



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

2026 SESSION

Recommendations, Reductions, and
Summary of Action Pertaining to:
Senate Bill 282

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Department of Legislative Services

2026 Budget Assignments

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Department of Social and Economic Mobility
Executive Department – Boards, Commissions, and Offices
Maryland Office of the Inspector General of Education
Maryland School for the Deaf
Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)
 Early Childhood Development
MSDE – Funding for Educational Organizations
Maryland State Library Agency
State Board of Elections

Sara J. Baker

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

Katharine F. Barbour

Accountability Implementation Board
Historic St. Mary's City Commission
Interagency Commission on School Construction
Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission
Maryland State Department of Education
 Aid to Education
 Headquarters

Scott Benson

Executive Department – Governor
Judiciary
Maryland Tax Court
Office of Administrative Hearings
Office of the Attorney General
Office of the Public Defender
Office of the State Prosecutor

Suveksha Bhujel

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

Anne W. Braun

Maryland Department of Health
Health Regulatory Commissions
Medical Care Programs Administration

Connor Brown

Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Department of Disabilities
Department of Human Services
Administration
Child Support Administration
Maryland African American Museum Corporation
Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture
Maryland Commission on Civil Rights
Maryland Department of Labor

Ryan Brown

Budget System Administrator

Jacob C. Cash

Department of Budget and Management
Personnel
Secretary
Department of Service and Civic Innovation
Maryland Supplemental Retirement Plans
Payments to Civil Divisions of the State
State Reserve Fund
State Retirement Agency

Patrick S. Frank

Maryland Stadium Authority
New Budget System
Public Debt
State Treasurer

Andrew D. Gray

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

Emily Haskel

Capital Fiscal Briefing
Department of Housing and Community Development

Naomi Komuro

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

Victoria Martinez

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

Madelyn C. Miller

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

Kelly K. Norton

Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund
Maryland Insurance Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation
Maryland Aviation Administration
Motor Vehicle Administration
State Highway Administration
The Secretary's Office
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

David Propert

Aid to Community Colleges
Baltimore City Community College
Higher Education Overview
Maryland Higher Education Commission
Student Financial Assistance
Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board
State Department of Assessments and Taxation
University System of Maryland
Bowie State University
University of Maryland Global Campus

Samuel M. Quist

Maryland Department of Transportation
Debt Service Requirements
Maryland Port Administration
Maryland Transit Administration
Overview
Maryland Transportation Authority
Maryland Environmental Service

Yashodhara Rai

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission
Comptroller of Maryland
Department of General Services
Department of Information Technology
Department of Veterans and Military Families
Military Department

Micah Richards

Morgan State University
Secretary of State
St. Mary's College of Maryland
Subsequent Injury Fund
Uninsured Employers' Fund
University System of Maryland
Coppin state University
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Workers' Compensation Commission

Elizabeth Waibel

Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority
Department of Commerce
Department of Planning
Maryland Economic Development Corporation
Maryland Technology Development Corporation
State Archives
State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency
West North Avenue Development Authority

Josh Weinstock

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

Tonya D. Zimmerman

Department of Human Services
Family Investment Administration

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House Appropriations Committee – Net Changes

<u>Agency</u>	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Higher Ed Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
2027 Budget Request						
Aid to Community Colleges	-\$20,990,480	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$20,990,480	0.0
Board of Public Works	-4,000,000	0	0	0	-4,000,000	0.0
Department of Aging	0	0	-219,373	0	-219,373	0.0
Department of Agriculture	-200,000	0	0	0	-200,000	0.0
Department of Commerce	-10,000,000	-625,000	0	0	-10,625,000	0.0
Department of Information Technology	-61,595,926	0	0	0	-61,595,926	0.0
Department of Planning	-1,500,000	0	0	0	-1,500,000	0.0
Department of Service and Civic Innovation	-9,578,315	-4,371,639	0	0	-13,949,954	-10.0
Department of the Environment	0	-11,100,000	0	0	-11,100,000	0.0
DHS Family Investment	-377,639	0	-252,013,211	0	-252,390,850	0.0
DHS Office of Home Energy Programs	-46,229	0	0	0	-46,229	0.0
DPSCS Corrections	-3,000,000	0	0	0	-3,000,000	0.0
Governor’s Office for Children	-2,000,000	0	0	0	-2,000,000	0.0
Judiciary	-8,148,485	-7,164,842	0	0	-15,313,327	0.0
Maryland Department of Labor	-250,000	0	0	0	-250,000	0.0
Maryland Energy Administration	0	-100,000,000	0	0	-100,000,000	0.0
Maryland Higher Education Commission	-4,717,023	0	0	0	-4,717,023	0.0
Maryland Stadium Authority	0	-1,750,000	0	0	-1,750,000	0.0
Maryland Technology Development Corporation	-250,000	0	0	0	-250,000	0.0
MDH Medical Care Programs Administration	-3,000,000	0	-5,000,000	0	-8,000,000	0.0
MDOT State Highway Administration						
PAYGO Capital	0	-10,000,000	0	0	-10,000,000	0.0
MHEC – Student Financial Assistance	-3,000,000	0	0	0	-3,000,000	0.0
MSDE Aid to Education	-820,000	0	0	0	-820,000	0.0
Public Service Commission	0	-100,000,000	0	0	-100,000,000	0.0
State Department of Assessments and Taxation	0	-116,423	0	0	-116,423	-1.0
State Reserve Fund	-479,787,611	-40,000,000	0	0	-519,787,611	0.0

<u>Agency</u>	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Higher Ed Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
State Support for Higher Education						
Institutions	-350,000	0	0	0	-350,000	0.0
Statewide Actions	146,366,692	267,212,000	31,190,991	0	444,769,683	0.0
University of Maryland, College Park Campus	0	0	0	-350,000	-350,000	0.0
Subtotal Fiscal 2027 Regular Budget	-\$467,245,016	-\$7,915,904	-\$226,041,593	-\$350,000	-\$701,552,513	-11.0
Fiscal 2027 Total Budget	-\$467,245,016	-\$7,915,904	-\$226,041,593	-\$350,000	-\$701,552,513	-11.0
Fiscal 2026 Deficiency Budget						
DHS Family Investment	\$0	-\$59,314,476	\$0	\$0	-\$59,314,476	0.0
Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy	0	0	-3,000,000	0	-3,000,000	0.0
MDH Medical Care Programs Administration	-54,200,000	0	-167,230,827	0	-221,430,827	0.0
Statewide Actions	54,200,000	59,314,476	0	0	113,514,476	0.0
Total Fiscal 2026 Deficiency Budget	\$0	\$0	-\$170,230,827	\$0	-\$170,230,827	0.0
Grand Total Budget Bill	-\$467,245,016	-\$7,915,904	-\$396,272,420	-\$350,000	-\$871,783,340	-11.0

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

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

C00A00
Judiciary

Budget Amendment

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.

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.

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 merit increases for personnel are reduced. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs within the Judiciary.

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

C00A00

Budget Amendment

C00A00.03 Circuit Court Judges

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce \$509,671 in general funds to abolish 3.0 new positions (N27049, N27050, and N27051) in the St. Mary's County Circuit Court. This reduction may be allocated between the C00A00.03 Circuit Court Judges program and C00A00.10 Clerks of the Circuit Court program.	-435,353	GF	-2.00
			<u>0.00</u>
Total Change	-435,353		-2.00
	0		0.00

	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position		427.00	425.00		-2.00
			427.00		
General Funds		106,735,780	106,300,427	-435,353	0.00
			106,735,780	0	

Amendment No. 1

Budget Amendment

C00A00.04 District Court

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, 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

C00A00

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.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. 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
2. Reduce \$2,500,000 \$1,250,000 in general funds made for the purpose of District Court contractual employee salary increases to align with fiscal 2025 actual expenses.	-2,500,000 -1,250,000	GF GF
3. Reduce \$75,000 \$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.	-75,000 -150,000	GF GF
4. Reduce \$200,000 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.	-200,000	GF
Total Change	-2,975,000 -1,800,000	0.00

C00A00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	1,673.00	1,673.00		0.00
General Funds	289,977,190	287,002,190	-2,975,000	
		288,177,190	-1,800,000	

Amendment No. 2

Committee Narrative

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

Committee Narrative

C00A00.06 Administrative Office of the Courts

Annual Court Performance Measures: The committees request a report on the performance of the ~~circuit and District courts~~ *Judiciary*, to be submitted by December 15, 2026, with annual court performance measures data for the circuit and District courts, *the Supreme Court, and the Appellate Court. The report should contain the percentage of cases disposed of within 18, 24, and 30 months; the total number of rulings; and the total number of filings per month. The report should also explain the change in the total number of filings and any issues that the Judiciary is having achieving its processing goals.*

C00A00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual court performance measures report	Judiciary	December 15, 2026

Committee Narrative

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

Committee Narrative

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

Committee Narrative

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;

C00A00

- 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

Budget Amendment

C00A00.09 Judicial Information Systems

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. 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
Total Change	-750,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	173.00	173.00		0.00
General Funds	71,177,880	70,427,880	-750,000	

C00A00

Budget Amendment

C00A00.10 Clerks of the Circuit Court

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce \$509,671 in general funds to abolish 3.0 new positions (N27049, N27050, and N27051) in the St. Mary's County Circuit Court. This reduction may be allocated between the C00A00.03 Circuit Court Judges program and C00A00.10 Clerks of the Circuit Court program.	-74,318	GF	-1.00
2. 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	
Total Change	-324,318		-1.00
	-250,000		0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	1,495.00	1,494.00		-1.00
		1,495.00		
General Funds	141,276,681	140,952,363	-324,318	0.00
		141,026,681	-250,000	

Amendment No.

**1
cont.**

C00A00

Budget Amendment

C00A00.12 Major Information Technology Development Projects

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce \$5,000,000 \$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.	-5,000,000	SF
	-7,000,000	SF
Total Change	-5,000,000	
	-7,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Funds	18,370,000	13,370,000	-5,000,000	
		11,370,000	-7,000,000	

Amendment No.

3

Committee Narrative

Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Status Report: The committees request a report on the Judiciary’s MITDPs to be submitted by December 15, 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

C00A00

Committee Narrative

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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
LRIF balance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2026

Committee Narrative

C00A00.13 Pre-Trial Home Detention

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

C80B00

Budget Amendment

C80B00.02 District Operations

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding to increase the budgeted turnover rate from 5.67% to 6.03%.	-450,000	GF
 Total Change	-450,000 0	

	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position		831.50	831.50		0.00
General Funds		140,620,105	140,170,105 140,620,105	-450,000 0	

Amendment No. **4**

Committee Narrative

C80B00.02 District Operations

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.

C80B00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Panel attorney caseload and expenditures reports	OPD	August 15, 2026 January 15, 2027

C81C
Office of the Attorney General

Budget Amendment

C81C00.01 Legal Counsel and Advice

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. 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
 Total Change	 -100,000 0	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	85.00	85.00		0.00
Special Funds	22,845,202	22,745,202 22,845,202	-100,000 0	

Amendment No.

5

Committee Narrative

C81C00.01 Legal Counsel and Advice

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ACE operations and future costs report	Maryland Legal Services Corporation	November 15, 2026

Committee Narrative

~~**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. This report should discuss any potential recommendations to improve the unit's efficiency and operations.~~

Information Request	Author	Due Date
FAU actions report	OAG	October 15, 2026

C90G00
Public Service Commission

Budget Amendment

C90G00.01 General Administration and Hearings

Strike 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~~

Explanation: This language strikes language making a portion of the appropriation in the Public Service Commission contingent on the expansion of allowable uses.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funds to increase the turnover expectancy to 6.4%. 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%.	-350,000	SF
2. Reduce special fund appropriation that is contingent on enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund.	-100,000,000	SF
Total Change	-100,350,000 -100,000,000	0.00

C90G00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	82.00	82.00		0.00
Special Funds	118,300,089	17,950,089	-100,350,000	
		18,300,089	-100,000,000	

Amendment No.

6

Committee Narrative

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

C96J00
Uninsured Employers' Fund

Budget Amendment

C96J00.01 General Administration

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, provided that ~~\$100,000~~ \$1,000,000 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 also discuss any other plans or strategies being implemented or considered to improve the fiscal condition of the fund to ensure that UEF can meet its obligations related to claims and operations. The report shall also discuss the status of the UEF board, noting the number of vacant and filled positions as well as the board's work and activities to oversee the agency operations.* The report shall be submitted by October 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 *and the solvency of UEF*. 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	October 1, 2026

Amendment No.

7

C96J00

Committee Narrative

~~**Report on Uninsured Employers' Fund (UEF) Operations and Fiscal Condition:** The committees are concerned about the solvency of UEF. The committees request that UEF submit a report providing information on the status of the UEF Board, including the number of vacant and filled positions, as well as the work of the board and activities to oversee the agency operations. The report should also discuss the plan of UEF to improve the fiscal condition to ensure that UEF can meet its obligations related to claims and operations.~~

Information Request	Author	Due Date
UEF operations and fiscal condition	UEF	October 1, 2026

D11A0401
Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

D11A04.01 Executive Direction

Strike the following language:

~~provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of executive direction may not be expended until the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing submits a letter confirming that it has published notification of the final action on the regulations for the State sign language licensing requirements in the Maryland Register. The letter shall be submitted to the budget committees within 30 days of the publishing of regulations, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a letter may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the letter is not submitted to the budget committees.~~

Explanation: ~~Chapters 269 and 270 of 2023 (Maryland Sign Language Interpreters Act) required the State Board of Sign Language Interpreters to establish and publish licensing requirements for sign language interpreters by July 1, 2024. While proposed regulations were submitted for public comment in June 2025, the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) announced in November 2025 that the development of regulations was being paused due to concerns raised during the public comment period. This language restricts funding until ODHH submits a letter to the budget committees indicating that it has published the notice of the final action on the regulations in the Maryland Register.~~

Amendment No.

8

Strike the following language:

~~Further provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of executive direction may not be expended until the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing submits a report on the status of all positions authorized for fiscal 2027 that were vacant as of December 31, 2025, including the date filled for any positions that have been filled, and any active recruitment efforts to fill vacant positions. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees by August 15, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.~~

D11A0401

Explanation: ~~As of December 31, 2025, 4 positions within the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) were vacant, leading to a vacancy rate of 57.1%. All 4 vacant positions had been vacant for more than one year. This language restricts funding until ODHH submits a report to the budget committees on the status of all positions authorized in the fiscal 2027 budget that were vacant as of December 31, 2025, and any active recruitment efforts to fill vacant positions.~~

Amendment No.

9

Budget Amendment

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete 1 vacant position (087750) and associated funding. This position has been vacant for more than one year.	-111,716	GF	-1.00
 Total Change	-111,716 0		-1.00 0.00

	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position		7.00			-1.00 0.00
General Funds		1,156,273	1,044,557 1,156,273	-111,716 0	

Amendment No.

10

Committee Narrative

Updates on State Sign Language Interpreter Licensing Requirements: Chapters 269 and 270 of 2023 (Maryland Sign Language Interpreters Act) required the State Board of Sign Language Interpreters to establish and publish licensing requirements for sign language interpreters by July 1, 2024. While proposed regulations were submitted for public comment in June 2025, the

D11A0401

Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) announced in November 2025 that the development of regulations was being paused due to concerns raised during the public comment period. The committees request that ODHH submit two reports on regulation development and implementation, discussing:

- concerns raised during the public comment period that necessitated the pause in regulation development;*
- any statutory changes recommended by the Governor’s new working group;*
- progress toward establishing State sign language licensing requirements and projected timeline for publishing the requirements; and*
- updated timeline for the availability of the licensing portal for public use.*

The first report should cover the requested information as of May 31, 2026, and be submitted by July 1, 2026, and the second report should cover the requested information as of November 31, 2026, and be submitted by December 15, 2026.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Updates on State sign language interpreter licensing requirements</i>	<i>ODHH</i>	<i>July 1, 2026 December 15, 2026</i>

Committee Narrative

Report on Efforts to Fill Vacant Positions: *As of December 31, 2025, the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) had 4 vacant positions, leading to a vacancy rate of 57.1%. All 4 vacant positions had been vacant for more than one year. The committees request that ODHH submit a report on the status of all December 2025 vacant positions, including the date filled for any positions that have been filled and any active recruitment efforts to fill vacant positions.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on efforts to fill vacant positions</i>	<i>ODHH</i>	<i>August 15, 2026</i>

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

Budget Amendment

D13A13.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, 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

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

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;

D13A13

- (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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Fiscal 2026 cancellations, encumbrances, and actual expenditures by activity	MEA	September 30, 2026

Committee Narrative

Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenue, Spending, and Fund Balance: The committees are interested in ensuring transparency in Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) 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:

D13A13

- 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
- 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	DBM	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2028 Budget Books

Committee Narrative

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.

