBC) receive salary increases equal to those received by public school teachers with NBC.

Explanation: This language expresses the intent of the General Assembly that public school counselors with NBC are subject to the same salary increase schedule as public school teachers.

R00A99
Division of Early Childhood
Maryland State Department of Education

Committee Narrative

R00A01.04 Division of Early Childhood

Adopt the following narrative:

Data Collection for the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Support Services (IECMHSS) Program: Until fiscal 2025, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) contracted with the University of Maryland School of Social Work to collect statewide data on the IECMHSS Program. The data included information on the demographics of children served, consultations with child care staff and parents or caregivers, program locations, outcomes related to behavioral health, and consultant demographics and salaries. These data were compiled into reports for MSDE and shared with the General Assembly and stakeholders to support program monitoring and quality improvement. MSDE did not renew this contract in fiscal 2025. Although some data are currently collected by the nine IECMHSS programs, the data is not collected consistently across the State and is not reported publicly. The committees request that MSDE submit a report describing how the department is currently collecting these data and include statewide information on the program data previously collected under the contract with the University of Maryland School of Social Work.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on IECMHSS Program data collection	MSDE	August 1, 2026

R30B22
University of Maryland, College Park Campus
University System of Maryland

Budget Amendment

R30B22.00 University of Maryland, College Park Campus

Add the following language to the unrestricted fund appropriation:

Further provided that this appropriation made for the purpose of funding the State's Consumer Health Information Hub at the Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy shall be reduced by \$350,000.

Explanation: Chapter 679 of 2022 mandated funding of the Consumer Health Information Hub at the Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy from fiscal 2022 through 2026. Though the mandate ended, funding was inadvertently included in the University of Maryland, College Park's appropriation for this hub.

R75T
Higher Education

Budget Amendment

R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that this appropriation for R30B22 University of Maryland, College Park for the purpose of funding the State's Consumer Health Information Hub at the Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy shall be reduced by \$350,000.

Explanation: Chapter 679 of 2022 mandated funding of the Consumer Health Information Hub at the Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy from fiscal 2022 through 2026. Funding was inadvertently included in the University of Maryland, College Park's appropriation for this hub.

R62I00.01
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Budget Language

R62I00.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provides that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation made for general administration may not be expended until the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) submits a report detailing for each fiscal 2020 through 2025, the appropriation and usage of funds for each grant, scholarship, and loan assistance repayment program administered by MHEC. The report should include, by program, the total appropriation; number of recipients, total amount of awards, program deficit or surplus, if the program had a deficit how the shortfall was covered and if a surplus if the funds were transferred to the Need-Based Student Financial Assistance Fund or another financial assistance program, and an explanation of all transfers of funds including whether transfers to other financial assistance programs occurred by budget amendment or other mechanism. This report shall be submitted by December 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 and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending a report from MHEC providing detailed financial information on each grant, scholarship, and loan assistance repayment program administered by MHEC.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on financial details of grant, scholarships and loan assistance repayment programs	MHEC	December 1, 2026

T00
Department of Commerce

Budget Amendment

T00A00.01 Office of the Secretary

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Department of Commerce submits a report to the budget committees on the utilization of the Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account program over the past five years, challenges in deploying the full appropriation, strategies that have been used to increase utilization and the outcome of these strategies, and recommendations for program modifications that could increase program utilization. The report shall be submitted by October 30, 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: The Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account (SMWOBA) and its fund managers have been unable to utilize the program’s full appropriation in recent years, leading to a significant balance in the account. The committees request that the Department of Commerce (Commerce) report on challenges in deploying the funds, what strategies have been tried to increase deployment of the funds, and recommendations for program modifications to increase program utilization.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on challenges in utilizing the SMWOBA and recommendations for program modifications	Commerce	October 30, 2026