

Decision Document

**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee
2026 Session**

C00A00
Judiciary

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Reduce \$250,000 in general funds for postage to align with fiscal 2025 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$250,000	GF	Concur.		
2. Reduce \$2,500,000 in general funds made for the purpose of District Court contractual employee salary increases to align with fiscal 2025 actual expenses.	-\$2,500,000	GF	Disagree – All contractual positions within the District Court are for bailiffs. The Judiciary has been providing annual salary increases to bailiffs, with previous appropriation levels being insufficient and requiring fund realignment to cover costs.		
3. Reduce \$200,000 in general funds made for the purpose of telephone expenses to align with fiscal 2025 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$200,000	GF	Concur.		
4. Reduce \$150,000 in general funds made for the purpose of District Court in-state and out-of-state travel to align with fiscal 2025 actual expenses.	-\$150,000	GF	Concur in part – The Judiciary states a decrease of \$20,070 is appropriate to match the fiscal 2025 actual expenditures and would concur fully for this amount.		

C00A00

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
5. Reduce \$750,000 in general funds made for the purpose of printing expenses to align with fiscal 2025 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$750,000	GF		Concur.	
6. Reduce \$400,000 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 2025 actual expenses.	-\$400,000	GF		Concur in part – As the Appointed Attorney Program is required to fulfill a constitutional right, the program’s use is directly related to the number of arrests made each fiscal year. The Judiciary would concur to a reduction of \$200,000.	
7. Reduce \$7,000,000 in special funds made for the Judiciary’s Major Information Technology Development Projects to align with fiscal 2025 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$7,000,000	SF		Disagree – Reduction to the Judiciary’s Major Information Technology Development would have significant impacts on the program’s projects.	
8. Reduce \$509,671 in general funds to abolish 3.0 new positions (N27049, N27050, and N27051) in the St. Mary’s County Circuit Court.	-\$509,671	GF	3.00	Disagree – The Circuit Court for St. Mary’s County has faced significantly more serious criminal cases going to trial than in other jurisdictions. Jury trials for this jurisdiction have increased since fiscal 2018, which are the most time-insensitive activities for courts.	

C00A00

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Position
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Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
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9. Add the following language:

Provided that \$2,172,300 in general funds made for the purpose of providing judicial compensation enhancements are reduced to bring available funds in line with the recommendations of the Judicial Compensation Commission. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs within the Judiciary.

Concur in part – The Judiciary agrees but states the request needs to be brought in-line to the JCC recommendation.

Explanation:

This action reduces funds in the fiscal 2027 budget to bring judicial compensation enhancements in line with the Judicial Compensation Commission’s recommendations. This includes a \$5,900 salary increase in fiscal 2027 for all judges and a \$7,500 stipend for the Chief Judge of the Appellate Court of Maryland and administrative judges in the trial courts.

10. Add the following language:

Further provided that \$3,176,185 in general funds, \$164,842 in special funds, and \$37,319 in reimbursable funds of this appropriation made for the purpose of a merit increases for personnel are reduced. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs within the Judiciary.

Concur.

Explanation:

This reduces the fiscal 2027 budget to remove the 1% merit increase for personnel.

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**Amount
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**Position
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**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
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**House
Decisions**

11. Add the following language: Concur.

, provided that \$8,200,000 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 \$8.2 million of the Judiciary’s general fund appropriation for the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond to that purpose only.

12. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Appointed Attorney Program Costs and Utilization Report: The committees request that the Judiciary submit a report by December 15, 2026, on the Appointed Attorney Program for fiscal 2026 and 2027 year to date. The report should contain 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Appointed Attorney Program costs and utilization	Judiciary	December 15, 2026

C00A00

**Amount
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**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

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13. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Annual Court Performance Measures: The committees request a report on the performance of the circuit and District courts, to be submitted by December 15, 2026, 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, 2026

14. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

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, 2026. The report should show the funding allocated and performance data for all PSC types in fiscal 2026, 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 2027 and 2028.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
PSC funding and performance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2026

C00A00

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15. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Judgeship Need for Fiscal 2028: The committees request a report on judgeship needs at the Judiciary to be submitted by December 15, 2026. The report should include a detailed analysis of the Judiciary’s fiscal 2028 judgeship needs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Judgeship need for fiscal 2028	Judiciary	December 15, 2026

16. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Status Report: The committees request a report on the Judiciary’s MITDPs to be submitted by December 15, 2026. The report should include actual costs for all projects in fiscal 2026 and anticipated costs for all projects through fiscal 2030, along with status updates for all projects.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MITDP status report	Judiciary	December 15, 2026

17. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Land Records Improvement Fund (LRIF) Balance Report: The committees request a report on the status of the LRIF to be submitted by December 15, 2026. The report should include the fiscal 2026 revenues and expenditures for the fund along with forecasted revenues and expenditures for fiscal 2027 through 2030. The report should also include a breakdown of the expenditures for circuit court offices.

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<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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Information Request	Author	Due Date
LRIF balance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2026

18. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Private Home Detention Monitoring Report: The committees request a report providing data on private home detention funded by the Judiciary to be submitted by December 15, 2026. The report should contain the number of defendants enrolled in private home detention monitoring, total funds spent in fiscal 2026, and anticipated costs for the remainder of fiscal 2027.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Private home detention monitoring report	Judiciary	December 15, 2026

C00A00

**Amount
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**Position
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**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

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Decisions**

19. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Efforts to Fill Long-term Vacant Positions: As of December 31, 2025, the Judiciary reported 246.3 vacancies, with 40.3 positions being vacant for more than one year. The committees request that the Judiciary submit a report regarding the 40.3 long-term vacant positions by July 1, 2026, including:

- information on the positions, including job title and identification number;
- the status of the positions, indicating if the positions have been filled as of the submission of the report;
- if applicable, candidates' actual or anticipated start dates; and
- recruitment strategies used to fill the positions.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Efforts to fill long-term vacant
positions Judiciary

July 1, 2026

C80B00

Office of the Public Defender

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.	Reduce funding to increase the budgeted turnover rate from 5.67% to 6.41%.	-\$920,904	GF	Disagree – OPD has been able to fill vacant positions, while hiring freezes and fiscal constraints have resulted in an artificially high vacancy rate.		
2.	Add the following language: <u>Provided that \$11,477,415 in general funds, \$358,100 in special funds, and \$350,000 in federal funds of this appropriation made for the purpose of panel attorney fees 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 reverted or canceled.</u>			No response.		
	Explanation:			This action restricts funds within the Office of the Public Defender for panel attorney fees to be used only for that purpose.		
3.	Adopt the following narrative: Panel Attorney Caseload and Expenditures Reports: The Office of the Public Defender (OPD) has had recent shortfalls involving panel attorneys that have required deficiency appropriations. The committees request two reports from OPD that provide data on the use of panel attorneys in fiscal 2026 and 2027 year to date. Each report should include the number of cases paneled to private attorneys by case type, overall caseloads for attorneys in each division, actual spending on panel attorneys, total funds remaining in fiscal 2027 for panel attorneys, and anticipated costs for the remainder of the year. The first report should include an overview of actual fiscal 2026 expenditures relating to panel attorneys.			No response.		