D13A13

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on federal IJJA and IRA funding and implementation of home energy rebate programs	MEA	December 31, 2026

Committee Narrative

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 fiscal 2027 budget allocates \$100 million of SEIF revenue to MEA for a reverse auction grant program for new and renewable energy. The funds are contingent on the enactment of legislation authorizing the use of Alternative Compliance Payment revenues for this purpose. The committees request that MEA submit a report outlining the uses and planned uses of this funding details of the program.~~

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.

D13A13

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

Committee Narrative

Data Centers in Maryland: *The committees are interested in receiving information about the data centers in Maryland. The committees request the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) submit a report providing current and proposed locations of all data centers in the State. The report should be submitted by December 15, 2026.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Report on data centers</i>	<i>MEA</i>	<i>December 15, 2026</i>

Budget Amendment

D13A13.08 Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives

Strike 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.~~

Explanation: This language strikes language making a portion of the appropriation in the Maryland Energy Administration contingent on the expansion of allowable uses.

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

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,

D13A13

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.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce special fund appropriation that is contingent on enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund.	-100,000,000	SF
Total Change	-100,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Funds	293,426,250	193,426,250	-100,000,000	

**D18
Governor’s Office for Children**

Budget Amendment

D18A01.03 The Children’s Cabinet Interagency Fund

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Delete the general fund appropriation for the Baltimore City Children and Youth Fund grant due to the mandate’s expiration.</i>	-2,000,000	GF
<i>Total Change</i>	-2,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
<i>General Funds</i>	24,460,335	22,460,335	-2,000,000	

Amendment No.

11

D21
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

Budget Amendment

D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, 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:

- (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;
- (2) the total amount of grants awarded from general funds and federal VOCA funds on July 1, 2026;
- (3) the amount of unexpended funds for each open three-year VOCA grant and the reason funds are unexpended, including whether the funds are being held in reserve for future grants;
- (4) for the federal fiscal 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
- (5) 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.

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.

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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 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

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy shall provide the victim notification program of the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) with information contained in the sexual assault evidence kit reporting system established by § 11-926.1 of the Criminal Procedure Article for the purpose of MCASA providing sexual assault survivors with notifications and support regarding their sexual assault evidence kit.

Explanation: *This language expresses the intent of the General Assembly that the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy provide MCASA information contained in the office’s reporting system for sexual assault evidence kits so that MCASA may provide notification to, and otherwise support, survivors of sexual assault.*

Amendment No.

12

Committee Narrative

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

D21

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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on outcome MFR measures	GOCPP	November 15, 2026

Budget Amendment

D21A01.02 Local Law Enforcement Grants

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of comprehensive violence prosecution grant funding for the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office (SAO) within the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy may not be expended or distributed to Baltimore City SAO until Baltimore City SAO submits a report to the budget committees on its youth prosecution outcomes. The report shall provide the following information on the youth cases that Baltimore City SAO prosecutes:

- (1) the number of youths charged as adults, including a breakdown of this information by age, race, sex or gender, and most serious offense category;
- (2) the number of youths charged as juveniles, including a breakdown of this information by age, race, sex or gender, and most serious offense category;
- (3) the number of youths initially charged as adults with cases that are waived to the juvenile court;
- (4) the number of youths with cases dismissed, distinguishing between youths initially charged as adults versus juveniles;
- (5) the number of youths held pretrial and the number held pretrial in adult facilities for all or a portion of their detention;

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- (6) the average length of pretrial detention for youths initially charged as adults and the average length for youths initially charged as juveniles;
- (7) the number of youths with cases dismissed after pretrial detention, distinguishing between youths initially charged as adults versus juveniles;
- (8) the number of youths with cases resolved by plea or trial, distinguishing between youths initially charged as adults versus juveniles;
- (9) the average time from charging to disposition for youths initially charged as adults and the average length for youths initially charged as juveniles;
- (10) sentencing outcomes of youth cases, such as the percentage that result in incarceration or committed treatment compared to the percentage that result in probation for adult court youth and juvenile court youth;
- (11) the number of youths charged as adults in fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 who were subsequently charged as adults within one, two, and three years;
- (12) the number of youths adjudicated delinquent in fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 who were subsequently charged as adults within one, two, and three years; and
- (13) the number of youths convicted as an adult in fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 who were subsequently charged as adults within one, two, and three years.

The report shall also include data related to youth who were arrested in fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025 but were not charged by Baltimore City SAO or otherwise the subject of a resulting delinquency proceeding. That data shall include the total number of this type of case in each fiscal year and the number of cases for which each of the following circumstances applied:

- (1) the youth had previously been arrested;
- (2) the youth had previously been convicted as an adult or adjudicated delinquent;
- (3) the youth was subsequently re-arrested within one, two, and three years;
- (4) the youth was the subject of a delinquency proceeding within the subsequent one, two, and three years and a breakdown of outcome or disposition of those delinquency proceedings; and
- (5) the youth was the subject of a criminal proceeding with the subsequent one, two, and three years and a breakdown of outcome or disposition of those delinquency proceedings.

D21

To the extent practicable, Baltimore City SAO shall report these measures for each year from fiscal 2023 through 2026. Where comparable statewide data is available, Baltimore City SAO shall analyze its trends to determine if there is anything unique or distinguishing about its practices. If requested information is not available, the report shall explain why the data is unavailable and identify the barriers that exist to the data collection and submission. The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts comprehensive violence prosecution grant funding to Baltimore City SAO through the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy until Baltimore City SAO submits a report on the outcomes of its prosecution of juveniles.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Youth prosecution outcomes report	Baltimore City SAO	October 1, 2026

Budget Amendment

D21A01.03 State Aid for Police Protection

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) may not distribute a law enforcement agency’s share of \$47,132,583 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the State Aid for Police Protection enhancement funding until the law enforcement agency attests to GOCPP that it is in compliance with the Maryland Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Victim Notification Protocol. That attestation shall specify whether the law enforcement agency provides information that is required by the protocol to the Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Funding and Policy Committee of the Office of the Attorney General and the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault Sexual Assault Kit Victim Notification Project or their designee within 15 days of receipt of the information by the law enforcement agency. 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.

D21

Explanation: The fiscal 2027 allowance includes enhanced public safety aid through the State Aid for Police Protection Program (SAPP). This language requires that a portion of enhanced SAPP funding be distributed to law enforcement agencies only after agencies attest that they are in compliance with the Maryland Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Victim Notification Protocol.

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$6,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of State Aid for Police Protection enhancement funding may not be expended for that purpose but instead may only be used for the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy to provide grants for law enforcement agencies to encrypt communications systems, including in-vehicle technology. 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: The fiscal 2027 allowance includes \$47,132,583 in enhanced public safety aid through State Aid for Police Protection. This language requires that \$6,000,000 of this amount be used for grants to law enforcement agencies to encrypt their communications systems, including in-vehicle technology.

Amendment No.

13

Budget Amendment

D21A03.01 Victim Services Unit

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration may not be expended until the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention 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,

D21

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.

Explanation: 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.

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

D24
Office of Social and Economic Mobility

Budget Amendment

D24A01.02 Office of Minority Business Enterprises

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Office of Minority Business Enterprises within the Department of Social and Economic Mobility (DoSEM) may not be expended until DoSEM submits a report to the budget committees indicating that the average processing time for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) certification applications has been reduced to six months or less. The report shall describe the actions taken by the department to expedite the certification process, current average processing times for initial MBE certification applications, the number of pending applications, and any operational or staffing changes implemented to support improvements in processing time. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees within 30 days of the average processing time decreasing to between four and six months, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The Office of Minority Business Enterprises within DoSEM is responsible for certifying MBEs that are eligible to participate in Maryland’s MBE procurement program. MBE certification enables contracts with certified firms to contribute toward the State’s minority participation goals. Currently, the certification process may take between 12 and 16 months before firms receive approval. DoSEM has indicated that it is taking steps to reduce this timeframe to between four and six months. This language restricts funding until DoSEM submits a report to the budget committees confirming that the average processing time for MBE certification applications has been reduced to this target range and providing information on the actions taken to expedite the certification process.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MBE certification processing time improvements	DoSEM	Within 30 days of average processing time decreasing to 6 months or less

D24

Committee Narrative

Report on Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) Support for the Office of Minority Business Enterprises (OMBE): OMBE, which is responsible for certification of Maryland Minority Business Enterprises, is historically operated within the Maryland Department of Transportation and is supported with funds from the TTF. In accordance with Chapter 605 of 2025, OMBE was transferred to the new Department of Social and Economic Mobility (DoSEM). However, State law continues to require that OMBE's operational and administrative expenses be supported by TTF revenues. Given that TTF revenues are dedicated transportation funds, the committees request that DoSEM submit a report detailing the amount of TTF funding used to support OMBE operations. The report should include the amount of TTF funding received and how the funds were expended in fiscal 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Report on TTF funding provided for OMBE</i>	<i>DoSEM</i>	<i>August 1, 2026</i>

**D26
Department of Aging**

Budget Amendment

D26A07.01 General Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funds to increase the turnover expectancy. The Maryland Department of Aging has 6 vacant positions as of December 31, 2025, after accounting for a proposed deficiency appropriation abolishing 4 vacant positions. These vacancies are higher than the 2.03 necessary vacancies to meet the budgeted turnover rate of 4.05% in the fiscal 2027 allowance.	-219,373	FF
Total Change	-219,373	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	50.00	50.00		0.00
General Funds	4,144,676	4,144,676	0	
Federal Funds	4,092,448	3,873,075	-219,373	

Budget Amendment

D26A07.03 Community Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$1,300,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of grants through the Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities program may be used only to provide grants as follows:

(1) \$575,000 to the Jewish Social Service Agency for the following purposes:

D26

- (a) \$350,000 for the Holocaust Survivor Program; and*
- (b) \$225,000 for the Coming of Aging in Maryland Program;*
- (2) \$475,000 to Jewish Community Services, Inc. for the following purposes:*
 - (a) \$350,000 for the Holocaust Survivor Program; and*
 - (b) \$125,000 for the Millbrook Case Management Program;*
- (3) \$100,000 to Comprehensive Housing Assistance, Inc. for the Senior Villages Program;*
- (4) \$75,000 to CHANA Baltimore, Inc. for the Elder Abuse Prevention Program; and*
- (5) \$75,000 to Hebrew Home of Greater Washington, Inc. for the Charles E. Smith Life Communities ElderSAFE Center.*

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 funds within the Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities program to be used only to distribute grants for specified recipients and uses.*

Amendment No.

14

Committee Narrative

Supporting Older Adults with Resources Program Implementation Plan: In accordance with Chapters 33 and 34 of 2025, the Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA) is undergoing a process of consolidating three major community services programs into the Supporting Older Adults with Resources (SOAR) program. The legacy programs combine \$20.1 million of general funds and provide services to almost 4,000 participants to support them to live independently. The committees request that MDOA provide a report on its final transition plan for implementing the SOAR program, including:

- the status of consolidating administration of the legacy programs;

D26

- the SOAR implementation timeline, noting the timing of completed tasks and target dates for any remaining consolidation tasks;
- details on how funding will be allocated to local Area Agencies on Aging;
- discussion and estimates of administrative cost savings from the consolidation;
- participant eligibility requirements to receive services;
- services available to participants in SOAR, including the discontinuation of any services provided in legacy programs; and
- impacts of the consolidation on legacy participants, including plans to transition legacy participants into new services and a description of how services differ for legacy participants in SOAR.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the implementation of the SOAR program	MDOA	June 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Managing for Results (MFR) Measures for Supporting Older Adults with Resources (SOAR) Program: Chapters 33 and 34 of 2025 consolidate Senior Care, Senior Assisted Living Subsidy, and Congregate Housing Services Program into the SOAR program beginning in fiscal 2027. The Maryland Department of Aging’s (MDOA) annual MFR submission includes indicators reflecting goals to (1) enable older adults to remain in their homes with a high quality of life for as long as possible; (2) to prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults; (3) to empower older adults to stay active and healthy; and (4) to provide mobility to Marylanders of all ages while protecting the environment. As the SOAR program will be MDOA’s largest state-funded community services program, measures should be added to assess the program’s performance. The committees request that MDOA create new performance measures for the SOAR program, including annual participant counts, to be included in the MFR submission with the fiscal 2028 budget.

D26

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR measures for the SOAR program	MDOA	With submission of the fiscal 2028 budget

Committee Narrative

Report on the Condition of Senior Center Facilities: *The committees are interested in the condition of senior citizen activity center facilities across the State. The committees request that the Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA), in collaboration with local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), compile information and assessments on statewide building conditions of all senior citizen activity centers to facilitate improved local government planning. MDOA should submit a report with the following information:*

- *a list of senior citizen activity centers across the State by jurisdiction;*
- *the age and condition of the facilities, including identifying facility components that are approaching the end of their useful life (roof, plumbing, HVAC, etc.);*
- *a summary of challenges or concerns regarding facility conditions; and*
- *recommendations for improving the conditions of facilities across the State, including plans to increase awareness and use of the Senior Citizens Activities Center Grant Program for projects that improve senior centers.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on senior center facility conditions</i>	<i>MDOA AAA</i>	<i>September 1, 2026</i>

D27L00
Maryland Commission on Civil Rights

Committee Narrative

D27L00.01

General Administration

Measures Implemented to Reduce Case Backlogs: The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (MCCR) has faced persistent challenges in case processing that have been primarily attributed to staffing limitations, contributing to delays and a backlog of cases awaiting assignment. The committees request that MCCR submit a report outlining any measures implemented to reduce case backlogs, including:

- the status of filling vacant positions related to both the new positions in fiscal 2026 and other vacant positions and the impact of filling vacant positions on the case backlog and case assignment timeliness;
- *a discussion of how MCCR determines the classification of new positions and why positions focused on education and outreach were recruited in calendar 2025 despite MCCR’s case backlog;*
- metrics tracking case resolution outcomes, including average processing time, number of cases closed, and proportion of cases resolved within established benchmarks;
- a discussion of operational improvements, including any changes in workflow, investigator caseloads, or coordination with involved parties and any impacts these changes have had on case backlogs; and
- current average staff to caseload ratios by case type and a comparison to the staff to caseload ratios held at similar offices in other jurisdiction

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on measures implemented to reduce case backlogs	MCCR	November 1, 2026

D28A03
Maryland Stadium Authority

Budget Amendment

D28A03.78 Major Sports and Entertainment Event Program Fund

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
<p>1. <i>Reduce funds for Annual Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill. This is an ongoing subsidy for an economic development event that is crowding out the Major Sports and Entertainment Event Program Fund's resources. Lottery coverage ratios are close to the minimum target, which is that net lottery revenues are at least 3.0 times lottery distributions. Anticipated additional debt service required for the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund is expected to put the coverage ratio at or below the target. Reducing funds helps keep ratios above the target and reduces the potential for additional reductions to lottery distributions. In March 2026, sponsors announced that the October 2026 event is canceled.</i></p>	-1,750,000 SF	
Total Change	-1,750,000	0.00

	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Funds		10,000,000	8,250,000	-1,750,000	

Amendment No.

15

D38I01 State Board of Elections

D38I01.01 General Administration

Committee Narrative

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

- a description of activities undertaken during the quarter, including dates, identification of achieved milestones or delays, and an assessment of how any delays affect the overall project timeline *and the anticipated timeline for full statewide deployment of the system;*
- actual project spending by month for the quarter, cumulative project expenditures to date, including total spending since project inception and remaining estimated funding by fund source;
- any changes to the project's approved cost baseline, including explanations for increases or decreases in total estimated project costs;
- *a discussion of any technical or operational issues encountered during development, testing, or implementation for elections, specifying the election in which the system was used, impacts on election administration, and corrective actions taken;*
- an assessment of future risks to the project timeline and planned mitigation strategies; and
- identification of key upcoming milestones and external dependencies, including vendor deliverables, federal certification requirements, and coordination with local boards of elections, that could affect project readiness for upcoming election cycles.

D38I01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly report on all MITDPs	SBE	July 15, 2026 October 15, 2026 January 15, 2027 April 15, 2027

D40W01
Department of Planning

Budget Amendment

D40W01.01 Operations Division

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Department of Planning submits a report to the budget committees on permits that impact the business community, including identifying places where permitting overlaps agencies unnecessarily, a review of the processing time to issue permits, and recommendations for metrics around permitting that should be included in the State’s Managing for Results performance review. The department shall consult with the Maryland Coordinated Permitting Review Council, the Department of Legislative Services, the Maryland Association of Counties, the Maryland Municipal League, and any other relevant departments or stakeholders in developing the report. The report shall be submitted by September 30, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds for administrative purposes in the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) until the department submits a report on permits that impact the business community. The committees request that MDP work in conjunction with the Maryland Coordinated Permitting Review Council, the Department of Legislative Services, the Maryland Association of Counties, *the Maryland Municipal League*, and any other relevant departments or stakeholders to develop the report.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on permits that impact the business community and metrics around permitting that should be included in the State’s Managing for Results performance review	MDP	September 30, 2026

Amendment No.

16

D40W01

Budget Amendment

D40W01.03 Planning Data and Research

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$150,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) submits a report to the budget committees on the feasibility, fiscal impacts, and policy design for applying a split-rate or land value tax within defined areas adjacent to rail stations served by MARC, MTA Metro SubwayLink, MTA Light RailLink, or the Purple Line. MDP shall consult with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT), the Maryland Department of Transportation, and the Department of Legislative Services in preparing the report. SDAT shall provide MDP with assessment and sales data necessary to complete the report no later than August 1, 2026. The report shall include the following:

- (1) estimated fiscal impacts on affected local jurisdictions of applying a higher tax rate to land than to improvements within defined station areas, assuming all additional revenue accrues to the local jurisdiction, including distributional effects by property type and modeling of net revenue effects at a range of land-to-improvement rate differentials, and a review of published evidence on whether split-rate taxation near transit increases or decreases housing production;
- (2) the estimated cost to SDAT of implementing a station area-only split-rate subclass, distinct from the statewide costs analyzed in the fiscal note for HB 78 and SB 457, and a review of property tax assessment appeal rates in Pennsylvania municipalities that have implemented split-rate taxation;
- (3) a review of the circumstances under which Pittsburgh's split-rate tax was repealed in 2001, the role of deferred reassessments in that outcome, and the extent to which Maryland's triennial reassessment cycle may mitigate comparable risks in a Maryland station-area pilot; and
- (4) any statutory changes required to authorize a pilot program and a ranked identification of station areas suitable for an initial pilot with ranking criteria stated.

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.

D40W01

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on the possibility of applying a split-rate or land value tax adjacent to rail stations</i>	<i>MDP</i>	<i>December 1, 2026</i>

Amendment No.

17

Budget Amendment

D40W01.04 Planning Coordination

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

, 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.

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, 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.

D40W01

Budget Amendment

D40W01.12 Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit

Strike the following language:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$1,500,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation reducing the mandate for the Small Commercial Historic Revitalization Tax Credit~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not necessary for the General Assembly to reduce funds directly.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for the Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit program's small commercial tax credits.	-1,500,000	GF
Total Change	-1,500,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	18,500,000	17,000,000	-1,500,000	

Committee Narrative

Report on Historic Revitalization Tax Credit Utilization: *The committees request that the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) report on the demand for and utilization of the Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit's competitive commercial and small commercial tax credit programs. The report should include information on initial tax credit certificates issued annually for fiscal 2023 through 2026, including, for each program, the number of applications received and the amount of funding requested, and the number and value of initial certificates issued. The report should also include fund balances of the Reserve Fund and Small Commercial Project Trust Account.*

D40W01

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on Historic Revitalization MDP Tax Credit competitive commercial and small commercial programs</i>		<i>October 30, 2026</i>

D50H01
Military Department

Budget Amendment

D50H01.05 State Operations

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

, provided that ~~\$500,000~~ \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Military Department, in collaboration with the Department of General Services, submits a report to the budget committees on the Freestate Challege Academy (FCA), including the expected timeline for reopening FCA, detailed facility assessment report, and estimated total costs, funding sources, and actual spending for facility renovations. The report should also discuss the Military Department’s plan and timeline to increase personnel at FCA in preparation for reopening the program. The Military Department shall submit the report to the budget committees by September 1, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: In September 2025, the FCA program was shut down due to plumbing issues at the facility. The FCA program remains closed with no timeline for reopening. The fiscal 2027 budget abolishes 47 of 50 regular positions dedicated to this program and reduces the operating budget by \$8.7 million, or 96.6%, as compared to the fiscal 2026 working appropriation. This language restricts funds pending submission of a report from the Military Department and the Department of General Services (DGS) on the timeline for reopening FCA and details on facility renovations.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on FCA reopening and facility renovations	Military Department Department of General Services	September 1, 2026

Amendment No.

18

D50H01

Committee Narrative

Managing for Results (MFR) Measures for Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program: Chapter 612 of 2023 established the Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program in the Military Department, which officially launched in November 2023. The committees request that the Military Department, beginning with the fiscal 2028 MFR submission, include new measures for the Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program that track program progress. The measures should include for each year:

- the number of Maryland National Guard (MDNG) members eligible to participate in the program;
- the number of eligible MDNG members enrolled in the program;
- the program participation rate;
- average reimbursement claims submitted;
- average grant amounts; and
- average premium amounts for each of the coverage plans.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR measures for Tricare Premium Military Department Reimbursement Program		With submission of the fiscal 2028 budget

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Budget Amendment

D52A01.01 Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

, 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.

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.

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, 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.

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.

Amend the following language on the federal fund appropriation:

, 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 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.

D52

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.

Committee Narrative

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

Committee Narrative

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 the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (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.

D52

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the RMRLF	MDEM	October 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

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

Committee Narrative

Efforts to Support Apprenticeships for First Responders: The Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) supports first responders through ongoing grant programs and financial administration and emergency coordination during major incidents. The committees request that MDEM, in collaboration with the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS), submit a report describing efforts to support apprenticeship programs for first responders, including employees providing fire, rescue, and emergency medical services. The report should identify existing apprenticeship programs for first responders, noting the positions supported by apprenticeships and barriers to creating new apprenticeships and obstacles

D52

to scaling. The report should also include details on the number of existing registered apprentices; the timeline to scale by occupation; previous data on the number of participants in apprenticeship programs; and actions taken by MDEM and MIEMSS, or planned actions, to support these programs and offer additional apprenticeship opportunities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Efforts to support apprenticeships for first responders	MDEM MIEMSS	November 15, 2026

Committee Narrative

Implementing the Georges Creek Task Force Recommendations: The committees request that the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM), the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) submit a report on efforts to mitigate the impact of future flooding along Georges Creek in Allegany County, *including the federal government's involvement in the mitigation efforts*. In addition, MDE, MDEM, and MDOT should discuss the feasibility of implementing the recommendations in the draft Georges Creek Task Force Action Report, including the expected costs and funding mechanisms.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on implementing the Georges Creek Task Force recommendations	MDEM MDE MDOT	December 1, 2026

D52

Budget Amendment

D52A01.02 Maryland 911 Board

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</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
Total Change	-85,658	
	0	0.00

	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
<u>Effect</u>				
Position	7.00	7.00		0.00
Special Funds	212,223,429	212,137,771	-85,658	
		212,223,429	0	

Amendment No.

19

D55P00

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 DVMF progress		December 1, 2026

D70J00

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

Committee Narrative

***Uninsured Division Claims:** The committees are interested in better understanding claim trends in the Uninsured Division. The committees request that the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto) submit a report with data on use of claims in the Uninsured Division between calendar 2020 and 2026 through October 2026. The report should include the number of claims, claims by type, closure rates, and subrogation recovery rates, if any. Data should be provided separately by year. Maryland Auto should discuss any factors that have contributed to changes in claims, closure rates, or recoveries in this time period.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on claims for the uninsured division</i>	<i>Maryland Auto</i>	<i>December 1, 2026</i>

D73
Office of the Inspector General

Committee Narrative

D73A01.01

Office of the Inspector General

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Local Cooperation with the Office of the Inspector General for Education	OIGE	August 1, 2026

D74
Office of the Correctional Ombudsman

Budget Amendment

D74A01.01 Office of the Correctional Ombudsman

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Office of the Correctional Ombudsman submits a report to the budget committees containing proposed Managing for Results goals, objectives, and measures. The report shall include actual fiscal 2025 data and estimates for fiscal 2026 and 2027. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than July 1, 2026. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: *The Office of the Correctional Ombudsman (OCO) did not submit Managing for Results (MFR) goals, objectives, or measures with its fiscal 2027 budget. This language restricts funds pending the submission of a report with proposed MFR goals, objectives, and measures, including actual fiscal 2025 data and estimates for fiscal 2026 and 2027.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on MFR objectives and measures</i>	<i>OCO</i>	<i>July 1, 2026</i>

Amendment No. 20

Committee Narrative

~~**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.~~

D74

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status report on MFR objectives and measures	OCO	July 1, 2026

D78Y01
Maryland Health Benefit Exchange

Committee Narrative

D78Y01.03 Reinsurance Program

Reinsurance and State Subsidy Program Costs and Forecasts: The committees are interested in monitoring the costs of the State Reinsurance Program and State Subsidy Program and future funding needs. The committees request that the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) submit a report that provides an updated forecast of spending and funding needs for both program, including estimated costs through calendar 2028.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reinsurance and State Subsidy program costs and forecasts	MHBE	September 30, 2026

D80Z01
Maryland Insurance Administration

Committee Narrative

D80Z01.01 Administration and Operations

Insurance Tracking System Project Status: After significant delays beginning in calendar 2020, active development of the Insurance Tracking System Project is underway. The Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) has begun Phase 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

Committee Narrative

Report on Affordable Care Act (ACA) Segregated Account Funding Data: The committees request that the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA), in collaboration with the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration (PHPA) in the Maryland Department of Health, submit a report with data from insurers, nonprofit health services providers, and health maintenance organizations on segregated accounts established under the federal ACA. The report should include data from calendar 2025 on receipts, disbursements, ending balances, and interest for the segregated accounts.

D80Z01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on ACA segregated account data	MIA PHPA	January 1, 2027

D91
West North Avenue Development Authority

Committee Narrative

D91A01.01 West North Avenue Development Authority

Anticipated Spending in the Proposed Operating Budget: The committees request that the West North Avenue Development Authority (WNADA) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) program anticipated spending in the proposed fiscal 2028 budget to minimize the potential for reallocating large percentages of funds intended for grants to other purposes. The proposed budget, as shown in the Governor’s Fiscal 2028 Budget Books, should include anticipated spending by budget object. The supporting budget data should include anticipated contracts, the purposes of contracts, and the entities expected to fulfill the contracts, where known. The committees recognize that these estimates may be subject to change based on unanticipated program needs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Anticipated spending by budget object and anticipated contracts	WNADA DBM	With the submission of the fiscal 2028 operating budget

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

Budget Amendment

E00A08.01 **Office of Public Policy, Public Works and Investment, The Office of Public Engagement and Communications, General Accounting**

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$125,051 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 to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$125,051 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 to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.

E50C
State Department of Assessments and Taxation

Budget Amendment

E50C00.01 Office of the Director

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce special funds to delete 1.0 long-term vacant position within the Office of the Director. This position has been vacant since August 2024.	-116,423	SF	-1.00
Total Change	-116,423		-1.00

	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	29.00	28.00		-1.00
Special Funds	7,909,642	7,793,219	-116,423	

Budget Amendment

E50C00.04 Office of Information Technology

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Office of Information Technology may not be expended until the State Department of Assessments and Taxation submits a report to the budget committees on the status of the Cloud Revenue Integrated System (CRIS) development project as of October 1, 2026. The report shall include:

- (1) a description of CRIS project milestones achieved, remaining milestones, and the overall project schedule; and
- (2) how much funding was appropriated and spent in each fiscal year by fund type.

E50C

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.

Explanation: This language restricts funds budgeted for administrative purposes until the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) submits a report updating the budget committees on the status of the CRIS project and how much funding has been appropriated and spent in each fiscal year.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CRIS Project Status Update	SDAT	November 1, 2026

E80E
Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board

Budget Amendment

E80E00.01 Property Tax Assessment Appeals Boards

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Boards (PTAAB) may not be expended until PTAAB submits a report to the budget committees on how the agency is transitioning from paper-based processes to electronic processes to enhance efficiency. The report shall include:

- (1) a description of all current paper-based processes used for agency operations; and
- (2) what actions are being taken and the timeframe to move each of these processes into an electronic format.

The report shall be submitted by September 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: PTAAB reported that it relies entirely on paper-based processes for its operations. This language restricts funds budgeted for administrative purposes until PTAAB submits a report on actions being taken to move away from paper-based processes.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on transition from paper-based processes	PTAAB	September 1, 2026

E80E

Committee Narrative

Local Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board (PTAAB) Vacancies and Backlogged Cases:

The committees request that PTAAB submit a report on the status of vacancies and backlogged cases for each local jurisdiction. The report shall include the following information for each local PTAAB as of June 30, 2026:

- the number of vacancies; and
- the number of cases in the backlog.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of vacancies and backlogged cases	PTAAB	August 1, 2026

F10A
Office of the Secretary
Department of Budget and Management

Budget Amendment

F10A01.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Budget and Management submits a report on the expenditure of federal funds available through the American Rescue Plan Act award for the State Fiscal Relief Fund (SFRF) program. The report shall include a table listing the amount available to the State through each SFRF grant, the amount expended for each fiscal year, and the remaining balance. The report shall identify the reasons why any funds are expected to expire prior to use. The report shall be submitted by September 15, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Appendix O of the Governor’s Fiscal 2027 Budget Highlights showed unexpended balances in federal SFRF monies totaling \$160 million. This language requires a full accounting of SFRF grants to increase transparency and oversight of federal fund spending and maximize utilization of available resources.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
SFRF grant balances	Department of Budget and Management	September 15, 2026

Strike the following language:

~~Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submits a confidential report on cybersecurity governance to the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee, the Chair and Subcommittee Chairs of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Chair and Subcommittee Chairs of the House Appropriations Committee, and the Joint Committee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology and Biotechnology. The confidential~~

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~~report shall be produced in a manner prescribed by the State Chief Information Security Officer (SCISO) and include details from: the Maryland Department of Health, the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, and the Maryland Department of State Police. In consultation with the SCISO, DBM shall compile the data received from each department and the University System of Maryland into a consolidated confidential report.~~

~~The report shall provide an update on implementation from each of the agencies of critical systems including:~~

- ~~(1) information technology system access verification and dates of most recent review of all user access and related results;~~
- ~~(2) malware protection, including procedures to ensure malware protection and the date of the most recent review of malware protection controls and the related results;~~
- ~~(3) multi factor authentication, including data of the most recent review of multi-factor authentication, and related results;~~
- ~~(4) personally identifiable information (PII) protection for applications exceeding 5,000 unique records, procedures for ensuring PII encryption and the date of the most recent inventory and review of PII security; and~~
- ~~(5) information technology service providers cloud activity, including procedures for ensuring external security assurances (System and Organization Controls (SOC) 2 Type 2 report) are obtained, the date of the most recent SOC 2 Type 2 report for each service provider and cloud service, and significant findings.~~

~~The report shall be submitted by December 15, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending submission 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. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the report also be submitted concurrently to the Governor, the Chief of Staff, and Deputy Chief of Staff for the Governor.~~

Explanation:

~~Given the rapidly increasing cybersecurity attacks, and the cost associated with those attacks, the budget committees are concerned with the status of cybersecurity protections in the State. This action requires DBM and SCISO to review protections for large State agencies and report on significant findings to relevant decision makers.~~

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Confidential cybersecurity governance report	DBM	December 15, 2026

Amendment No.

21

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that, since six State agencies had repeat audit findings in calendar 2025 fiscal compliance reports issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) for certain repeat findings, \$250,000 of the appropriation made for the purpose of Executive Direction may not be expended until:

- (1) representatives from agencies with certain repeat audit findings in calendar 2025 have met with the State Chief Information Security Officer (SCISO) to identify and document a path for resolution of any outstanding issues, and the agency has taken corrective action with respect to the findings, including articulating any ongoing associated costs and a timeline for resolution if the corrective action is not complete;
- (2) SCISO submits a report to OLA by February 1, 2027, addressing corrective actions taken, a path and timeline for resolution of any outstanding issues, and any ongoing costs associated with corrective actions; and
- (3) a report is submitted to the budget committees and the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) by OLA, no later than May 1, 2027, listing each repeat audit finding in accordance with item (1) that demonstrates the agencies' commitment to correct each repeat audit finding.