C80B00

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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Information Request	Author	Due Date			
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Panel attorney caseload and expenditures reports	OPD	August 15, 2026 January 15, 2027			
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4. Add the following language:

C80B00.02 District Operations

To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to supplement the appropriation for fiscal 2026 to fund information technology expenditure shortfalls.

General Fund Appropriation ~~2,000,000~~
1,935,000

Disagree – The agency must maintain compatibility with each system used by its justice system partners.

Explanation: This action reduces \$65,000 in general funds from a proposed deficiency appropriation that supplements fiscal 2026 information technology related expenses to account for an unidentified contract budgeted in fiscal 2026.

5. Add the following language:

No response.

, provided that \$8,530,154 of this appropriation made for the purpose of panel attorney fees may be expended only for that purpose. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This language restricts a portion of the deficiency appropriation under District Operations budgeted for panel attorney fees to be used only for that purpose.

C80B00

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
6.	Add the following language:		No response.		
	<u>, provided that \$36,531 of this appropriation made for the purpose of panel attorney fees 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.</u>				
Explanation:	This language restricts the deficiency appropriation for Appellate and Inmate Services within the Office of the Public Defender to be used only for fees associated with panel attorneys.				

C81C

Office of the Attorney General

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Reduce 2.0 new positions (N2720034 and N2719986). The Office of the Attorney General has 25.2 vacant positions as of December 31, 2025. The functions of the new positions can be filled by reclassifying existing vacant positions.	-\$377,276	SF	Disagree – All positions are essential for operational effectiveness and cannot be repurposed.		
2. Reduce \$100,000 in special funds for the purpose of in-State conferences and training in the Legal Counsel and Advice Division.	-\$100,000	SF	Disagree – Professional development is a core requirement for OAG personnel, and this reduction would limit training compliance efforts.		
3. Adopt the following narrative:			No response.		

Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) Operations and Future Costs Report: With final implementation of the ACE program complete, the committees request a report on the status of the program at the end of fiscal 2026, including the total cost of the operation of the program, the total number of participating legal services providers, the total funding granted to each provider in fiscal 2026 and 2027, the program’s procedures for ensuring adequate coverage in each jurisdiction, the total number of cases in fiscal 2026, the results of all cases in fiscal 2026, and the number of rejected tenants and the reasons for rejection in fiscal 2026. The report should also include a breakdown of all available funding in fiscal 2027 and the estimated cost to operate the program in fiscal 2027 and 2028.

C81C

Amount
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Position
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Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
Decisions

House
Decisions

Information Request

Author

Due Date

ACE operations and future costs report	Maryland Legal Services Corporation	November 15, 2026
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4. Adopt the following narrative:

Disagree – Information on FAU can be found online, and case statuses are regularly updated.

Federal Accountability Unit (FAU) Actions Report: The committees request a report from the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) on FAU activities to counter federal actions negatively impacting the State. The report should contain, for fiscal 2026 and fiscal 2027 year to date, a list of new and ongoing litigation the State entered against the federal government, information on restored federal funds, and a breakdown of total FAU costs and personnel. This report should also discuss any potential recommendations to improve the unit’s efficiency and operations.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

FAU actions report	OAG	October 15, 2026
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C82D00

Office of the State Prosecutor

**Amount
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**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

C85E00
Maryland Tax Court

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
Decisions

House
Decisions

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

C90G00

Public Service Commission

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Reduce funds to increase the turnover expectancy to 7.9%. The Public Service Commission had 24 vacant positions as of December 31, 2025, which is higher than the 8.73 necessary vacancies to meet the budgeted turnover rate of 4.91%.			Disagree.		
	-\$704,828	SF			
2. Add the following language: , provided that \$100,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund <u>to include providing awards to electric companies, including electric cooperatives and municipal electric utilities, to be refunded or credited to residential customers</u>			No response.		
Explanation:					
			This language modifies language making a portion of the appropriation in the Public Service Commission contingent on the expansion of allowable uses to more specifically identify the expanded use for which these funds are needed and better match the applicable legislation.		
3. Adopt the following narrative: Use of Funds Transferred from the Dedicated Purpose Account (DPA): The fiscal 2027 allowance authorizes \$15.0 million from the DPA to be used for grid-enhancing technologies contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable use of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund. These funds are expected to be made available to the Public Service Commission (PSC) to be used for grid-enhancing and advanced transmission technologies, with \$10.0 million to conduct research and \$5.0 million to provide grants to utility companies to construct			No response.		

C90G00

Amount
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Position
Change

Agency Response
Hearing Notes

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Decisions

or modify transmission facilities. The committees request that PSC submit a report outlining the uses and planned uses of this funding.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Use of funds transferred from the DPA to PSC	PSC	December 31, 2026

4. Adopt the following narrative: No response.

Arrearage and Termination Data: The committees remain interested in monitoring residential utility terminations and arrearages. The committees request that the Public Service Commission (PSC) submit two reports containing residential termination and arrearage data separately by utility and month. The first report should cover data from December 2025 through May 2026 and be submitted by July 15, 2026, and the second report should cover data from June 2026 through November 2026 be submitted by December 15, 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Arrearage and termination data	PSC	July 15, 2026 December 15, 2026

C91H00
Office of People's Counsel

Amount
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Position
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Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
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Decisions

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

C94I00
Subsequent Injury Fund

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.					Concur.

C96J00
Uninsured Employers' Fund

Amount
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Position
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Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
Decisions

House
Decisions

1. Add the following language:

Concur.

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses for the Uninsured Employers' Fund (UEF) may not be expended until UEF submits a report in conjunction with the Department of Budget and Management to the budget committees documenting whether a third-party administrator 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. The 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 to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation:

The budget committees are concerned about the significant increase in operating expenditures due to the procurement of a contract with a third-party administrator to perform many core functions of the agency. The report was originally requested in the 2025 Joint Chairmen's Report to be submitted by December 1, 2025; however, UEF has not submitted the report. This language restricts funds until UEF submits a report detailing its staffing capacity to manage claim functions in house.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

UEF operational needs

UEF
Department of Budget and
Management

December 1, 2026

C98F00

Workers' Compensation Commission

**Amount
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**Position
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**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
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1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

CHESBAY
Chesapeake Bay Overview

**Amount
Change**

**Position
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**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

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**House
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1. Nonbudgeted.