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

Explanation: Audit reports from calendar 2025 identified certain repeat audit findings in State agencies. This language requires that these agencies report their plans to remediate repeat audit findings to SCISO. SCISO should review these plans and report to OLA about these agencies' plans. OLA should review the SCISO's findings and report on the

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commitment to resolving these repeat findings to the budget committees and JAEC. The six State agencies are the Maryland Higher Education Commission, the Department of Human Services Local Department Operations, the Maryland Department of Labor Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning, the Department of Juvenile Services, the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services Information Technology and Communications Division.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on repeat audit findings	SCISO OLA	February 1, 2027 May 1, 2027

Committee Narrative

Submission of Select Budget Detail: The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit complete fiscal 2028 subobject detail by program for Comptroller Objects 08 and 12 by the tenth day of the 2027 legislation session in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Comptroller Objects 08 and 12 budget detail	DBM	Tenth day of the 2027 legislation session

Committee Narrative

Apprenticeship Position Capacity Report: Recognizing the importance of registered apprenticeships as a potential talent pipeline for the State and the broad support for increasing the availability of registered apprenticeships, the budget committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) survey Executive Branch agencies to determine interest and capacity for establishing registered apprenticeship positions. The committees request that DBM submit a report identifying the number of additional regular positions each Executive Branch agency is interested in adding for apprenticeship positions and the classifications associated with those positions.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Apprenticeship position capacity report	DBM	September 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Deficiency Appropriations, Guidelines, and Trends: *Deficiency appropriations have increased in recent years. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) is responsible for monitoring potential shortfalls and approving deficiency appropriations for agency budgets. Therefore, the committees request that DBM submit a report on deficiency appropriations, guidelines, and trends. The report should discuss the policies and guidelines provided to agencies for requesting and receiving approval of deficiency appropriations. The report should also provide a comparison of deficiency appropriation trends from fiscal 2017 through 2026 that includes an analysis of growth trends.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Deficiency appropriations, guidelines, and trends	DBM	September 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Monitoring of Potential Shortfalls: *The committees are concerned with the large volume and cost of deficiency appropriations in recent years. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit a report describing ongoing efforts and past actions taken to monitor potential shortfalls in Executive Branch agencies and limit discretionary spending that might contribute to shortfalls. The report should include specific descriptions of efforts to address deficiencies that were repeated from the prior year and efforts to reduce or eliminate deficiencies in the future. The report should also address procedures for monitoring and alleviating shortfalls for specific entitlement programs, including:*

- *Assistance Payments;*
- *Foster Care payments;*
- *Medicaid provider reimbursements;*

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- *Maryland Children’s Health Program provider reimbursements;*
- *Behavioral health provider reimbursements;*
- *Developmental disabilities provider reimbursements;*
- *Autism Waiver; and*
- *Child Care Scholarship.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Monitoring of potential shortfalls</i>	<i>DBM</i>	<i>July 15, 2026</i>

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

Budget Amendment

F10A02.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that since the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Office of Personnel Services and Benefits (OPSB) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$100,000 of this agency’s administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) DBM OPSB has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2026; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected.

The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2027. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

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

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

F10A02

Committee Narrative

Health Insurance Account Closeout Report: The committees request a report on the fiscal 2026 closeout of the Employee and Retiree Health Insurance Account. This report shall include:

- the closing fiscal 2026 fund balance;
- the actual provider payments due in the fiscal year broken out by medical payments for active employees, medical payments for non-Medicare-eligible retirees, medical payments for Medicare-eligible retirees, prescription drug payments for active employees, prescription drug payments for non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and prescription drug payments for Medicare-eligible retirees;
- State employee and retiree contributions, broken out by active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees;
- an accounting of rebates, recoveries, and other costs, broken out into rebates, recoveries, and other costs associated with active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees;
- any closeout transactions processed after the fiscal year ended; and
- actual incurred but not received costs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on fiscal 2026 closeout data for the Employee and Retiree Health Insurance Account	Department of Budget and Management	October 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Quarterly Medical, Dental, and Prescription Plan: In recent years, the State has implemented different strategies to contain medical and prescription costs. In fiscal 2026, the State transitioned to a new pharmacy services vendor and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) began reporting prescription drug costs in different categories than the previous vendor, preventing historical comparisons based on category of medication. The budget committees request that DBM submit quarterly reports on plan performance and reporting methodology of the State's prescription, medical, and dental plans.

F10A02

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

It is the intent of the committees that the reports should provide reporting consistent with historical reporting where possible. With submission of the first quarterly report, DBM should include an analysis of the differences between the reporting methodologies of the current and previous vendor. The analysis should discuss the feasibility of returning to a reporting methodology consistent with previous reports, including identifying areas where reporting can be consistent and identify reasons for any areas that cannot be reported consistently.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly State medical, dental, and prescription drug plan performance reports	DBM	September 15, 2026 December 15, 2026 March 15, 2027 June 15, 2027

Committee Narrative

Government Modernization Initiative: The committees are interested in continuing to receive more information about the Government Modernization Initiative. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit a report, due December 15, 2026, detailing the initiatives implemented, the savings achieved for each initiative, and the incentive payments provided to the vendor. The report should provide funding and payment information by fund source. The report should differentiate between one-time and ongoing savings.

F10A02

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Government Modernization Initiative	DBM	December 15, 2026

F10A05
Office of Budget Analysis
Department of Budget and Management

Budget Amendment

F10A05.01 Budget Analysis and Formulation

Strike the following language:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$40,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation removing the requirement for printed budget books.~~

Explanation: This action strikes language that reduces funds contingent on removing the requirement to print budget books. Fiscal 2026 and 2027 include \$40,000 each for this purpose. The Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026, however, proposes to modify this requirement so that only online publishing is required.

F50
Department of Information Technology

Budget Amendment

F50A01.01 Information Technology Investment Fund

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete general funds for the Department of Information Technology Statewide Permitting Platform Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) because the information technology project request for this MITDP was not submitted as required by § 3.5-308 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.	-500,000	GF
2. Delete general funds for the Maryland Department of Health Medicaid Pharmacy Benefits Electronic Claims System Major Information Technology Development Project and authorize a budget amendment to be processed to replace these funds with federal funds to account for the expected 90% federal fund match for this project. This action will delete general funds in the Information Technology Investment Fund for this project and authorize a budget amendment to be processed to replace these funds with federal funds.	-1,250,000	GF
3. Reduce general funds for the Information Technology Investment Fund. An equivalent amount of special fund appropriation is added to the fiscal 2026 working appropriation in a separate action. The Secretary of the Department of Information Technology is authorized to allocate this reduction among projects.	-59,314,476	GF
Total Change	-61,064,476	0.00

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<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	96,667,765	35,603,289	-61,064,476	

Committee Narrative

Information on Out-year Funding and Cost Estimates for Major Information Technology Development Projects (MITDP): Historically, the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) have submitted out-year funding and costs estimates for each MITDP split by fiscal years and fund sources in a separate MITDP appendix with the budget books. Although the Governor’s Fiscal 2027 Budget Book include a separate MITDP appendix, the appendix does not include information on the out-year funding and cost estimates split by fiscal years and fund sources. Additionally, MITDPs are primarily funded by general funds through the Information Technology Investment Fund, and the out-year funding information is required for the State’s general fund projections. The committees request that DoIT, in collaboration with DBM, include the out-year funding requirement and estimated cost for each MITDP split by fiscal years and fund sources in the MITDP appendix with the Governor’s Fiscal 2028 Budget Books.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Information on out-year funding and cost estimates for MITDPs	DoIT DBM	With submission of the Governor’s Fiscal 2028 Budget Books

Budget Amendment

F50B04.01 State Chief of Information Technology

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Increase turnover expectancy for 9 new positions in Program F50B04.01 to 25% to be consistent with budgeted turnover for new positions.	-440,151	GF
Total Change	-440,151	0.00

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<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	42.00	42.00		0.00
General Funds	35,334,097	34,893,946	-440,151	

Committee Narrative

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

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

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

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

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Budget Amendment

F50B04.05 Chief of Staff

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</u>
1. Increase turnover expectancy for 2 new positions in Program F50B04.05 to 25% to be consistent with budgeted turnover for new positions.	-91,299	GF	
Total Change	-91,299		0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	27.00	27.00		0.00
General Funds	6,331,686	6,240,387	-91,299	

Committee Narrative

F50B04.08 Maryland (MD) Benefits

Report on Maryland Benefits: The Maryland Benefits, previously known as MD THINK, is a cloud-based platform that provides infrastructure, data, and application services to multiple State agencies. Maryland Benefits was transferred to the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) from the Department of Human Services (DHS) beginning in fiscal 2026 to support continued integration of multiple agencies and identify efficiencies for the platform. The shared platform and Eligibility and Enrollment (E&E) application were transferred to DoIT. Applications that are solely used by DHS, Child, Juvenile, and Adult Management System (CJAMS) and Child Support Management System (CSMS) are to remain with DHS. However, DHS reported that operational duties for CJAMS and CSMS are still integrated with the MD Benefits shared platform and are currently with DoIT. Both DoIT and DHS estimate separating the applications by the end of fiscal 2026. Additionally, Maryland Benefits encountered significant investment and implementation challenges before it was transferred to DoIT. The committees request DoIT to submit a report on ~~the progress of the shared platform and E&E implementation by DoIT, the separation of CJAMS and CSMS applications from Maryland Benefits' shared platform, costs, additional efficiencies identified, and estimated savings. The report should also include how procurements for different components of the platform are carried out and the possibility of identifying savings either through consolidation of multiple contracts or separating a single contract into multiple contracts.~~ *Maryland Benefits, including:*

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- *an update on the separation of CJAMS and CSMS applications and the reasons for delay in transition;*
- *an update on the implementation of the shared platform and E&E application, including program costs and/or anticipated cost overruns, expected savings, and potential challenges; and*
- *description of procurement process for various components of the shared platform and anticipated efficiencies and savings through contract consolidation.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Maryland Benefits	DoIT	December 1, 2026

H00
Department of General Services

Budget Amendment

H00A01.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of Executive Direction may not be expended until the Department of General Services, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management and the Department of Planning, submits a status report to the budget committees that provides an assessment and review of the State’s facility and real property asset inventory with recommendations for maximizing the economic efficiency and effectiveness of the State’s assets. The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2026, and include a review and assessment of master planning strategies and policies for (1) facilities programming; (2) determinations concerning purchase versus lease versus construction for office space for State agencies, including the establishment of the criteria and best practice for the development of cost-benefit analysis; and (3) an assessment of the utilization of State-owned and leased space. The budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment after the date of submission of the report. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The budget committees are interested in receiving a status report that provides an assessment and review of the State’s facility and real property asset inventory with recommendations for maximizing the economic efficiency and effectiveness of the State’s assets. This language restricts funds pending a status report that provides an assessment of the State’s asset maximization strategies.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status report on maximization of State assets	Department of General Services Department of Budget and Management	December 1, 2026

H00

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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

- (1) DGS has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2026; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2027.

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

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

Committee Narrative

Status Report on State Center Complex Agency Relocations and Funding: The relocation of State agencies from the State Center complex to vacant office space within Baltimore City's Central Business District started in fiscal 2022. A total of \$80 million is appropriated in the Dedicated Purpose Account (DPA) to cover moving expenses, rent, and parking for the first year at new locations; new furniture; cubicles; new information technology (IT) equipment; and relocating existing IT equipment. As of January 2026, \$41.1 million of the DPA funds appropriated for State Center agency relocation have been expended. In anticipation of the State Center agency relocation being completed by the first quarter of calendar 2027, the committees

H00

request that DGS submit two reports on the status of the State Center agency relocations and funding, which include:

- the status of moves and new site locations for each agency moving out of the State Center complex in Baltimore City;
- the uses and timing of State Center funds appropriated into the DPA to support State agency moves and demolition; and
- any additional expenditures not reimbursed by the DPA.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of State Center agency relocation, funding, and expenditures	Department of General Services	October 1, 2026 April 1, 2027

Budget Amendment

H00D01.01 Procurement and Logistics

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that since the Department of General Services – Office of State Procurement (OSP) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$250,000 of this agency’s administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) OSP has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2026; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2027.

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

H00

each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit a report to the budget committees on the status of repeat findings.

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

Budget Amendment

H00G01.01 Office of Design, Construction and Energy

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$20,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to include providing grants or loans to support the creation of new Tier 1 renewable energy sources in the State

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.

Committee Narrative

Report on the Use of Strategic Energy Investment Funds (SEIF): A provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026 authorizes the Governor to use compliance fees deposited into the SEIF for grants or loans to support the creation of new tier 1 renewable energy sources in the State for fiscal 2027 through 2031. The fiscal 2027 allowance for the Department of General Services (DGS) includes \$20 million in special funds as contingent appropriation for the Office of Design, Construction, and Energy. According to DGS, this contingent appropriation will be utilized to subsidize solar installations at State-owned facilities located in underserved and overburdened communities and use the available funds to implement Energy Performance Contracts to decarbonize State facilities that currently burn natural gas and fuel oil. The committees request DGS to submit a report that identifies the projects supported through the initiative, including the state of project completeness, funds utilized for each project, and the estimated energy savings associated with each project.

H00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the utilization of the SEIF	DGS	June 1, 2027

Committee Narrative

Report on the Critical Maintenance Backlog Projects: As of January 2026, there are 246 projects in the critical maintenance backlog, which is an increase of 51 projects compared to 195 projects reported in January 2025. The committees request the Department of General Services (DGS) to submit a report on the critical maintenance backlog projects, including project title, project priority, agency currently occupying the facility, and total project cost.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the critical maintenance backlog projects	DGS	December 15, 2026

I00
Department of Service and Civic Innovation

Budget Amendment

I00A01.01 Service and Civic Innovation

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Delete 10 new positions and associated funding, representing level participation in the Maryland Corps programs from Class 3 to Class 4. This action maintains current coach-to-participant levels for Maryland Corps by reducing new coach positions. This action also requires the department to use existing vacancies to increase administrative staff.</i>	-109,635 GF	-1.00
<i>Total Change</i>	-109,635	-1.00

	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
<i>Position</i>		18.00	17.00		-1.00
<i>General Funds</i>		6,665,601	6,555,966	-109,635	

Amendment No. 22

Budget Amendment

I00A01.02 Maryland Corps Program

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Reduce funding for grants supporting Maryland Corps due to the fiscal condition of the State, the failure of the Department of Service and Civic Innovation to meet statutory participation targets, and the lack of a program evaluation.</i>	-8,544,218 GF	
	-4,371,639 SF	

J00
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendment

Add the following language:

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

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

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

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

Explanation: This annual budget bill language requires the department to notify the budget committees of proposed changes to the transportation capital program that will add a new project that was not in the fiscal 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

J00

CTP as the basis for comparison. In addition, notification is required as needed throughout the budget year if certain changes to projects are made.

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

J00A01
The Secretary's Office
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendment

J00A01.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses within the Secretary's Office may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) submit a report to the budget committees outlining the processes by which MDTA uses to resolve customer issues related to toll billing and collections. The report should include a discussion of the current processes that MDTA uses to resolve these disputes, including how it communicates with its customers and legislative offices engaging with the department on their behalf during the dispute resolution process to ensure that issues have been satisfactorily addressed. The report should also include a discussion of how these processes and communications can be improved so that customers and legislative offices engaging the department on their behalf remain updated throughout the dispute resolution process and so that resolutions are achieved in a timely manner.

The report shall be submitted on 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 be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation:

This language restricts funding pending a report on the processes used by MDTA to resolve toll billing and collections issues and how these processes and communications with customers can be improved.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on toll billing and collection issues	Maryland Department of Transportation MDTA	November 1, 2026
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Committee Narrative

Apprenticeships within the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT): The committees are interested in learning about apprenticeships within the MDOT modes. The

J00A01

committees request that the Secretary's Office (TSO) submit a report including the following information:

- existing registered apprenticeships within the MDOT modes, including contractors;
- workforce needs of the department and contractors that could be met by registered apprenticeships;
- any barriers to creating and expanding apprenticeships at MDOT or by contractors; and
- goals for scaling apprenticeships by occupation and MDOT mode.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on apprenticeships in MDOT	TSO	December 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Recertification: The committees are interested in the DBE recertification process being undertaken by the Department of Social and Economic Mobility (DoSEM) and request that DoSEM and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Secretary's Office (TSO) submit a report by September 1, 2026, providing an update on the recertification process. The report should include the number of DBE-certified vendors prior to the recertification process, the number of vendors that submitted application for recertification, how many of those vendors were recertified, how recertification was determined, and how many of the recertified vendors were previously certified as a Small Business Enterprise. The report should include any challenges that MDOT has faced due to the need of DBE recertification and the status of the U.S. Department of Transportation's approval on relaunching the DBE Program, including the establishment of new DBE participation goals.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on DBE recertification process	DoSEM TSO	September 1, 2026

J00A01

Budget Amendment

J00A01.02 Operating Grants-In-Aid

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, 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

Budget Amendment

J00A01.03 Facilities and Capital Equipment

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that no funds may be expended by the Secretary's Office for any capital project or grant with a total project cost in excess of \$500,000 that is not currently included in the fiscal 2026 to 2031 Consolidated Transportation Program, except as outlined below:

J00A01

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

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

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

J00A04
Debt Service Requirements
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendment

Add the following language:

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:

- (1) MDOT provides notice to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee stating the specific reason for the additional issuance and providing specific information regarding the proposed issuance, including information specifying the total amount of 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
- (2) the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee have 45 days to review and comment on the proposed additional issuance before the publication of a preliminary official statement. The Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee may hold a public hearing to discuss the proposed increase and shall signal their intent to hold a hearing within 45 days of receiving notice from MDOT.

Explanation: Section 3-202 of the Transportation Article requires the General Assembly to establish the maximum debt outstanding for 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

J00A04

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.

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

Add the following language:

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

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

J00A04

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
State Highway Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendment

J00B01.01 State System Construction and Equipment

Strike the following language:

~~; provided that \$10,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent upon enactment of legislation expanding the uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund.~~

Explanation: This action strikes language that would have added \$10.0 million of the special fund appropriation from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund, contingent on legislation expanding the use of Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funding for the expanded use of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund.	-10,000,000	SF
Total Change	-10,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	1,508.00	1,508.00		0.00
Special Funds	255,417,623	245,417,623	-10,000,000	

J00B01.02 State System Maintenance

Committee Narrative

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:~~ *fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 year to date. The fiscal 2024 and 2025 data should be*

J00B01

submitted by July 1, 2026, and the fiscal 2026 data should be submitted by December 1, 2026. SHA should address how the agency will ensure that requests for reimbursements are submitted in a timely fashion and include processes being implemented to improve the processing of federal reimbursement in the future. The reports 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 fund reimbursements	SHA	<i>July 1, 2026</i> December 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Traffic Safety Plan: The committees request that the State Highway Administration (SHA) submit a comprehensive traffic safety plan for MD 410 between MD 500 and Route 1. The report should detail the sequence of actions needed to improve pedestrian safety, sidewalks, and street alignment and a timeline and estimated cost for completing these actions.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on traffic safety plan for MD 410	SHA	December 1, 2026

J00D00
Maryland Port Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

J00D00.01 Port Operations

Committee Narrative

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

Committee Narrative

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 *each federal grant award, total expenditures made to date from each grant, and the 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reports on Clean Ports Program and other federal grant awards	MPA	July 15, 2026 December 1, 2026

J00H01
Maryland Transit Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendment

J00H01.01 Transit Administration

Strike the following language:

~~provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration may only be used to provide matching fund grants to partner entities selected by the Maryland Department of Transportation for Purple Line launch marketing in the three months before and three months after the opening of the Purple Line light rail, with the intention that funds not awarded to grantees in fiscal 2027 remain available for award in fiscal 2028. Funds not expended for this purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled.~~

Explanation: This language restricts funding in the administrative budget of the Maryland Transit Administration for the purpose of providing matching fund grants to partner entities selected by the Maryland Department of Transportation for Purple Line launch marketing activities during the three months before and three months after the opening of the Purple Line light rail.

Amendment No.

24

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$150,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration in program J00H01.01 Transit Administration may not be expended until the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) submits a report to the budget committees regarding real-time audible and text-based announcement equipment on MTA vehicles including buses, light rail vehicles, subway cars, and railcars. The report shall include:

- (1) An inventory of vehicles that are not equipped with real-time audible and text-based announcement equipment and a plan for equipping any such vehicles with real-time audible and text-based announcement equipment, including a timeline and projected costs;

J00H01

- (2) An inventory of vehicles with non-operable real-time audible and text-based announcement equipment and a plan for fixing and maintaining such equipment, including the projected costs of having all repairs complete by October 1, 2027; and
- (3) Data on the average length of time current real-time audible and text-based announcement equipment is out of service broken down by vehicle type.

The report shall be submitted by October 1, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending a report on real-time audible and text-based announcement equipment in MTA vehicles.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on real-time audible and text-based announcement equipment in MTA vehicles	MTA	October 1, 2026

Amendment No. 25

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$150,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of transit administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) submits a report to the budget committees on the Workgroup on Curb Space Management created by Chapter 751 of 2024. The report shall include confirmation that the workgroup has been established by the department, a list of dates of meetings of the workgroup, and a summary of workgroup activities completed to date and planned as of the date of the report. The report shall be submitted by September 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 be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

J00H01

Explanation: Chapter 751 of 2024 (Better Bus Service Act) established the Workgroup on Curb Space Management, to be staffed by MDOT. The workgroup is tasked with reviewing several factors relating to curb space management, including obstruction enforcement strategies for bus stops and dedicated bus lanes, current curb space regulations within transit-served areas of the State, and strategies to effectively manage curb space changes on roadways with frequent bus service; dedicated bus lanes; and parking, loading, or standing needs. The workgroup was required by Chapter 751 to submit a report with its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by July 1, 2025; however, the workgroup has not been established, and the report has not been submitted. This language restricts funds pending a report confirming that the workgroup has been established by MDOT and providing a summary of its completed and planned activities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the Workgroup on Curb Space Management	MTA	September 1, 2026

Amendment No.

26

Committee Narrative

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

J00H01

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reports on Purple Line construction progress	MTA	July 1, 2026, and bimonthly thereafter ending with the May 1, 2027 report

Committee Narrative

~~**Status of the Baltimore Red Line Project Status and BMORE Bus Plan:** The committees request that the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) submit a report by September 1, 2026, on the current status of the Red Line and the BMORE Bus Plan projects. The report should provide the next steps; *funding needs and sources*; and an updated timeline for *both projects, including planned or potential synergies between the two projects*. ~~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 <i>the Baltimore Red Line and BMORE Bus Plan</i> project statuses, timelines, and funding needs	MTA	September 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Red Line Project Status Reports: *The committees request that the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) submit six bimonthly status reports for the Red Line project. The reports shall provide:*

J00H01

- *the status of completion of acquiring rights of way on the west side, downtown, and east side of the project corridor; alignment decisions; and general project planning and design;*
- *current and future projected funding sources and future funding needs;*
- *the running total amount expended for all project phases to date; and*
- *an updated timeline for the next phases of the project.*

The report should include details on what project design and engineering activities are occurring during the pause in the federal National Environmental Policy Act permitting process that went into effect on June 16, 2025, including the uses of funding included in the fiscal 2026 and 2027 MTA capital budget.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on Red Line project status</i>	<i>MTA</i>	<i>July 1, 2026, and bimonthly thereafter ending with the May 1, 2027 report</i>

J00I00
Maryland Aviation Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendment

J00I00.02 Airport Operations

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation may not be expended until the Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA) submits a report that provides the noise abatement procedure plan for flight school traffic pattern for aircraft departing from runway 15 at Martin State Airport. This report shall include the following:

- (1) the impact of aircraft noise on communities near Martin State Airport;
- (2) any actions MAA is currently taking to address this issue; and
- (3) a timeline for implementing the noise abatement procedure.

This report shall be submitted by October 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 for this 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 budget committees are interested in efforts that MAA is taking to mitigate the impact of aircraft noise on the lives of Marylanders. This language restricts funds pending receipt of a report from MAA outlining the noise abatement procedure for flight school traffic pattern at Martin State Airport.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on noise abatement procedure at Martin State Airport	MAA	October 1, 2026

J00J00
Maryland Transportation Authority

J00J00.41 Operating Program

Committee Narrative

Francis Scott Key Bridge (Key Bridge) Reconstruction Project: The committees are interested in following the progress being made on the reconstruction of the 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 Key Bridge reconstruction project	MDTA	July 1, 2026 January 1, 2027

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

K00A01.01 Secretariat

Committee Narrative

Efforts to Support Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Industry Apprenticeships: The final report of the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission, created by executive order on October 13, 2017, included the recommendation to enhance outdoor recreation workforce development and job creation opportunities in Maryland. Recommended steps towards this goal included identification of opportunities for outdoor recreation and historic preservation training and degree programs and to promote careers in the outdoor recreation industry in coordination with the Maryland Workforce Expressway. The commission also created the Office of Outdoor Recreation within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that continues to promote outdoor recreation in Maryland, including the creation of the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Business Directory. In addition, the Maryland Park Service operates the Maryland Conservation Corps in partnership with the Department of Service and Civic Innovation, and the Natural Resources Police operates the Maryland Natural Resources Police Cadet program. Therefore, the committees request that DNR submit a report detailing agency efforts, including those of the Office of Outdoor Recreation, to support apprenticeship programs within the natural resources and outdoor recreation industry. The report should identify existing natural resource and outdoor recreation apprenticeship programs, noting the positions supported by apprenticeships, as well as barriers to creating new apprenticeships and obstacles to scaling. Additionally, the report should provide details on the number of existing registered apprentices and timeline to scale by natural resources and outdoor recreation occupations; previous data on the number of participants in apprenticeship programs; and actions taken by DNR, or planned actions, to support these programs and offer additional apprenticeship opportunities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Efforts to support natural resources and outdoor recreation apprenticeships	DNR	December 1, 2026

K00A04.01 Statewide Operations

Strike the following language:

~~, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Natural Resources submits a confirmatory letter to the budget committees on the completion of the Port of Deposit State Historical Park land transfer.~~

K00A

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

Explanation: Chapter 39 of 2022 required the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to establish the Port of Deposit State Historical Park and required the Bainbridge Development Corporation to transfer a portion of the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site to DNR for the park by June 1, 2023. Subsequently, Chapter 602 of 2023 changed the date by which the Bainbridge Development Corporation must transfer a portion of the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site to DNR for the park from June 1, 2023, to June 1, 2025. To date, the land has not been transferred. This action restricts funding pending the submission of a confirmatory letter on the completion of the Port of Deposit State Historical Park land transfer.

Amendment No.

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Committee Narrative

Port of Deposit State Historical Park Land Transfer Status Report: Chapter 39 of 2022 required the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to establish the Port of Deposit State Historical Park and required the Bainbridge Development Corporation to transfer a portion of the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site to DNR for the park by June 1, 2023. Subsequently, Chapter 602 of 2023 changed the date by which the Bainbridge Development Corporation must transfer a portion of the Bainbridge Naval Training Center site to DNR for the park – from June 1, 2023, to June 1, 2025. The committees request that DNR submit a report by December 1, 2026, on the status of the Port of Deposit State Historical Park land transfer.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Port of Deposit State Historical Park land transfer status report	DNR	December 1, 2026

K00A

Budget Amendment

K00A05.10 Outdoor Recreation Land Loan – Capital Appropriation

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

~~Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$71,932,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation allowing the transfer tax appropriation to Program Open Space Local, Rural Legacy, and the Natural Resources Development Fund to be swapped with General Obligation Bonds fiscal 2027 only.~~

Further provided that \$7,953,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of funding Natural Resources Development Fund projects may be used only to fund State Water and Sewer Infrastructure Improvement Fund projects administered by the Maryland Environmental Service. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled.

Explanation: The fiscal 2027 spending plan as introduced included a Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026 provision that redirected funding for three programs supported by the transfer tax – Program Open Space, Rural Legacy, and the Natural Resources Development Fund – to the General Fund and required the redirected funding to be replaced with general obligation bonds. Of this amount, \$7,953,000 was attributable to State Water and Sewer Infrastructure Improvement Fund projects administered by the Maryland Environmental Service and \$804,000 to the Cedarville State Forest - New Manning Freshwater Mussel Hatchery project under the Natural Resources Development Fund. The Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision was not adopted and thus this action strikes the contingent reduction and restricts \$7,953,000 intended to be used for State Water and Sewer Infrastructure Projects to that purpose.

Committee Narrative

Baltimore City Direct Grant Spending Spreadsheet: A portion of the Program Open Space Stateside funding is allocated for the Baltimore City Direct Grant. In recent years, certain projects have been specified for Baltimore City Direct Grant funding, but the status of spending and project progress has not been clear. In the 2025 legislative session, a total of five prior year Baltimore City Direct Grant projects with specified funding were identified as either abandoned or completed with funding remaining, and the General Assembly repurposed the prior year project funding for new projects. The large number of projects identified in the 2025 legislative session as either abandoned or completed with funding remaining reflects the need for additional information about Baltimore City Direct Grant funding. The committees request that the

K00A

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) provide an editable electronic spreadsheet showing each year of Baltimore City Direct Grant funding, the projects funded by each year of funding broken down by projects specified by the legislature and specified by Baltimore City, and the status of each project in terms of reimbursement sought and project stage. The report is requested to be submitted by October 1, 2026, and ~~December 31, 2026~~ December 1, 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Baltimore City Direct Grant spending spreadsheet	DNR	October 1, 2026 December 1, 2026

K00A14.02 Watershed and Climate Services

Committee Narrative

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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans	DNR	Fiscal 2028 budget submission

K00A

Committee Narrative

Chesapeake Bay Restoration Reporting Requirements: The committees request that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), and the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) submit information on Chesapeake Bay restoration spending. The information shall include the following and is requested to be submitted with the fiscal 2028 allowance.

- **Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending Details:** The committees request that the agencies provide an electronic disaggregated spreadsheet to the Department of Legislative Services and include as an appendix in the fiscal 2028 budget volumes the following: 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.
- **Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending Policy:** The committees request that the agencies submit a report on the status of Maryland's progress on each of the outcomes committed to in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, with explanation of challenges and proposed next steps on those outcomes for which Maryland is behind schedule, Whole Watershed Act Fund implementation, and other Chesapeake Bay-related issues of interest or concern that the Administration should bring to the committees' attention. The reporting on the Whole Watershed Act funding shall include 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.

K00A

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Chesapeake Bay restoration spending details spreadsheet and budget volumes appendix	DNR DBM MDA MDE MDP	Fiscal 2028 allowance Fiscal 2028 allowance
Chesapeake Bay restoration spending policy	DNR DBM MDA MDE MDP	

L00A
Department of Agriculture

Budget Amendment

L00A11.01 Executive Direction

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000\$250,000 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 Finding 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.

Explanation: MDA’s March 2025 audit included two repeat findings going back many years. Finding 3 (product registrations) has been commented upon in 5 preceding audit reports dating back to calendar 2007, and the lack of an independent supervisory review of product registrations has been commented on in 3 preceding audit 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 *a greater amount of funding* pending the submission of a report, in coordination with the Department of General Services (DGS), certifying that all steps have been taken to address the repeat audit findings.

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

Amendment No.

28

L00A

Committee Narrative

Efforts to Support Agricultural Industry Apprenticeships: The Maryland Department of Agriculture’s (MDA) mission is to provide leadership and support to agriculture and the citizens of Maryland by conducting regulatory, service, and educational activities that ensure consumer confidence, protect the environment, and promote agriculture. The Governor’s Intergovernmental Commission for Agriculture’s 2025 annual report notes the Labor, Education, and Development Subcommittee’s continuing discussion of ways to support the expansion of apprenticeship programs to create a pipeline for students to move into agricultural careers after graduation to support the needs for a broadened agricultural workforce and a more agriculturally educated generation. The subcommittee also recognized the importance of programs such as the Future Farmers of America and 4H and the breadth of agricultural careers, both on-farm and agricultural support careers, and the varied education backgrounds supporting them. These education backgrounds include veterinary medicine, agricultural engineering, agronomy, and conservation. Therefore, the committees request that MDA submit a report detailing agency efforts, including those of the Rural Maryland Council through the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund, to support apprenticeship programs within the agriculture industry. The report should identify existing agricultural apprenticeship programs, noting the positions supported by apprenticeships, as well as barriers to creating new apprenticeships and obstacles to scaling. Additionally, the report should provide details on the number of existing registered apprentices and timeline to scale by agricultural occupation; previous data on the number participants in apprenticeship programs; and actions taken by MDA, or planned actions, to support these programs and offer additional apprenticeship opportunities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Efforts to support agricultural industry MDA apprenticeships		December 1, 2026

L00A

Budget Amendment

L00A15.04 Resource Conservation Grants

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding <i>by a lower amount</i> 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.	-400,000	GF
	-200,000	GF
Total Change	-400,000	
	-200,000	0.00

	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	16.00	16.00		0.00
General Funds	3,563,782	3,163,782	-400,000	
		3,363,782	-200,000	

Amendment No.

29

M00A01
Office of the Secretary
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendment

M00A01.01 Executive Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees on staffing of the pediatric hospital overstay unit at the John L. Gildner Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents (JLG RICA). The report shall include:

- (1) the number of staff working at the overstay unit at JLG RICA;
- (2) the number of filled and vacant positions at the unit as of June 1, 2026;
- (3) the cost of staffing the additional beds in fiscal 2026 to date as of June 1, 2026;
- (4) the intended use or amount reverted for any unspent funding that was restricted for this purpose in fiscal 2026;
- (5) the number of existing beds and the number of staffed beds in the unit as of June 1, 2026;
and
- (6) the department's plan, including a timeline, to fill any vacancies in the unit.

The report shall be submitted by July 15, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The fiscal 2026 Budget Bill restricts \$3 million in general funds to be used only to address pediatric hospital overstays. The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) indicated that it would use the funding to increase staff for additional beds at JLG RICA. In fiscal 2026, MDH transferred 31.0 vacant positions from the Thomas B. Finan Hospital Center to staff the overstay unit at JLG RICA. However, as of March 1, 2026, all of these positions remain vacant. This language restricts funds pending submission of a report on the timeline for filling vacancies, how the beds will be staffed and made available, as well as how the restricted funding has been used to expand the facility's capacity.