No response.

D13A13

Maryland Energy Administration

**Amount
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**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Add the following language: Concur.

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) submits a report to the budget committees with details on the department’s funding. The report shall provide details on the fiscal 2027 working appropriation and the fiscal 2028 allowance. The report shall detail for each budgetary program the programmatic activities by fund source within MEA. The report shall be submitted in conjunction with the release of the fiscal 2028 budget, 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

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in receiving MEA’s funding in detail. MEA did not provide this information in a timely manner, as requested by committee narrative in the 2025 Joint Chairmen’s Report. This language withholds funding until details on the department’s funding are provided with submission of the fiscal 2028 budget.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MEA funding	MEA	With submission of the Governor’s Fiscal 2028 Budget Books

D13A13

Amount
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Position
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Agency Response
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2. Add the following language:

Concur.

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) submits a report to the budget committees detailing the

- (1) fiscal 2025 actual expenditures (including encumbrances) by programmatic activity and fund source;
- (2) the fiscal 2026 actual expenditures (including encumbrances) by programmatic activity and fund source;
- (3) explanations including details from which programs and fund sources federal and special funds were canceled for fiscal 2026 actual expenditures; and
- (4) explanations including details from which programs and fund sources federal and special funds were encumbered in fiscal 2026 closeout.

The report shall be submitted by September 30, 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 be canceled if the report is not submitted

Explanation:

MEA has delayed providing explanations on cancellations of funds at closeout as well as delaying or failing to provide details on programmatic spending by activity and fund source in recent years. This language restricts funds pending submission of a report providing explanations on fund cancellations at fiscal 2026 closeout, as well as details on encumbrances, and spending by programmatic activity and fund source for fiscal 2025 and 2026 actual expenditures.

D13A13

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Position
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Information Request

Author

Due Date

Fiscal 2026 cancellations, encumbrances, and actual expenditures by activity

MEA

September 30, 2026

3. Add the following language:

No response.

Further provided that \$13,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to include grants or loans to support the creation of new Tier 1 renewable energy sources in the State.

Explanation:

This language makes a portion of the appropriation in the Maryland Energy Administration contingent on the expansion of allowable uses. Specifically, the programs included in this contingency are the Local Government Energy Modernization (\$7.0 million), Commercial Building (\$4.0 million) and OPEN Energy Innovation Grant Program (\$2.0 million), budgeted within the Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives. These programs are reported as being supported by Alternative Compliance Payments, which must be used to directly benefit low- and moderate-income communities or overburdened or underserved communities.

D13A13

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
4.	Adopt the following narrative:		No response.		

Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenue, Spending, and Fund Balance: The committees are interested in ensuring transparency in Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and Alternative Compliance Payment (ACP) 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 (DBM) provide an annual report on the revenue from RGGI carbon dioxide emissions allowance auctions and set-aside allowances as well as ACP revenue assumptions in conjunction with the submission of the fiscal 2028 budget as an appendix to the Governor’s Fiscal 2028 Budget Books. The report shall include information on the actual fiscal 2026, the fiscal 2027 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2028 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;
- revenue assumptions used to calculate the available ACP revenue for each fiscal year;
- 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;
- amount of the SEIF from ACP available to each agency including any transfers or diversion made to other funds; and

D13A13

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> fund balances for each SEIF subaccount, reflecting funds available to spend for the fiscal 2026 actual accounting for encumbered funds, the fiscal 2027 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2028 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 2028 Budget Books

5. Adopt the following narrative: No response.

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. The report should also provide updates on any withheld funds and the status of the release of funds for any conditional awards.

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

D13A13

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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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
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Report on federal IIJA and IRA funding and implementation of home energy rebate programs	MEA	December 31, 2026
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6. Adopt the following narrative: No response.

Usage of Additional Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenues Provided to the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA): The fiscal 2027 allowance for MEA includes \$100 million of Alternative Compliance Payments (ACP) deposited in SEIF funds, contingent on enactment of legislation expanding allowable uses of ACP revenues in the SEIF. The Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025 specifies, of the total \$100.0 million, \$70.0 million be used to provide gap financing for at-risk, large-scale clean energy projects and \$30.0 million be used to provide grants and loans to support creation of new Tier 1 renewable energy sources. The committees request that MEA submit a report outlining the uses and planned uses of this funding.

The committees also request MEA to provide an update on and the planned timeline and uses for the remaining portion of the \$90 million transferred from the SEIF to the Dedicated Purpose Account in fiscal 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
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Report on the usage of ACP revenues in the SEIF	MEA	December 31, 2026
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D21

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Delete enhancement funding for the State Aid for Police Protection program.			Disagree – SAPP is a flexible funding source for local law enforcement agencies. Funding through this grant program allows those agencies, large or small, to use the money for their highest needs.		
	-\$47,132,583	GF			
2. Delete funding for the new Group Violence Reduction Strategy grant.			Disagree – GOCPP reports that this funding is aligned with the Governor's goal of reducing violent crime in Maryland.		
	-\$2,500,000	GF			
3. Add the following language:			Concur.		
			<u>, provided that \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation made for the purpose of administration 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, 2026, regarding Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) awards and funding. The report shall include:</u>		
			<u>(1) each grant award made on July 1, 2026, for the fiscal 2027 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;</u>		

D21

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
(2)					
<u>the total amount of grants awarded from general funds and federal VOCA funds on July 1, 2026;</u>					
(3)					
<u>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;</u>					
(4)					
<u>for the federal fiscal 2022 and 2023 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</u>					
(5)					
<u>a comparison of aggregate-level performance measures or outcomes measures of the VOCA program for fiscal 2022 through 2026 or as many recent years that GOCPP is able to provide.</u>					

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 \$100,000 pending the submission of information related to VOCA awards and funding in fiscal 2027. For each open three-year grant cycle (federal fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026), GOCPP is required to include the amount of currently unexpended funds, the reason these funds remain unspent, and whether they will be held in reserve. The report is also required to provided further detail regarded in the expenditure of funds for the two most

D21

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
recently completed funding cycles – federal fiscal 2022 and 2023. 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, 2026

4. Add the following language: Concur.

, 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 (GOCPP) submits the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) Fiscal 2026 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 2027 to ensure a balance in the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund. GOCPP shall also include a discussion of how it is ensuring alignment between how the number of new claims received, the number of claims paid, and value of claims paid is reported through this report and its fiscal 2028 Managing for Results submission. In addition to reporting the average number of days between the date the CICB received an application and the date of resolution, GOCPP shall also include a discussion of CICB’s ability to achieve time standards set in statute. To support that discussion, GOCPP shall report the percentage of processed claims within 30 days from CICB’s receipt of required documentation to final decision. The report shall be submitted 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.