M00A01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on staffing at JLG RICA	MDH	July 15, 2026

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits a report to the budget committees on the State's plan to improve placement times for individuals who are found not criminally responsible (NCR) or incompetent to stand trial (IST). The report shall include, as of June 30, 2026, by State facility and in aggregate:

- (1) the average number of days between court order and admission of NCR/IST patient in each month from January through June 2026;
- (2) the number of court orders received from the Judiciary between January and June 2026;
- (3) the number of people, as of June 30, 2026, awaiting placement in a forensic State hospital facility, including the number of days each person has been on the waitlist;
- (4) MDH's planned activities in calendar 2026 which will address the backlog of patients awaiting placement;
- (5) the amount of fines MDH incurred from local jurisdictions in fiscal 2026 for not meeting NCR/IST placement deadlines;
- (6) a description of factors preventing MDH from placing individuals in State hospital facilities timely; and
- (7) a description of factors preventing MDH from discharging patients from State hospital facilities to appropriate community settings.

The report shall be submitted by August 31, 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: Since fiscal 2021, MDH has admitted fewer than 30% of NCR/IST patients within 10 days of a court order, and in fiscal 2025, MDH placed patients an average of 56 days following a court order. The fiscal 2027 budget includes a fiscal 2026 deficiency appropriation of \$1.5 million in general funds for

M00A01

finances related to exceeding the 10-day placement requirement. Between fiscal 2021 and 2022, the number of court orders that MDH received from the Judiciary increased by 30.2%. Since then, the numbers have increased annually. In fiscal 2025, MDH received 1,088 court orders, a nearly 67% increase since fiscal 2021. This language restricts funds pending the submission of a report on the State's plan to improve placement times for NCR and IST patients.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on placement of NCR and IST patients	MDH	August 31, 2026

Committee Narrative

Report on Staffing at State Hospital Facilities: As of December 31, 2025, 90% of vacant positions in the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Administration programs were located at State hospital facilities (494.6 vacancies). Each of the five adult psychiatric hospital facilities in the State operate at near-full capacity and maintain a waiting list. The fiscal 2026 and 2027 budgets include significant funding for overtime costs at hospital facilities. In addition, recent concern regarding pediatric hospital overstay resulted in a funding increase of \$3 million to expand bed space at the John L. Gildner Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents (JLG RICA) facility beginning in fiscal 2026. To better understand the staffing challenges at State hospital facilities and the steps MDH has taken to fill vacant positions, the committees request that the department prepare a report with data as of June 30, 2026. The report should include:

- the number of vacant and filled positions at each of the State's five adult psychiatric hospital facilities and the two youth psychiatric hospital facilities;
- the average length of employment of staff at each facility;
- the number of staff needed to avoid overtime shifts among existing employees at each facility;
- the number of MDH staff and the number of Department of Juvenile Services staff necessary to operate the proposed facility for children at JLG RICA;
- the primary reasons employees give for leaving a State hospital facility; and

M00A01

- efforts MDH has taken to improve recruitment and retention at each of the facilities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on staffing at State hospital facilities	MDH	September 1, 2026

M00B0103
Office of Health Care Quality
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendment

M00B01.03 Office of Health Care Quality

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Office of Health Care Quality within the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees on the current status of the contract awarded in fiscal 2025 and continuing in fiscal 2027 for subcontractor nurse surveyors to address a complaint investigation backlog in the Long Term Care program. The report shall include the current status of the backlog and timeline for fully resolving the backlog. The report shall also include the fiscal 2026 closing fund balance and the estimated fiscal 2027 closing fund balance of the State Civil Money Penalty Fees Fund and use of the Fund for the contract, including any modifications of the contract due to lower revenue attainment than anticipated. 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.

Explanation: This action restricts funds within the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) pending the submission of a report on the status of resolving the complaint investigation backlog in the Long Term Care program with the use of a contract for nurse surveyors, including an update on the use of the State Civil Money Penalty Fees fund for the contract.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Long Term Care Program complaint investigation backlog	OHCQ	November 1, 2026

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) within the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees with additional details on the memorandum of understanding with Montgomery County that delegates authority to conduct nursing home surveys and complaint investigations. The report shall include the responsibilities delegated to

M00B0103

Montgomery County, the start date and length of delegated authority, and costs associated with conducting surveys and complaint investigations, including the amounts that are State-funded and county-funded, and any federal funds that are passed through OHCQ. The report shall also include information on whether other counties have requested authority for survey activities. 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.

Explanation: A provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025 authorized Montgomery County to request and requires the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to delegate authority for the county to conduct nursing home surveys and complaint investigations if MDH failed to comply with requirements for conducting annual surveys and completing complaint investigations in a timely manner in fiscal 2023 and 2024. This action restricts funds pending the submission of a report with details on the memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Montgomery County that delegates nursing home survey activities, including a description of whether other counties have requested authority for survey activities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Montgomery County MOU for survey activities	OHCQ	December 1, 2026

Budget Amendment

M00B01.04 Health Professional Boards and Commissions

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (BOPCT) may not be expended until BOPCT, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), submits a report to the budget committees with an update on the implementation of recommendations from the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability’s evaluation of BOPCT. The report shall include the status of implementing each of the following recommendations that require action from MDH and BOPCT:

M00B0103

- (1) MDH should consider developing and implementing a formal orientation and training program for new executive directors. Additionally, MDH should consider implementing an executive director mentorship program;
- (2) the smaller Health Professional Boards and Commissions (HPBC) should consider hiring a dedicated human resources liaison, shared amongst BOPCT and the other smaller HPBCs;
- (3) consider increasing the number of merit positions within BOPCT by converting contractual positions to merit positions or by transferring vacant merit positions from other HPBCs to BOPCT;
- (4) BOPCT board members should regularly review Intranet Quorum service records with the BOPCT executive director to monitor customer satisfaction and proactively address issues;
- (5) BOPCT should attempt to reduce the number of initial applications with missing components; and
- (6) BOPCT should implement one comprehensive, standardized internal tracking system for all initial applications and reengineer its process for reviewing initial applications.

The report shall be submitted by September 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 be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The Department of Legislative Services Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA) published an evaluation of BOPCT in September 2025. OPEGA's evaluation included various findings for the board relating to licensing, compliance, management, and staffing. Of the seven recommendations from the evaluation, six are directed toward MDH to consider and BOPCT to implement. BOPCT agreed with all recommendations. This language restricts funds pending the submission of a report on BOPCT's progress in implementing the recommendations.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
BOPCT evaluation	BOPCT	September 1, 2026
recommendation updates	MDH	

M00B0103

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Health Professional Boards and Commissions (HPBC) may not be expended until HPBC, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health, submits a report to the budget committees on recent HPBC special fund balance transfers authorized in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Acts of 2021, 2024, and 2025, specifically how the transfers have impacted HPBC operations, the ability to improve staffing, and investments in technology. 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 be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: In the past five years from fiscal 2022 to 2026, provisions in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2021, 2024, and 2025 have transferred a total of \$13.0 million from HPBC special fund balances to other offices within the Maryland Department of Health (MDH). This language restricts funds pending submission of a report on the impact of special fund balance transfers on HPBC.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Impact of fund balance transfers on HPBC	HPBC MDH	December 1, 2026

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the State Board of Pharmacy may not be expended until the State Board of Pharmacy, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health, submits:

- (1) regulations to the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review necessary to ensure that an individual who is blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled has appropriate access to prescription labels, bag tags, and medical guides, as required by Chapters 279 and 280 of 2023; and
- (2) a letter to the budget committees confirming the submission of the regulations. The letter shall include the proposed regulations and estimated adoption and effective dates for the regulations.

M00B0103

The letter shall be submitted within 30 days of the submission of regulations, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the letter may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the letter is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Chapters 279 and 280 require the State Board of Pharmacy to adopt regulations necessary to ensure that an individual who is blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled has appropriate access to prescription labels, bag tags, and medical guides. This action restricts funds for administration until the State Board of Pharmacy, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), submits (1) required regulations to make prescription labels accessible for visually impaired individuals and (2) a letter confirming the submission of regulations to the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review and providing information on the timing of when the regulations will be adopted and take effect.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Letter confirming the submission of regulations related to prescription labels	State Board of Pharmacy MDH	Within 30 days of the submission of regulations

M00B01.05 Board of Nursing

Committee Narrative

Managing for Results (MFR) Measures for Total Licenses and Complaint Rate of Board of Nursing (BON): The Health Professional Boards and Commissions (HPBC) annual MFR submission includes performance measures relating to initial licenses, renewal licenses, and complaint investigations. In addition to reporting on the timely completion rate of complaint investigations, the MFR data includes the total number of licenses and complaint rate for the various boards. However, the fiscal 2027 MFR measures did not include the total number of licenses and complaint rate for BON, despite the board completing the most complaint investigations out of all the boards. The committees request that HPBC include the total number of licenses and complaint rate for BON in the MFR submission with the fiscal 2028 budget.

M00B0103

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR measure for the total licenses and complaint rate for BON	HPBC	With submission of the fiscal 2028 budget

M00F03
Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendment

M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits a report to the budget committees on State activities related to the detection and treatment of genetic disorders and other serious health conditions, including metachromatic leukodystrophy. The report shall include:

- (1) the list of routine newborn health screenings conducted by MDH;
- (2) a description of MDH's process to review and adjust the list of routine newborn health screenings conducted by the department;
- (3) the estimated date of completion for updating Maryland's newborn screening panel to include metachromatic leukodystrophy, in alignment with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Recommended Uniform Screening Panel; and
- (4) State programs that connect families of young children with terminal illnesses to resources for treatment or clinical trials for which they are eligible.

The report shall be submitted by October 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 committees are interested in MDH's role in detecting serious health conditions among young children. In December 2025, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services added metachromatic leukodystrophy and Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy to the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP). Per statute, MDH is required to include these disorders in its newborn screening panel within 18 months of being added to RUSP (June 2027). In addition, for some conditions, treatment options are unaffordable, and families may have difficulty accessing clinical trials. This language restricts funds pending the submission of a report on State activities related to the detection and treatment of genetic disorders and serious health conditions in children.

M00F03

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the detection and treatment of serious health conditions in children	MDH	October 1, 2026

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by ~~\$730,000~~\$1,580,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation ~~eliminating~~reducing the funding mandate for tobacco use reduction activities.

Explanation: This action amends contingent language to increase the general fund reduction by \$850,000 to provide the proposed mandated appropriation for tobacco use reduction activities and align the language with the provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026.

M00L01
Behavioral Health Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendment

M00L01.01 Program Direction

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that since the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has had four or more repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$100,000 of this agency’s administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) MDH has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2026; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2027.

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

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

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits quarterly letters confirming that it has uploaded data on reimbursements to non-Medicaid providers through the Virtual Data Unit each month through March 31, 2027. The data shall include provider reimbursement spending in M00L01.02 and M00L01.03, separated by budget program and by service type within

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each program. The data shall be provided beginning with data from January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026, submitted July 31, 2026, and every month thereafter. Funds shall be available to be released in \$125,000 increments pending receipt of each letter confirming the submission of data. The first letter shall confirm uploading of data through June 30, 2026, and be submitted by July 31, 2026. The second letter shall confirm the uploading of data for the period from July 1, 2026, through September 30, 2026, and be submitted by October 31, 2026. The third letter shall confirm the uploading of data from October 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, and be submitted by January 31, 2027. The fourth letter shall confirm the uploading of data covering the period January 1, 2027, through March 31, 2027, and be submitted by April 30, 2027. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of each confirmatory letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of data may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if each letter is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The committees are interested in better understanding the spending on provider reimbursements by service type for spending outside of the Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements program. This language restricts funds pending submission of four letters confirming data submission of non-Medicaid provider reimbursements.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Submission of data on provider reimbursements	Maryland Department of Health	July 31, 2026 October 31, 2026 January 31, 2027 April 30, 2027

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) submits a report to the budget committees on the State's transition to a new Administrative Services Organization. The report shall include, as of June 30, 2026:

- (1) the number of providers registered with Carelon;
- (2) the number of claims processed by Carelon during fiscal 2026;
- (3) the dollar value of the claims approved by Carelon during fiscal 2026;

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- (4) a description of issues, challenges, or barriers faced by BHA, Carelon, or providers since January 1, 2026;
- (5) a description of how Carelon or BHA have addressed any identified challenges; and
- (6) a description of remaining data transfer needs between Optum and Carelon.

The report shall be submitted by October 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: BHA transitioned to a new Administration Services Organization (ASO) on January 1, 2025. The Maryland Department of Health and the new contractor, Carelon, have provided two reports with information about the transition, challenges that have arisen, and how issues have been addressed. During the first year of the transition, issues with data transfer between the previous ASO and Carelon have occurred, leading to the incorrect categorization of some claims and minor delays in paying out claims. This language restricts funds pending the submission of a report with updates on the transition.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the ASO transition	BHA	October 1, 2026

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) submits a report to the budget committees on a plan to address the State’s behavioral health workforce shortage. The report shall include:

- (1) a description of workforce-related findings from BHA’s white space analysis;
- (2) a description of the feasibility of implementing each of the eight recommendations from the Maryland Health Care Commission’s October 2024 report, Investing in Maryland’s Behavioral Health Talent, that are related to the Behavioral Health Workforce Investment Fund, including challenges to implementation;

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- (3) a description of statutory or regulatory changes needed to expand the allowable uses of the Maryland Loan Repayment Programs to include loan forgiveness for behavioral health workers;
- (4) a description of BHA’s planned activities and their cost over each of the next five fiscal years to improve recruitment and retention of behavioral health workers in the State and BHA’s prioritization of these activities;
- (5) proposed fund sources for the Behavioral Health Workforce Investment Fund; and
- (6) a description of challenges and barriers to funding or administering the fund.

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.

Explanation: Chapters 286 and 287 of 2023 established the Behavioral Health Workforce Investment Fund to support the education, training, recruiting, and retaining of behavioral professionals and paraprofessionals in Maryland. The legislation also required the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) to publish a behavioral health workforce study, which found that the State has 18,200 fewer behavioral health workers than needed to meet the State’s need as of calendar 2024. To date, BHA has not added money to this fund, nor implemented any recommendations from MHCC’s study. This language restricts funds pending the submission of a report on the BHA’s plan to address the State’s behavioral health workforce shortage.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on planned efforts to address the behavioral health workforce shortage	BHA	November 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Report on Financing for Long-acting Injectable Medication: Long-acting injectable (LAI) medications are used to treat psychosis or as mood stabilizers in individuals living with serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI). LAIs may help individuals with SPMI maintain treatment

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consistency and reduce hospitalization. In Maryland, LAI services are reimbursed under the hospital rate, set by the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC). The committees are interested in the feasibility of financing these treatments as outpatient Medicaid services through a State Plan Amendment (SPA) or Medicaid waiver. The committees request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Medical Care Programs Administration, in conjunction with the Behavioral Health Administration and HSCRC, submit a report that includes:

- whether MDH and HSCRC have evaluated the potential for carving LAIs out of the hospital daily rate, including any impacts on operations, the rate setting processes, and federal considerations;
- the process by which MDH could establish a SPA for LAI services for Medicaid enrollees in Maryland and how it would interact with the hospital daily rate set by HSCRC;
- the projected impact of carving out LAI services on behavioral health spending through the Medicaid program and hospital finances;
- research on the impacts of early initiation of LAIs in inpatient settings on reducing readmissions or lengths of stay in emergency departments in Maryland; and
- utilization of LAIs under current practice in Maryland.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on financing for long-acting injectables	MDH HSCRC	September 1, 2026

Budget Amendment

M00L01.02 Community Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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

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

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation is contingent on the fiscal 2028 budget submission including provider reimbursements for the uninsured and underinsured population in a separate program from the nonprovider reimbursement expenditures in the Community Services program. It is the intent of the General Assembly that beginning in fiscal 2028, provider reimbursement expenditures be budgeted in a separate program from grants, contracts, and other administrative expenses in program M00L01.02.