D21

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
Explanation:	<p>Chapter 705 of 2024 made alterations to the CICB program within GOCPP, with most provisions taking effect July 1, 2025. The 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). GOCPP reports similar data through its annual Managing for Results submission. This report will provide the committees with information about fiscal 2026 claims and the CICF balance prior to the 2027 legislative session, as well as the CICB’s ability to meet time standards set in statute.</p>				

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CICB fiscal 2026 annual report	GOCPP	November 1, 2026

5. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Report on Outcome Managing for Results (MFR) Measures: The Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) reported only one MFR measure related to outcomes in its fiscal 2026 and 2027 submissions. Given that its mission includes enhancing public safety, and reducing crime and juvenile delinquency, its performance measures should include additional data for evaluating the extent to which its contributions result in a reduction in crime across Maryland. GOCPP may begin reporting related information through its scorecard of quantifiable safety indicators, but that scorecard has not yet been published or consistently updated. The committees request that, by November 15, 2026, GOCPP submit proposed MFR measures to be provided with the agency’s fiscal 2028 budget.

D21

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date			
Report on outcome MFR measures	GOCPP	November 15, 2026			

6. Add the following section: Concur.

Section XX Crime Victim Compensation Funds

SECTION XX. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$3,000,000 in federal funds made for the purpose of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board program is reduced immediately upon passage of this budget from the fiscal 2026 appropriation for program D21A03.01 Victim Services Unit within the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy.

Explanation: This action reduces the fiscal 2026 federal fund appropriation because Crime Victim Compensation funds are not available.

D23

Maryland Cannabis Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Add the following section:					
Section XX Cannabis Incubator Project					
<u>SECTION XX. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$5,000,000 in general funds made for the purpose of the cannabis incubator project is reduced immediately upon passage of this budget from the fiscal 2026 appropriation for program D23A01.04 Capital Appropriation within the Maryland Cannabis Administration.</u>			Disagree – MCA anticipates closing the acquisition of the property in the first quarter of fiscal 2027 and plans to use the appropriation in fiscal 2027.		
Explanation:		This action reduces the fiscal 2026 general fund appropriation for the cannabis incubator project due to project delays.			

D40W01
Department of Planning

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
Decisions

House
Decisions

1. Add the following language: Concur.

, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$131,529 contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to include programs and applicable initiatives related to State climate change mitigation and climate change resiliency efforts

Explanation: This language adds specificity to contingent language on the general fund appropriation so that it more closely matches the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.

2. Add the following language: Concur.

, provided that \$136,591 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to include programs and applicable initiatives related to State climate change mitigation and climate change resiliency efforts

Explanation: This language adds specificity to contingent language on the special fund appropriation so that it more closely matches the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.

D52

Maryland Department of Emergency Management

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Delete funding for 1 new position. The Maryland Department of Emergency Management had 13.0 vacant positions as of December 31, 2025, and should reclassify 1 vacant position instead of adding 1 new position.	-\$85,658	SF	Disagree – The 9-1-1 Board currently has 2 vacancies, both of which are in recruitment processes.		
2. Add the following language: <u>, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$304,583 upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to include programs and applicable initiatives related to resiliency efforts defined and implemented by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, including the annual report by the Office of Resilience.</u>			Concur.		
Explanation:			This language adds specificity to contingent language on the general fund appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.		
3. Add the following language: <u>, provided that \$1,470,113 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to include programs and applicable initiatives related to resiliency efforts defined and implemented by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, including the annual report by the Office of Resilience.</u>			Concur.		

D52

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
Explanation:		This language adds specificity to contingent language on the special fund appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.			
4.	Add the following language:		Concur.		
		, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$1,165,530 upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund <u>to include programs and applicable initiatives related to resiliency efforts defined and implemented by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, including the annual report by the Office of Resilience.</u>			
Explanation:		This language adds specificity to contingent language on the federal fund appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.			
5.	Add the following language:		No response.		
		Further provided that \$3,232,157 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation to expand the uses of the 911 Trust Fund to support Maryland Department of Emergency Management operations in order to cover federal fund losses			
Explanation:		This action makes a technical correction to contingent language on the special fund appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.			

D52

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

6. Add the following language: No response.

Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$3,232,157 contingent upon enactment of legislation to expand the uses of the 911 Trust Fund to support Maryland Department of Emergency Management operations ~~in order to cover federal fund losses~~

Explanation: This action makes a technical correction to contingent language on the federal fund appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.

7. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Report on Federal Fund Sources: Approximately 74% of the fiscal 2027 allowance for the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) is supported with federal funds. Given recent changes and reductions in federal fund availability and grant awards, the committees request MDEM to submit a report on the status of various federal fund sources, including preparedness, mitigation, and disaster grants. The report should discuss the timing of receiving federal fund awards and the department’s contingency plan to support its operations if federal funds are not made available as anticipated.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on federal fund sources	MDEM	November 15, 2026

D52

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
Decisions

House
Decisions

8. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund (RMRLF): Of the seven projects that submitted applications for the RMRLF so far, two projects have received \$5 million each for a total of \$10 million from the RMRLF in fiscal 2025. The committees request MDEM to submit a report on the RMRLF, including:

- the status of the projects that are approved;
- status updates for any projects that are in process, under consideration, or are new projects;
- the status of the federal Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund (STRLF) award;
- project applications submitted for federal funds through the STRLF;
- planned utilization of the federal funds; and
- the estimated current balance of the RMRLF.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on the RMRLF

MDEM

October 1, 2026

D52

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

9. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program: 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 2025, MDEM issued a report summarizing how the SLCGP money from federal fiscal 2023 was awarded. The committees request that MDEM submit a report that provides the following information for federal fiscal 2024 and 2025:

- SLCGP grants awarded by jurisdiction and the 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 funding beyond fiscal 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the SLCGP	MDEM	November 1, 2026

D52

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
10.			No response.		
	Add the following language:				
	, provided that \$3,232,157 of this appropriation is contingent upon the enactment of legislation to expand the uses of the 911 Trust Fund to support Maryland Department of Emergency Management operations in order to cover federal fund losses				
Explanation:	This action makes a technical correction to contingent language on the special fund deficiency appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.				
11.			No response.		
	Add the following language:				
	, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$3,232,157 contingent upon the enactment of the legislation to expand the uses of the 911 Trust Fund to support Maryland Department of Emergency Management operations in order to cover federal fund losses				
Explanation:	This action makes a technical correction to contingent language on the federal fund deficiency appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.				