Explanation: Provider reimbursements for services utilized by the uninsured and underinsured are budgeted within the M00L01.02 Community Services program. This budget also includes funding for various behavioral health programs, services, and initiatives. This language states the intent of the General Assembly for Community Services program provider reimbursements to be budgeted separately from other Community Services program spending beginning in fiscal 2028. The separation will facilitate simpler tracking and analysis of provider reimbursement spending and service utilization.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Separate program for Community Services program provider reimbursements	Maryland Department of Health	With the submission of the fiscal 2028 allowance

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of Community Services may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report on the timeliness of payments to local nonprofit core service agencies (CSA). The report shall include the following information:

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- (1) the total number of nonprofit CSAs with which the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) held a grant agreement in each of fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026;
- (2) the number and share of nonprofit CSAs with a grant agreement in fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 for which BHA did not meet the required timeframe for distribution of payments;
- (3) the number of fourth quarter invoices submitted by nonprofit CSAs in each of fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 that did not meet the required timeframe for distribution of payments;
- (4) the number of annual 440 reconciliations submitted by nonprofit CSAs in fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 that did not meet the required timeframe for distribution of payments;
- (5) a description of the current process to track and monitor the timeliness of payments to grantees; and
- (6) the steps that BHA has taken and plans to take to ensure timely payment distribution moving forward.

The report shall be submitted by January 1, 2027, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Chapter 155 of 2023 established a State policy requiring State agencies to make payments under specific grant agreements with nonprofit CSAs within 37 days of the later of either (1) the payment becoming due under the grant agreement or (2) the date of receipt of a proper invoice. Interest accrues at the rate of 9% per year on any amount for which a grant-making entity has received and failed to submit a proper invoice to the Comptroller within 30 days of its receipt. This language restricts funds pending submission by BHA of a report detailing its plan to improve the timeliness of grant distribution to comply with the State policy. This information was requested in the 2025 Joint Chairmen’s Report but has not been submitted.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on timeliness of payments to BHA local nonprofit CSAs		January 1, 2027

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Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of behavioral health investments in the Behavioral Health Administration may not be expended for that purpose and may be used only to provide funding for fees related to certification of peer recovery specialists and salary support for peer recovery specialists' supervised practice hours required to complete certification. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This action restricts funds within the Community Services program to be used only to provide funds for the first year of programs that support the certification of and internships for peer recovery specialists in the State.

Budget Amendment

M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that these funds are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to programs M00L01.02 Community Services, M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements, or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted.

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

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Developmental Disabilities Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendment

M00M01.01 Program Direction

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report each ~~quarter~~month to the budget committees on spending for the Developmental Disabilities Administration Community Services program. The report shall include the following monthly and aggregate data on spending in the Long Term Services and Supports system by service delivery model both including and excluding claims for services provided in prior years:

- (1) spending by service provided;
- (2) number of participants receiving the service;
- (3) number of units provided;
- (4) cost per participant;
- (5) utilization ~~of~~by services; ~~and~~
- (6) annualized cost estimates for the rest of the fiscal year;
- (7) spending by subprogram;
- (8) spending by fund source; and
- (9) average expenditures per participant by primary service model, separated by age groups 0 to 17, 18 to 20, 21 to 22, 23 to 64, and 65 and older.

The report shall also include the following monthly data related to dedicated hours:

- (1) dedicated hours spending trend analysis, including authorized users, authorized units, and utilized units by month;
- (2) the number and budgeted cost of approved dedicated hours based on the following separate categories:

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- (a) behavioral or medical needs;
 - (b) retirement; and
 - (c) enhanced community integration; and
- (3) a comparison of approved dedicated hours in each of the three categories listed above from fiscal 2026 to 2027, month to month.

The first report shall be submitted by September 1, 2026, and shall include actual data for the Community Services program for ~~fiscal 2026~~ in the final quarter of fiscal 2026 and aggregate fiscal 2026 data. The second report shall be submitted by ~~December~~ October 1, 2026, and all other reports shall be submitted monthly thereafter. ~~The third report shall be submitted by March 1, 2027. The fourth report shall be submitted by June 1, 2027.~~ The funds may be released in \$250,000 increments following the submission of the ~~second-sixth~~ and ~~fourth-eleventh~~ reports. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the ~~second-sixth~~ and ~~fourth-eleventh~~ reports to review and comment. Funds restricted pending receipt of these reports may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the reports are not submitted to the budget committees.

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

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on community services spending	MDH	September 1, 2026 December 1, 2026 March 1, 2027 June 1, 2027 <i>September 1, 2026, and monthly thereafter through June 1, 2027</i>
	Amendment No.	30

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees with an analysis of utilization trends in the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Community Services program. The report shall include:

- (1) a comparison of aggregate service utilization rates in the Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) system compared to in the legacy billing system for Residential Services, Meaningful Day Services, and Support Services, and explanation for any changes in service utilization in the LTSS system;
- (2) a comparison of person-centered plan (PCP) budget utilization rates in the LTSS system compared to in the legacy billing system and explanation for any changes in PCP budget utilization in the LTSS system;
- (3) a comparison of service utilization and PCP budget utilization rates of actual spending data for fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2026 and estimated rates for fiscal 2027;
- (4) a description of utilization review controls and systems in place that DDA uses to monitor utilization; and
- (5) an analysis of how changes in service utilization contribute to overall Community Services spending.

The report shall be submitted by September 15, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other

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

Explanation: DDA has completed transitioning all providers from a prospective payment model in the legacy system to a fee-for-service reimbursement model in the LTSS system. It is unclear how utilization of services has changed from billing in the legacy system to the LTSS system. This language restricts funds pending a report on how utilization of services has changed in LTSS compared to the legacy system and how utilization of services has changed from the first full year of providers transitioned into the LTSS system in fiscal 2025 to fiscal 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on LTSS service utilization trends	Maryland Department of Health	September 15, 2026

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) within the Maryland Department of Health submits a report to the budget committees that provides details on cost containment actions implemented in fiscal 2027. The report shall include the following information:

- (1) a description of all cost containment actions implemented in fiscal 2027, including the number of participants impacted by each action, timeline and status of implementation, and updated estimates of savings;
- (2) the reasonable and customary wages, including for family as staff and non-family as staff shown separately, by service prior to and following the implementation of cost containment actions impacting reasonable and customary wages and family as staff policies;
- (3) comparison of the reasonable and customary wages to the portion of the rates for the same services in the traditional services model that is attributable to wages;

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- (4) the Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) rates for community service providers and coordinator of community service agencies by service prior to and following the implementation of cost containment actions;
- (5) the LTSS rates by service category as a percentage of the fully loaded brick rates determined through the rate-setting study prior to and following the implementation of cost containment actions; and
- (6) a description of the enforcement of dedicated hours policy, including any changes made to the policy and implementation.

DDA shall also provide an update on details of the cost containment action implemented in fiscal 2026 regarding State-only funded services, including:

- (1) the number of individuals receiving State-only funded services found eligible and transitioned onto a DDA-operated Medicaid waiver as of July 1, 2026;
- (2) the number of individuals receiving State-only funded services found ineligible for the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver, including the most common reasons for ineligibility or disenrollment;
- (3) actual spending on State-only funded services in fiscal 2026 and 2027 year to date; and
- (4) total estimated spending on State-only funded services for fiscal 2027.

The report shall be submitted by October 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 receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The fiscal 2027 budget contains general fund reductions to account for the implementation of cost containment actions. This language restricts funds pending submission of a report from the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) providing detailed information on how a cost containment action in fiscal 2026 regarding State-only funded services and cost containment actions in fiscal 2027 are being implemented.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on cost containment actions	MDH	October 1, 2026

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Committee Narrative

Person-Centered Plan (PCP) Review Processing Times: The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) within the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has three Managing for Results performance goals relating to timeliness of PCP review and approval by Coordinators of Community Services (CCS) and DDA. In fiscal 2025, only 62% of PCPs were submitted in a timely manner by CCS. Individuals must have an approved PCP to receive services, making timely review and approval of plans important to ensure continuity of services for participants. The committees request that MDH provide a report on PCP approval timelines, including for fiscal 2026:

- the total number of PCPs reviewed and the total number of individuals who did not have an approved PCP prior to their annual renewal date;
- the range and average processing times for annual PCP reviews from the submission of a PCP by the participant to final approval of the participant’s PCP;
- common reasons for delays in the annual PCP process for participants who submit a PCP prior to their annual renewal date;
- a description of DDA’s process when participants’ PCPs are not approved prior to their annual renewal date, including impacts on participants’ access to services, any instances in which a participant would experience a lapse in service delivery, or providers would not receive reimbursement; and
- a description of the reasons for 38% of CCS reviews of PCPs not meeting timeliness goals in fiscal 2025 and efforts to improve timely review by CCS.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Person-Centered Plan Reviews	MDH	August 1, 2026

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Budget Amendment

M00M01.02 Community Services

Add the following language:

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

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

Add the following language:

Further provided that, relating to dedicated hours, effective July 1, 2026, the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) within the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) shall implement the following policy when implementing cost containment action that enforces dedicated hours policy. Dedicated hours may be accessed when the participant has an assessed medical or behavioral need and an approved behavioral support plan or nursing care plan that justifies the need, or a daytime residential support need as described below. This policy is intended to ensure that, in all other circumstances, such as community integration, appointments, and other circumstances that do not meet the assessed need criteria, shared hours are exhausted before dedicated hours are accessed. Dedicated hours may support more than one participant only when doing so meets each participant's assessed needs, and the participants are retired, transitioning between meaningful day services, recovering from a health condition, or receiving fewer than 30 hours of meaningful day services per week.

DDA will approve dedicated hours without considering the use of shared hours when:

- (1) the participant has an assessed behavioral need and an approved Behavior Support Plan documenting the need for a 1:1 or 2:1 staff-to-participant ratio necessary to support the person with specific behavioral needs; or
- (2) the participant has an assessed medical need and an approved Nursing Care Plan documenting the need for a 1:1 or 2:1 staff-to-participant ratio necessary to support the person with specific health and safety needs; or
- (3) the participant needs daytime residential support due to retirement, transitioning from one meaningful day service to another, recovery from a serious health condition, or receiving less than 30 hours of meaningful day services, and has an approved person-centered plan that documents the assessed need for support.

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MDH, DDA, or its designee shall provide mandatory, advanced training on dedicated hours to its staff (including Headquarters and regional offices), Coordinator of Community Services agencies, and a representative from each community provider of residential services. This training will include, but is not limited to, detailing DDA's federal and State approval criteria, its enforcement of federal requirements, and its utilization reviews of shared hours.

DDA shall update all policy guidance and manuals to be consistent with this policy by July 1, 2026.

Explanation: This language specifies the policy that DDA within MDH shall use to guide the enforcement of a cost containment action related to dedicated hours.

Add the following language:

Further provided that, relating to rates paid to providers, the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) within the Maryland Department of Health shall not make further reductions to rates, including the geographical differential rate paid for services in certain local jurisdictions, in fiscal 2027 beyond the authorized cost containment actions as specified in the fiscal 2027 Budget Bill.

Further provided that, relating to individuals receiving services with State-only funds, DDA shall ensure that:

- (1) individuals who were receiving State-only funded services and applied for the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver and were found eligible, shall continue to receive State-only funded services until they are approved to transition into the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver; and
- (2) individuals who have applied for the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver and were found ineligible shall continue to receive State-only funded services.

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Explanation: *This language specifies the implementation of certain cost containment actions in DDA regarding rate reductions and individuals funded with State-only funded services. This language restricts DDA from further reducing rates paid to providers, including geographical differential rates, in fiscal 2027 beyond the authorized cost containment actions as specified in the fiscal 2027 Budget Bill and requires that DDA continue providing services to individuals receiving State-only funded services in certain circumstances.*

Amendment No.

31

Add the following language:

Further provided that, relating to day-to-day administrative supports, the Developmental Disabilities Administration within the Maryland Department of Health shall implement the following:

- (1) participants in the self-directed services model may utilize up to 10 hours per month of day-to-day administrative supports;
- (2) day-to-day administrative supports shall include nondirect supports that assist the individual with household management and scheduling, appointment scheduling, and money management tasks such as reviewing and paying bills and assisting with the maintenance of benefits;
- (3) participants in the self-directed services model may hire an employee or vendor to provide day-to-day administrative supports;
- (4) participants in the self-directed services model who are minors are not eligible for day-to-day administrative supports; and
- (5) the duties of a day-to-day administrative support provider, support broker, and coordinator of community services shall not overlap for a participant in the self-directed services model and the duties that each position will be responsible for shall be specified by the participant and their team.

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Explanation: *This language specifies the implementation of day-to-day administrative supports funded by the Developmental Disabilities Administration for participants in the self-directed services model.*

Amendment No.

32

M00Q01
Medical Care Programs Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Budget Amendment

M00Q01.01 Deputy Secretary for Health Care Financing

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits a report on Community First Choice (CFC) program and Community-based Options (Community Options) waiver spending and activities of the Eligibility Determination Division (EDD). The report shall include monthly enrollment, utilization, and cost data that aligns with actual fiscal 2026 budget expenditures under the CFC program. Additionally, the report shall provide:

- (1) the number of budgeted Community Options waiver slots in fiscal 2026 and 2027;
- (2) the number of Community Options waiver slots filled in fiscal 2026;
- (3) the number of Community Options waiver applications sent to individuals on the registry each month and the results of that outreach (including the number of applications returned and processed);
- (4) an update on changes to EDD and registry operations to improve efficiency in determining home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver eligibility and taking individuals off of the registry and efforts to determine financial and medical eligibility for individuals while they remain on the registry;
- (5) an update on MDH staffing that supports the Community Options waiver and eligibility determination services for all HCBS waivers, including the number of vacant regular and contractual positions and the status of procuring additional staffing assistance;
- (6) a plan and timeline for addressing information technology system limitations, data and reporting limitations, and staffing constraints that prevent EDD from processing HCBS waiver eligibility in a timely and efficient manner;
- (7) data on HCBS waiver application and renewal denials, including the number and percentage of applications and renewals denied by reason for denial and by HCBS waiver;
- (8) the number of individuals on the Community Options waiver registry as of June 30, 2026; and

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- (9) an update on activities or efforts to implement the plan to reduce the Community Options waiver registry by 50% submitted to the General Assembly in February 2023.

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.

Explanation: Recent efforts to expand home and community-based services have led to significant increases in CFC program expenditures, including spending under the Community Options waiver. This language restricts funds in the Office of the Deputy Secretary for Health Care Financing pending the submission of a report on CFC program and Community Options waiver spending and registry information, and EDD activities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on CFC program and Community Options waiver spending and registry data	MDH	August 1, 2026

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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

- (1) MCPA has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2026; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2027. General funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: The Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee (JAEC) has requested that budget bill language be added for each unit of State government that has four or more

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repeat audit findings in its most recent fiscal compliance audit. Each agency is to have a portion of its administrative budget withheld pending the adoption of corrective action by the agency and a determination by OLA that each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit a report to the budget committees on the status of repeat findings.

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

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

Budget Amendment

M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements

Add the following language:

Provided that all appropriations provided for program M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to programs M00Q01.07 Maryland Children's Health Program or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts funding for Medical Care Provider Reimbursements to that purpose only and prevents budgetary transfers to any program except M00Q01.07 Maryland Children's Health Program or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements.

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by ~~\$1,000,000~~ \$2,000,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation reducing the Cigarette Restitution Fund funding mandate for the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission Fund ~~and using the Cigarette~~

M00Q01

~~Restitution Fund balance to offset Medicaid general fund expenditures, and allowing the Commission to use its special fund balance to support operations.~~

Explanation: This action increases the contingent general fund reduction under Medicaid to \$2.0 million due to additional fund balance availability within the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission Fund. This action also makes a technical correction to contingent language on a general fund reduction to more closely align with the applicable provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for Medicaid provider reimbursements to account for savings from Medicaid participants with end-stage renal disease enrolling in Medicare as a result of increased outreach efforts.	-3,000,000	GF
	-5,000,000	FF
Total Change	-8,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	4,437,850,472	4,434,850,472	-3,000,000	
Federal Funds	7,687,617,859	7,682,617,859	-5,000,000	

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent upon the enactment of legislation reducing the Cigarette Restitution Fund funding mandate for the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission Fund ~~and using the Cigarette Restitution Fund balance to offset Medicaid general fund expenditures, and allowing the Commission to use its special fund balance to support operations.~~

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

M00Q01

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$8,390,332 of this appropriation is contingent upon the enactment of legislation authorizing distributions beyond the first \$35,000,000 in settlement funding from the separate account in the Cigarette Restitution Fund to be used for purposes other than supplanting the General Fund appropriation at historically Black colleges and universities in fiscal 2027 only.

Explanation: This action adds language to make a special fund appropriation of \$8,390,332 from the separate account within the Cigarette Restitution Fund contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the authorized uses of funds distributed to the separate account in excess of the first \$35 million to include purposes other than supplanting the General Fund appropriation for the historically Black colleges and universities settlement in fiscal 2027 only.