D52

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
12.	Add the following language:		No response.		
	<u>, provided that this appropriation is contingent upon the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to include programs and applicable initiative related to resiliency efforts defined and implemented by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, including the annual report by the Office of Resilience.</u>				
Explanation:	This action adds specificity to contingent language on the special fund deficiency appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.				

D55P00

Department of Veterans and Military Families

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
Decisions

House
Decisions

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Quarterly Reports on Charlotte Hall Veterans Home (CHVH) Facility Operations, Staffing, and Federal Ratings: The Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMMF) 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 management contractor operates CHVH and its efforts on increasing staffing and residency numbers. Additionally, the committees would like to continue to monitor the ratings from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) surrounding nursing home facility performance. The committees request that DVMMF 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. The reports should also include a description of corrective actions or measures taken to address the noncompliance highlighted in the Maryland Department of Health Office of Health Care Quality and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs annual survey reports. 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

DVMMF

July 1, 2026
October 1, 2026
January 1, 2027
April 1, 2027

D55P00

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Report on the Maryland Joins Forces (MJF) Initiative and Its Progress: MJF is an initiative that was launched in November 2023. This initiative focuses on five main areas: (1) employment; (2) food and housing insecurity; (3) education; (4) health and wellness; and (5) 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, an update on establishing five pillar-based subcommittees, and development of performance indicators and goals.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on the MJF initiative and its progress

DVMF

December 1, 2026

D60A10
State Archives

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
Decisions

House
Decisions

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

D70J

Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

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 updated financial statements for both divisions. The report should include the pro forma income statements for the calendar 2025 actuals and calendar 2026 projections, at the time of submission.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Financial statements for Insured
Division and Uninsured Division

Maryland Auto

July 31, 2026

D70J

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Insured Division Report: Due to inadequate ending surplus in calendar 2025, the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto) is expected to require issuing another assessment. The Insured Division’s revenue is driven by premiums collected on insurance policies. The committees are requesting a report to monitor the ongoing financial situation at Maryland Auto. The report should include data on premiums earned and expenditures. The report should also include data on gross written policies, policies in force, payment plans counts, and policy types. The report should cover the first two quarters of calendar 2026.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Insured Division’s premiums, expenditures, and policy information

Maryland Auto

October 1, 2026

D74

Office of the Correctional Ombudsman

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Status of Managing for Results (MFR) Objectives and Measures: The Office of the Correctional Ombudsman (OCO) did not submit MFR goals, objectives, or measures with its fiscal 2027 budget. The committees request that, by July 1, 2026, OCO submit proposed MFR goals, objectives, and measures, including actual fiscal 2025 data and estimates for fiscal 2026 and 2027.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Status report on MFR objectives and measures

OCO

July 1, 2026

D80Z01

Maryland Insurance Administration

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

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 2 of this ongoing project. The fiscal 2027 allowance includes \$8.7 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 completed in the following 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, 2026 January 10, 2027

D99A11

Office of Administrative Hearings

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<p>1. Add the following language:</p> <p>, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$125,051 upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund <u>to include programs and applicable initiatives related to State climate change mitigation and climate change resiliency efforts</u></p> <p>Explanation: This language adds specificity to contingent language on the general fund appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.</p>			No response.		
<p>2. Add the following language:</p> <p>, provided that \$125,051 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund <u>to include programs and applicable initiatives related to State climate change mitigation and climate change resiliency efforts</u></p> <p>Explanation: This language adds specificity to contingent language on the special fund appropriation to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.</p>			No response.		

E17

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

E75D

State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

J00

Maryland Department of Transportation Overview

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.			Concur.		
<p><u>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:</u></p>					
<p><u>(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</u></p>					
<p><u>(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.</u></p>					
<p><u>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.</u></p>					
<p><u>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.</u></p>					

J00

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
Explanation:	<p>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 2026 to 2031 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 2026 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.</p>				

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

MDOT – The Secretary’s Office

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Add the following language: Concur.

, provided that no more than \$7,201,128 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 \$7,201,128 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

J00A0103

MDOT – The Secretary’s Office – PAYGO Capital

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Add the following language: Concur.

, 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 2026 to 2031 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

J00A0104

MDOT – WMATA – Operating Budget

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.	Concur with Governor's allowance.		Concur.		

J00A0105

MDOT – WMATA – Capital Budget PAYGO

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.	Concur with Governor's allowance.		Concur.		

J00A04

MDOT – Debt Service Requirements

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.			Concur.		
<p><u>Provided that Consolidated Transportation Bonds (CTB) may be issued in any amount, provided that the aggregate outstanding and unpaid balance of these bonds and bonds of prior issuances may not exceed \$3,372,325,000 as of June 30, 2027. The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance of nontraditional debt, defined as any debt instrument that is not a CTB 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 \$819,205,000 as of June 30, 2027. The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance on debt for the Purple Line Light Rail project may not exceed \$2,506,531,397 as of June 30, 2027. Provided, however, that in addition to the limits established under this provision, MDOT may increase the aggregate outstanding unpaid and principal balance of CTB debt or nontraditional debt so long as:</u></p>					
(1)					
<p><u>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 CTB debt or nontraditional debt that would be outstanding on June 30, 2027, and the total amount by which the fiscal 2027 debt service payment for all CTB debt or nontraditional debt would increase following the additional issuance; and</u></p>					
(2)					
<p><u>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.</u></p>					

J00A04

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
Explanation:	<p>Section 3-202 of the Transportation Article requires the General Assembly to establish the maximum debt outstanding for CTB each year in the budget bill. The level is based on the outstanding debt as of June 30, 2025, plus projected debt to be issued during fiscal 2026 and 2027 in support of MDOT capital program. For nontraditional debt, this language limits the amount of debt outstanding at the end of fiscal 2027, exclusive of debt issued for the Purple Line Light Rail project, to the total amount that was outstanding from all previous nontraditional debt issuances as of December 31, 2025, plus anticipated issuances of \$130 million in new Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport Passenger Facility Charge Revenue Bonds in July 2026. Debt outstanding for the Purple Line Light Rail project is capped at the projected maximum debt outstanding level that will occur during the construction phase of the project. The language allows MDOT to increase the amount of CTB debt or nontraditional debt outstanding in fiscal 2027 by providing notification to the budget committees regarding the reason that the additional debt is required.</p>				
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			
			Concur.		

J00A04

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
Decisions

House
Decisions

2. 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 2026 through 2036.

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 budget committees are interested in monitoring the use of nontraditional debt by 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 financial forecast

With the January financial forecast

J00B01

MDOT – State Highway Administration

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response
Hearing Notes

Senate
Decisions

House
Decisions

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Federal Funding Reimbursements: A recent fiscal compliance audit questioned the State Highway Administration’s (SHA) accounting practice of recording federal funding for projects that have yet to be reimbursed and are not guaranteed due to expenditures exceeding the initial authorized amount. The committees request that SHA submit a report on the ongoing process of collecting these federal reimbursements for fiscal 2024 and 2025. The report should include:

- the initial authorized amounts;
- the amount of additional reimbursement SHA requested from the federal government;
- how much of the additional reimbursement SHA was able to obtain;
- how SHA covered the amounts not reimbursed by the federal government; and
- how this affected capital spending and planning for the agency.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on the recovery of federal SHA
fund reimbursements

December 1, 2026

J00B0101

MDOT – State Highway Administration – PAYGO Capital

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Add the following language:

Concur.

, provided that \$10,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to include planning and studies related to rights-of-way transmission infrastructure and battery energy storage systems

Explanation:

This language adds specificity to contingent language on the special fund appropriation to more closely align with the applicable provision.

J00D00

MDOT – Maryland Port Administration

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Howard Street Tunnel Quarterly Reporting: The committees are interested in monitoring the progress being made on the Howard Street Tunnel project as it nears completion and request that the Maryland Port Administration 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, 2026, with subsequent reports submitted every three months thereafter.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status reports on the Howard Street Tunnel project	MPA	July 1, 2026 October 1, 2026 January 1, 2027 April 1, 2027

2. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Clean Ports Program and Other Federal Grants Update: The committees are interested in monitoring the status, receipt, and use of federal grant funding awarded to the Maryland Port Administration (MPA). The committees request that MPA submit two reports 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, in addition to any other federal grants awarded to MPA for which a grant agreement is in place with federal agencies as of the date of the reports. The reports should include the total amount of federal reimbursements received by MPA through these grants as of the date of each report. The first report should be submitted July 15, 2026, and the second report should be submitted December 1, 2026.

J00D00

Information Request	Author	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
			Due Date			
			July 15, 2026			
			December 1, 2026			
Reports on Clean Ports Program MPA and other federal grant awards						

J00D0002

MDOT – Maryland Port Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.	Concur with Governor's allowance.		Concur.		

J00E00

MDOT – Motor Vehicle Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

J00E0007

MDOT – Motor Vehicle Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

J00H01

MDOT – Maryland Transit Administration

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.	Delete 5 new apprenticeship positions (PIN J00H01904789P, J00H01904790P, J00H01904791P, J00H01904792P, and J00H01904793P) and related funding. The Maryland Transit Administration had 319 vacant positions as of January 1, 2026, and should reclassify 5 vacant positions instead of adding new positions.	-\$280,819	SF	Disagree.		
2.	Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.		

Purple Line Status Reports: Given schedule delays 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
- 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.

J00H01

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author					
			Due Date			
Reports on Purple Line construction progress	MTA		July 1, 2026, and bimonthly thereafter ending with the May 1, 2027 report			

3. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Red Line Project Status: The committees request that the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) submit a report by September 1, 2026, on the current status of the Red Line project. The report should provide the next steps and an updated timeline for the project in light of the pause in the federal National Environmental Policy Act permitting process that went into effect on June 16, 2025. The report should include details on what project design and engineering activities are occurring during this pause, including the uses of funding included in the fiscal 2026 and 2027 MTA capital budget. The report should also include a discussion of future funding needs and projected funding sources for the construction phase of the project.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Red Line project status, timeline, and funding needs	MTA	September 1, 2026

J00H0105

MDOT – Maryland Transit Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

J00I00

MDOT – Maryland Aviation Administration

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

J00I0003

MDOT – Maryland Aviation Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

J00J00

MDOT – Maryland Transportation Authority

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

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

- the current status of design, engineering, federal permitting, preconstruction, and construction activities;
- the running total amount expended for the project;
- the current availability and status of seeking and receiving federal reimbursements 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, 2026, and the second report be submitted by January 1, 2027.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status reports on the Francis Scott Key Bridge reconstruction project	MDTA	July 1, 2026 January 1, 2027

J00J0042

MDOT – Maryland Transportation Authority – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Nonbudgeted.			Concur.		

K00A

Department of Natural Resources

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

1. Adopt the following narrative:

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 2026 actual, fiscal 2027 working appropriation, and fiscal 2028 allowance to be included as an appendix in the fiscal 2027 budget volumes and submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS.

Concur in part – DNR proposes to incorporate this into the “Historical and Projected Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending” report.

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 2028 budget submission

2. Adopt the following narrative:

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

Concur in part – DNR proposes a modified version including spending, status of outcomes, Whole Watershed Act funding report, and other Chesapeake Bay related issues/concerns

K00A

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<p>Management (DBM) provide a report by December 1, 2026, 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:</p>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• fiscal 2026 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 2027 to 2028 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 2026 to 2027 on the way to reaching the calendar 2040 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				

K00A

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<p>would improve the effectiveness of Maryland and other states’ efforts toward Chesapeake Bay restoration;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
<p>Historical and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending</p>	<p>MDP DNR MDA MDE DBM</p>	<p>December 1, 2026</p>

3. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

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 2028 budget submission.

K00A

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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Information Request	Author	Due Date
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Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal DNR Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans		Fiscal 2028 budget submission
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4. Adopt the following narrative:

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 2028 allowance describing the Whole Watershed Act funding by amount and source; the status of each project; the use of the fiscal 2027 and 2028 funding since 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 reductions, and any other relevant co-benefits. The report is requested to be submitted with the Governor’s fiscal 2028 budget submission.

Concur in part – DNR proposes to incorporate this into the “Historical and Projected Chesapeake Bay Spending Report.”

Information Request	Author	Due Date
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Whole Watershed Act funding report	DNR	With the Governor’s fiscal 2028 budget submission
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L00A

Department of Agriculture

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<p>1. Reduce funding for the Leaders in Environmentally Engaged Farming program to level fund it with fiscal 2026. The final program parameters and a spending plan have not been submitted.</p>	-\$400,000	GF	<p>Disagree – Reduction to the fiscal 2027 appropriation will stall momentum and limit the effectiveness of the program.</p>		
<p>2. Add the following language: <u>, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general operating expenses in the Office of the Secretary – Executive Direction may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), in coordination with the Department of General Services, submits a report to the budget committees certifying that MDA has taken the steps needed to address the two repeat audit findings in MDA’s March 2025 audit. The report shall include details about the steps needed to address Findings 3 and Finding 4 and the actual steps taken to address the findings, including the systems and processes implemented to address the findings and evidence of ongoing use of these systems and processes. The report shall be submitted by July 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.</u></p>			<p>Disagree – MDA worked collaboratively with the Office of Legislative Audits on identifying and addressing issues. Before the audit was published, MDA took proactive steps to rectify the findings.</p>		

Explanation:

MDA’s March 2025 audit included two repeat findings going back many years. Finding 3 (Product Registrations) has been commented upon in five preceding audit reports dating back to calendar 2007 and the lack of an independent supervisory review of product registrations has been commented on in three preceding audit

L00A

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<p>reports dating back to calendar 2013. Finding 4 (Equipment) concerning the lack of accountability and control over equipment has been commented on in 10 preceding audit reports dating back to 1990. This action restricts funding pending the submission of a report, in coordination with the Department of General Services (DGS), certifying all steps have been taken to address the repeat audit findings.</p>				

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report certifying all steps taken to address March 2025 repeat audit findings	MDA DGS	July 1, 2026

Q00A

DPSCS – Administration and Offices

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.			Concur.		
<p><u>, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of overtime earnings may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a report on a plan to reduce its reliance on the use of overtime. The report scope shall include the entire department. The report shall first include a detailed strategic plan to minimize the need for overtime and eliminate mandatory overtime. 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 discuss the findings of the 2025 biennial staffing and security report and the ways the department is incorporating the findings of the report into its plan to minimize the use of overtime. 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:</u></p>					
<p>(1) <u>a breakdown of total correctional officer (CO) overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual; and</u></p>					
<p>(2) <u>a breakdown of mandatory CO overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual.</u></p>					
<p><u>The report shall be submitted 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.</u></p>					

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**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

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 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

Strategic overtime report

DPSCS

November 1, 2026

2. Add the following language:

Concur.

Further provided that \$250,000 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 describing its oversight efforts of the inmate medical and mental health care contract. The report shall include the following:

- (1) 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;

Q00A

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
(2)					
(3)					
(4)					
(5)					
(6)					
(7)					

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than October 15, 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:

A November 2024 fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits 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. This language restricts funding pending a report discussing oversight of the medical and mental health care contract with

Q00A

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
Centurion of Maryland, including discussions of staffing rates, pay rates, and medical grievances.					

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on health care contract oversight	DPSCS	October 15, 2026

3. Add the following language: Concur.

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration within the Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a report to the budget committees describing the agency's oversight of private home detention monitoring companies. The report shall include data on private home detention monitoring agency performance and compliance from fiscal 2021 to 2026, including the number and category of violations identified, timeliness of required notifications, disciplinary and enforcement actions, and repeat violations by provider. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than September 15, 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: Private home detention monitoring agencies (PHDMA) provide monitoring services to defendants as a condition of their pretrial release. The Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards (MCCS) is responsible for auditing PHDMAs to determine the level of compliance with required standards and oversee their licensing process. This language

Q00A

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
restricts funds for general administration until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits a report on the use and oversight of the private monitoring services.					

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Private home detention monitoring report	DPSCS	September 15, 2026

4. Add the following language: Concur.

Further provided that \$250,000 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 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 a project status update, year to date spending in fiscal 2027, an update on the procurement and implementation timeline, and an explanation of the delayed estimated end date. The EPHR portion of the plan shall include 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 an update on the status of onboarding a vendor.

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than November 15, 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.

Q00A

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

**Agency Response
Hearing Notes**

**Senate
Decisions**

**House
Decisions**

Explanation:

The CCH major information technology 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 2033. Similarly, EPHR is behind schedule and is estimated to be completed in calendar 2031, five 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 language restricts funding pending a report including status updates and plans to complete both projects.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Major information technology projects report

DPSCS

November 15, 2026

5. Add the following language:

Concur.

, 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 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 report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than October 1, 2026, the second report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later

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than January 1, 2027, the third report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than April 1, 2027, and the fourth report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than July 1, 2027. 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:

The number of filled correctional officer positions within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has decreased over the past year, declining by 17 positions from October 2024 to October 2025. This language 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 1, 2026
January 1, 2027
April 1, 2027
July 1, 2027

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6. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Report on Three-year Recidivism: The budget committees are interested in a more detailed examination of three-year recidivism rates among released offenders. The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by October 15, 2026, on the impact of incarceration on the future outcomes of returning offenders. The report should include three-year recidivism numbers for the fiscal 2017 through 2023 release cohorts and an analysis of recent recidivism trends, including a comparison to past years and other states.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on three-year recidivism	DPSCS	October 15, 2026

7. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) Report: The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by December 1, 2026, on the following items:

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

Q00A

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author		Due Date			
JRA Report	DPSCS		December 1, 2026			

Q00B
DPSCS – Corrections

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

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. 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 15, 2026, on the Reentry Passport Program rollout. The report should document the progress of expanding the program and future plans to fully implement the program, including:

- the number of reentry passport accounts that have been created by fiscal year;
- the number of individuals who have gained access to their Reentry Passport account by fiscal year;
- the list of functional passport functions;
- the list of nonfunctional/upcoming passport functions;
- the timeline by which all returning citizens will be able to access the passport;
- historic levels of returning citizens monthly;
- update on the rollout of the passport program to Division of Parole and Probation agents and supervisors;
- challenges to full rollout; and

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- the potential impact on recidivism.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on the reentry passport program.

DPSCS

October 15, 2026

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Women’s Prerelease Programming: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) was required by the Correctional 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, 2026:

- 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;

Q00C

DPSCS – Community Supervision

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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Status of Parole and Probation Agents Safety Efforts: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) is in the process of implementing safety measures for its parole and probation agents. The committees request that, by October 1, 2026, DPSCS submit a report detailing the status of providing parole and probation agents with body-worn cameras, multi-threat vests, and the implementation efforts of any other protective equipment provided to agents. The report should include details on training requirements and completion rates, implementation timelines of the new equipment, total and ongoing costs, the status of any pilot programs, and the regions in which those programs have been deployed or are planned. The report should also provide an update on police escort policies and data on how many home visits were accompanied by law enforcement, including any regional variation.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on parole and probation agent safety efforts DPSCS

October 1, 2026

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) Caseload Report: In recent 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 the capital region. The committees request a report due by September 15, 2026, from DPP on the following:

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- the exact breakdown of support staff and general supervision caseloads by office into DPP supervision levels for fiscal 2026;
- 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

Report on DPP caseloads

DPP

September 15, 2026

3. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Report on Risk 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, 2026, on the transition to new screening tools used in community supervision. The report should include a status update of implementation of the new tool and a transition timeline on when the project will be complete.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on assessment tools

DPP

September 1, 2026

Q00G

DPSCS – Police and Correctional Training Commissions

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.					Concur.

Q00T04

DPSCS – Division of Pretrial Detention and Services

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.			Concur.		
<p><u>, 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:</u></p>					
<p>(1) <u>an update on the compliance status of each of the provisions in the Duvall v. Moore consent decree;</u></p>					
<p>(2) <u>a status update on whether the department achieved full compliance by the June 2026 deadline, including identifying any provisions found to be out of compliance and the corrective actions taken or underway;</u></p>					
<p>(3) <u>an update on any extensions granted or requested following the June 2026 deadline, including revised compliance timelines, and any court-ordered or negotiated next steps;</u></p>					
<p>(4) <u>the status of any motions to terminate provisions of the consent decree and updates on any other motions filed; and</u></p>					
<p>(5) <u>a summary of any costs associated with the compliance process.</u></p>					
<p><u>The report shall be submitted by July 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 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.</u></p>					

Q00T04

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
Explanation:	The deadline to comply with the medical and mental health provisions in the Duvall v. Moore decree has been extended to June 2026. As of August 2025, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) is noncompliant and partially compliant with several of the provisions of the consent decree. The department may face litigation regarding the conditions of pretrial detention if it fails to reach full compliance by the deadline. This language restricts funding pending a report including status updates and plans to comply with the consent decree.				
Information Request	Author	Due Date			
Status update on compliance with Duvall v. Moore decree	DPSCS	July 1, 2026			

U00A

Department of the Environment

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.	Delete double-budgeted wastewater treatment plant operation and maintenance grants. The funding is already budgeted in Emergency and Support Services. Chapter 428 of 2004 (Water Pollution – State Waters – The Bay Restoration Fund) originally authorized the use of the Bay Restoration Fund for this purpose.			Concur.		
		-\$11,100,000	SF			
2.	Adopt the following narrative:			No response.		

Energy Use Intensity Costs and Alternatives Reporting for Building Energy Performance Standards: The General Assembly restricted funding in the Maryland Department of the Environment’s (MDE) fiscal 2024 operating budget pending the submission of a report on energy use intensity costs and alternatives to energy use intensity for meeting greenhouse gas emission targets. MDE could not submit this information during fiscal 2025 because it will not receive the underlying data that needs to be analyzed until June 30, 2026. Therefore, the budget committees request that MDE submit by December 1, 2026, a report on energy use intensity costs and alternatives to energy use intensity for meeting greenhouse gas emission targets, which shall include:

- an assessment of the energy use intensity requirement compliance cost to owners of covered buildings;
- a recommendation for an alternative compliance fee for energy use intensity on building owners, after taking into account any financial incentives offered to the covered building owners;
- an evaluation of mechanisms other than energy use intensity to meet greenhouse gas emission targets; and

U10B00

Maryland Environmental Service

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1. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

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 2026, 2027, and 2028 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 2026, 2027, and 2028 estimated;
- project reserve fund status by beginning balance, approved retainage, funds withdrawn, and interest earned for fiscal 2026 and 2027 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 the justification for any approved retainages or funds withdrawn in any project reserve fund during fiscal 2026 or 2027; and
- justification for the changes in reimbursable projected funding for fiscal 2026, 2027, or 2028 estimated.

The report should be submitted in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) with the fiscal 2028 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MES funding statement	MES DBM	With the fiscal 2028 budget submission

V00A

Department of Juvenile Services

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.					
Add the following language:			Concur in part – DJS requests that funds not be withheld.		
<u>. provided that \$250,000 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 on the operations of the Alfred D. Noyes Children’s Center (Noyes) and the DJS substance abuse program at the neighboring Maryland Department of Health (MDH) facility. In this report, DJS shall describe any formal agreement that it has with MDH for the administration of either facility. Additionally, DJS will report the following information:</u>					
(1) <u>a description of its role and responsibilities at each facility;</u>					
(2) <u>an estimated or actual date for which DJS and MDH will begin their facility swap;</u>					
(3) <u>an estimated or actual date for which juvenile justice involved youth will begin receiving care through the substance abuse program;</u>					
(4) <u>a description of the care that youth will receive through each provider;</u>					
(5) <u>a status update on the hiring of educational staff who will work at Noyes; and</u>					
(6) <u>a list of estimated expenses associated with the programs in fiscal 2026 and 2027.</u>					
<u>The report shall be submitted by August 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.</u>					

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Explanation:

The fiscal 2026 budget as introduced included \$3.0 million in general funds for DJS to open the Catoctin Treatment Center – a facility on the campus of Victor Cullen – as a substance abuse facility for youth. Language added to the fiscal 2026 Budget Bill specified that the \$3.0 million provided for the purpose of opening the Catoctin Treatment Center may not be expended for that purpose but instead may be used only to reopen Noyes as an adolescent drug treatment center that serves as a treatment alternative to detention and commitment. In coordination with MDH and the Department of Human Services, DJS plans to relocate to Noyes the Facility For Children that is currently located at a neighboring facility owned by MDH. DJS would then open a substance use program at the MDH facility. DJS also plans to provide educational services on the Noyes campus with Juvenile Services Education Program staff. Details of the plan are not yet public.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on Noyes and the substance abuse program

DJS

August 1, 2026

W00A

Department of State Police

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.	Delete grant funding for the Maryland Sheriffs' Association due to the expiration of an enhanced public safety funding initiative.	-\$333,000	GF	Disagree – The return on investment that these training funds have provided to more than 160 law enforcement agencies throughout the State is worth retaining in the annual budget.		
2.	Add the following section:			Concur.		

Section XX Uniform Crime Report

SECTION XX. 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, 2025 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, 2026, 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 2027 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

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committees indicating any jurisdiction from which crime data was not received by November 1, 2026, and the amount of SAPP funding from each jurisdiction.

Explanation:

This annual language withholds a portion of the general fund appropriation until the budget committees receive the 2025 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, 2026, and the amount of SAPP funding that is withheld from each jurisdiction.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

2025 UCR data verification

DSP

November 1, 2026

2025 UCR

DSP

45 days prior to expenditure of funds

3. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Quarterly Reports on Personnel Measures: The Department of State Police (DSP) has maintained a high monthly vacancy rate for its regular positions in recent fiscal years. Additionally, in July 2022, the U.S. Department of Justice announced that it would be investigating 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

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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, both related to the provisional consent decree. 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 quarterly reports on its personnel measures, and where applicable, provide information separately for both sworn and civilian positions and for each month of the quarter. The quarterly reports should include the following:

- recent recruitment activities and recent employee retention activities; 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.

In addition, in each quarterly report, DSP should provide updates on the department’s activities related to the consent decree and progress made on distributing funds to former applicants through a claims administrator. In the first quarterly report, DSP should submit a plan for decreasing its vacancy rate in fiscal 2027.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly reports on personnel measures	DSP	July 10, 2026 October 10, 2026 January 10, 2027 April 10, 2027