Committee Narrative

One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) Implementation: The OBBBA was enacted on July 4, 2025, and makes substantial changes to the Medicaid program, including establishing new work requirements and requiring more frequent eligibility redeterminations for adults enrolled through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) expansion, among other provisions. The committees request that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), in collaboration with the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE), submit two reports on OBBBA implementation activities and enrollment and case closure trends before and after implementation of new work requirements and six-month eligibility redeterminations. The reports should include:

- descriptions of information technology system updates, including year-to-date spending and estimated total costs, outreach activities to limit disenrollments, and partnerships and data sharing agreements with other agencies and organizations to check individuals for exemptions;
- a discussion of approved exemptions for work requirements and definitions of those exemptions; and
- a status update on the number of positions added and reclassified within MDH for OBBBA implementation, including the total cost of the positions by fund type and hiring status.

Additionally, the reports should include the following fiscal 2027 year-to-date enrollment data on a monthly basis and divided by eligibility category and administrative data on a monthly basis:

M00Q01

- the number of eligibility renewals completed, including the number and share that were automatically renewed, with modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) cases and non-MAGI cases shown separately;
- the number of new individuals enrolled month over month;
- measures of churn that reflect the number of individuals who previously received Medicaid or Maryland Children’s Health Program coverage and the timeframe of when they were last enrolled;
- the number of individuals disenrolled month over month, shown by reason for disenrollment, identifying procedural disenrollments and disenrollments due to overscale income, aging out, noncompliance with work requirements, and other common reasons for disenrollment.
- call center volume, average wait times, and any other data related to call center activities that are required to be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and
- measures of application processing times and the total number of applications processed for MAGI cases and non-MAGI cases shown separately.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on OBBBA implementation and impacts within Medicaid	MDH MHBE	December 1, 2026 June 1, 2027

Committee Narrative

Prescription Drug Reimbursement: *Managed care organizations (MCO) under the HealthChoice program are not subject to the same reimbursement requirements as pharmacy claims paid by Maryland Medicaid on a fee-for-service (FFS) basis. Chapter 217 of 2023 required the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and Prescription Drug Affordability Board to issue a report analyzing pharmacy claims paid by MCOs and claims reimbursed by Maryland Medicaid under FFS rates, including a comparison of the dispensing fees paid under managed care and FFS. The report provided high level summaries of total reimbursement but did not provide specific claims data or a breakdown of reimbursement components for specialty drugs. The committees request that MDH submit a report providing Medicaid’s paid pharmacy claims data for calendar 2023 and 2024. The report should include claims data for both managed care and FFS shown separately and data should be provided in a downloadable electronic format through Excel or other comma-separated values file. Specifically, the report should include:*

M00Q01

pharmacy claims paid under FFS, noting the file date, national drug code, dispensed quantity, ingredient cost paid, and dispensing fee paid;

- *for claims paid under FFS, MDH should indicate to the extent possible, whether the reimbursed provider is located in Maryland and whether drugs were dispensed by mail or in person;*
- *pharmacy claims paid by MCOs (MCOs may be deidentified to preserve proprietary protections), noting the file date, national drug code, dispensed quantity, ingredient cost paid, and dispensing fee paid;*
- *for claims paid by an MCO, MDH should indicate to the extent possible, whether the reimbursed provider is located in Maryland and whether drugs were dispensed by mail or in-person;*
- *the number and dollar value of paid pharmacy claims in which MCO reimbursement exceeded the FFS reimbursement methodology for that drug by more than \$10; and*
- *for claims in which MCO reimbursement exceeded the FFS reimbursement methodology by more than \$10, the additional amount paid by Medicaid.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Report on prescription drug reimbursement</i>	<i>MDH</i>	<i>September 1, 2026</i>

Budget Amendment

M00Q01.07 Maryland Children’s Health Program

Add the following language:

Provided that all appropriations provided for program M00Q01.07 Maryland Children’s Health Program are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to programs M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts funding for the Maryland Children’s Health Program to that purpose only and prevents budgetary transfers to any program except

M00Q01

M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements or M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements.

Budget Amendment

M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that these funds are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to programs M00L01.02 Community Services, M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients, or M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted.

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

Committee Narrative

Report on Reimbursable Fund Spending in Behavioral Health Medicaid: Fiscal 2026 and 2027 are the first in recent years in which reimbursable funds have been budgeted in the Behavioral Health Medicaid program (M00Q01.10). In both years, these funds are available from the Community Services program budget for behavioral health investments. These funds support the following Medicaid-eligible services: mobile crisis; crisis stabilization; and school-based behavioral health services as well as spending for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid re-entry waiver. While the monthly data submitted on service utilization and spending includes most of these services as of fiscal 2026, it is unclear how the department will report utilization and spending for the reentry waiver. The committees are interested in understanding how reimbursable funding in this program will be reported and tracked to facilitate analysis of utilization trends and estimations of funding needs. BHA should submit by August 31, 2026, a report which includes:

- description of how spending on the reentry waiver is recorded and tracked;
- anticipated spending for these four services in fiscal 2027; and

M00Q01

- explanation for using reimbursable funds rather than general funds for these service areas.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on reimbursable fund spending in behavioral health Medicaid	Behavioral Health Administration	August 31, 2026

M00R01 Health Regulatory Commissions

Budget Amendment

M00R01.02 Health Services Cost Review Commission

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC), in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), submits a report to the budget committees on efforts to stabilize the Medicare Advantage (MA) market in Maryland under the Achieving Healthcare Efficiency through Accountable Design (AHEAD) model. The report shall include:

- (1) confirmation that financial incentives for MA plans in Maryland have taken effect as of January 1, 2027;
- (2) details on how differential hospital rates and any other financial incentives for MA plans have been implemented;
- (3) date and status of federal approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for ongoing financial incentives for MA plans in Maryland;
- (4) a list of MA plans eligible for differential hospital rates and financial incentives and the estimated amounts of incentives provided to each plan;
- (5) a discussion of how financial incentives target MA plans operating in underserved communities, particularly in areas in which coverage and availability of MA plans has decreased in recent years;
- (6) the distribution of financial incentives by local jurisdictions; and
- (7) additional efforts and recommendations for HSCRC, MDH, and Maryland hospitals to incentivize and collaborate with MA plans under the AHEAD model and to encourage MA plans to continue operating in Maryland.

The report shall be submitted by January 15, 2027, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees. Funds will not be released if the report does not provide confirmation that financial incentives for MA plans have been implemented as of January 1, 2027.

M00R01

Explanation: HSCRC, MDH, and the multi-agency regulatory working group for AHEAD model implementation have proposed financial incentives through differential hospital rates beginning in calendar 2027 for certain MA plans in Maryland to stabilize the market under the AHEAD model. This language restricts funds pending a report on financial incentives for MA plans, including details on implementation, the status of federal approval, information on how the financial incentives target MA plans operating in underserved communities, distribution of incentives across MA plans and by local jurisdiction, and additional efforts or recommendations to incentivize MA plans to continue operating in Maryland.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on incentives for MA plans under the AHEAD model	HSCRC MDH	January 15, 2027

Amendment No.

33

Committee Narrative

Evaluation of Primary Care Programs and Initiatives: The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) are implementing primary care and population health initiatives in coordination with the State's Achieving Healthcare Efficiency through Accountable Design model. These efforts include launching the Medicaid Advanced Primary Care Program (also known as the Medicaid Path) in fiscal 2026, implementing new paths under Medicare primary care efforts, establishing the Population Health Improvement Fund, and continuing to administer the Maryland Primary Care Program (MDPCP) that was first implemented under the Total Cost of Care model. The committees request that MDH, in consultation with HSCRC, submit a report on implementation of the new initiatives, including design and initial activities of the programs, uses of any funding allocated to these initiatives, descriptions of fund sources supporting the initiatives, and estimated cost savings and provider incentives under all components of the primary care programs. The report should also include an evaluation of the effectiveness of the existing MDPCP for the entire performance period under the Total Cost of Care model. In particular, this evaluation should outline cost savings from the MDPCP reducing unnecessary utilization or hospitalization for patients participating in the MDPCP over the increased expenditures from provider incentives.

M00R01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Evaluation and update on primary care programs and initiatives	MDH HSCRC	November 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Temporary Staffing Contracts: The committees request that the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) submit a report by ~~February 28, 2027~~ *January 1, 2027, and a follow up report by June 30, 2027*, on hospital and other regulated health facility contracts with agencies that provide temporary staffing. The *first* report should include, for each regulated facility in Maryland with a fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the number of contracts for temporary staffing, actual expenditures for these contracts in ~~calendar~~ *fiscal* 2026, and a description of the position types most commonly staffed through these contracts. *The follow up report should provide this information for each regulated facility in Maryland with a fiscal year ending any date other than June 30, 2026.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on temporary staffing contracts	HSCRC	February 28, 2027 <i>January 1, 2027</i> <i>June 30, 2027</i>

Budget Amendment

M00R01.03 Maryland Community Health Resources Commission

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$1,000,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation eliminating the funding mandate for the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission ~~and allowing the Commission to use existing fund balance for operations.~~

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

N00
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendment

Strike the following language:

~~Provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$679,639 in federal funds for noncustodial parent employment and training contracts. The Department of Human Services is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs.~~

Explanation: ~~The fiscal 2027 allowance includes \$600,000 in funding in the Child Support Administration (CSA) and \$679,639 in the Family Investment Administration for the Noncustodial Parent Employment Program. The program has historically been budgeted in the Family Investment Administration, but the Department of Human Services indicates that a change in federal rules allows child support federal funds to be used for this purpose and that while this is a new source of funding it is not a new contract. This action reduces the federal funds in fiscal 2027 associated with noncustodial parent employment and training contracts that are budgeted in both CSA and the Family Investment Administration. This action leaves the \$600,000 budgeted within CSA.~~

Amendment No.

34

N00A01
Office of the Secretary
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendment

N00A01.01 Office of the Secretary

Strike the following language:

~~Provided that \$6,827,422 of this appropriation, consisting of \$991,414 in general funds; \$5,002,945 in special funds; and \$833,063 in federal funds, made for the purpose of the Constituent Services Call Center is reduced. The Department of Human Services is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs.~~

Explanation: ~~This action reduces the fiscal 2027 appropriation for the Constituent Services Call Center by \$6,827,422 to more closely align with anticipated expenditures provided by the Department of Human Services. As part of this overall reduction, this action deletes \$3,385,012 special funds from the Electric Universal Services Program ratepayer surcharge, which in combination with other appropriations exceed the statutory level of collections.~~

Amendment No.

35

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$750,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration in the Office of the Secretary may not be expended until the Department of Human Services (DHS) submits a report detailing for the fiscal 2026 working appropriation as reflected during the 2026 legislative session and fiscal 2026 actual expenditures:

- (1) Assistance Payments program spending by public benefit program separately by program and fund source;
- (2) Foster Care Maintenance Payments program spending by placement type including average monthly cases, average monthly placement costs, and expenditures, along with

N00A01

detail on flexible fund spending by type of spending with detail for the program by fund source;

- (3) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families revenues, expenditures by program, and ending balance; and
- (4) special and federal fund sources of expenditures by program.

The actual spending detail shall reconcile to information reported to the Comptroller of Maryland or include an explanation of why the information does not reconcile. The report shall also provide explanations of General Fund reversions and special, federal, and reimbursable fund cancellations by program. In addition to the report submission, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. The report shall be submitted by September 30, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: The fiscal 2024 and 2025 closeout processes of DHS included a number of errors including reporting expenditures to the Comptroller of Maryland that did not reflect actual expenditures for certain programs in total or by fund, and for fiscal 2024 reverting general funds in error and overspending certain appropriations without reporting these expenditures. Despite a similar request for fiscal 2025 closeout data, DHS' original report submission contained incomplete, incorrect, and inconsistent information, and not all data requested in the report was submitted as of January 31, 2026. This language restricts funds in the DHS Office of the Secretary pending the submission of a report with fiscal 2026 closeout information that reconciles to information provided to the Comptroller of Maryland and provides explanations of reverted and canceled funds.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Fiscal 2026 closeout information	DHS	September 30, 2026

N00B00
Social Services Administration
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendment

N00B00.04 General Administration – State

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services (DHS) submits a report to the budget committees that provides data on children and youth in out-of-home placements experiencing stays in hospitals, hotels, and other unlicensed settings for each month of the period October 2025 through September 2026. The report should include:

- (1) the number of youth in out-of-home placement served in emergency rooms for psychiatric evaluation or crisis and the average length of stay (ALOS) by month;
- (2) the number of youth in out-of-home placement served separately by medical hospitals and inpatient psychiatric hospitals and ALOS by month;
- (3) the number of days that youth in out-of-home placements served in hospitals were in the hospital longer than was deemed medically necessary by either the hospital or a judicial finding separately by type of hospital; and
- (4) the placement type after discharge separately by type of hospital, including identifying the number of youths placed out-of-state after discharge for fiscal 2026.

In addition, the report shall include, for each month of the period October 2025 through September 2026:

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

The report shall also include for each month of the period October 2025 through September 2026:

- (1) the number of unique and total youth in out-of-home placements placed in other unlicensed settings, other than kinship care, placements supported by Semi-independent

N00B00

Living Arrangement subsidy payments, college, or reported as placements in hotels or hospitals;

- (2) the ALOS for youth in out-of-home placements placed in unlicensed settings; and
- (3) summary information on youth placed in unlicensed settings by age category.

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.

Explanation: The General Assembly continues to be interested in monitoring data about children and youth experiencing stays in hospitals, hotels, and other unlicensed settings. This language withholds funding until a report with data related to stays in hospitals, hotels, and other unlicensed settings, which contains current data as of September 1, 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on stays in hospitals, hotels, DHS and other unlicensed settings		November 15, 2026

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services (DHS) submits a report to the budget committees on the number of child welfare services cases and positions required based on the caseload to meet the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) caseload standards, by jurisdiction, for the following caseload types, as of September 1, 2026:

- (1) intake screening;
- (2) child protective investigation;
- (3) consolidated in-home services;
- (4) interagency family preservation services;

N00B00

- (5) services to families with children – intake;
- (6) foster care;
- (7) kinship care;
- (8) family foster care;
- (9) family foster homes – recruitment and new applications;
- (10) family foster homes – ongoing and licensing;
- (11) adoption;
- (12) interstate compact for the placement of children; and
- (13) caseworker supervision.

The report shall also include a discussion of specific actions taken by the department and local departments of social services to reallocate positions, including the number of positions reallocated by type (caseworker or supervisor) between jurisdictions and identifying the jurisdictions that these positions were transferred from and to, in order to ensure that all jurisdictions can meet the standards for both caseworkers and supervisors.

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

The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: The General Assembly believes that maintaining an adequate child welfare workforce is essential to improving outcomes for children entering State care. In order to maintain oversight over this issue, this language withholds funding until a report with data related to the CWLA caseload standards is submitted, which contains current data as of September 1, 2026.

N00B00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on caseload data and filled positions assigned by jurisdiction for specified caseload types	DHS	November 1, 2026

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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

- (1) DHS has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2026; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2027.

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

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

N00B00

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services (DHS) submits a letter confirming that it has added Child Welfare Services data to its website each month through December 31, 2026. The data shall include, by jurisdiction:

- (1) number of child maltreatment reports for children and youth in out-of-home placements and type of response exercised (investigative and alternative);
- (2) findings for completed investigations;
- (3) indicated and unsubstantiated findings for completed investigations;
- (4) findings for completed investigations: physical abuse; sexual abuse; neglect; and mental injury (abuse and neglect);
- (5) unsubstantiated findings for completed investigation: physical abuse; sexual abuse; neglect; and mental injury (abuse and neglect);
- (6) in-home family preservation services provided by DHS: new and closed cases;
- (7) children in out-of-home placements through DHS;
- (8) out-of-home placements of children in family homes: formal kinship care; restricted foster care; regular foster care; treatment foster care – private; treatment foster care – public; and adoptive homes;
- (9) out-of-home placements of children in residential treatment centers, independent living, other placements, and trial homes;
- (10) out-of-home placement exits: reunification; adoption; guardianship; aged out; and other;
- (11) family foster homes: new homes and closed homes; and
- (12) formal Kinship Providers.

The data shall be added to the website by December 31, 2026. By January 15, 2027, DHS shall submit a letter confirming that the data for the period from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2026, has been added to the website. Funds shall be available to be released pending receipt of the letter confirming the submission of data. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt

N00B00

of data may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the letter is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in monitoring the Child Welfare Services data. Through calendar 2023, DHS uploaded monthly data on its website providing information by jurisdiction on reports of maltreatment, along with other data related to investigation outcomes and placements. DHS has not posted new data for the period beginning with calendar 2024. Although DHS has since developed a data dashboard, the dashboard does not provide the same level of information. This language withholds funding until a letter is submitted confirming the addition of the data to the DHS website.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Letter confirming the posting of monthly Child Welfare Services data	DHS	January 15, 2027

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services (DHS) submits information on the costs associated with children and youths in out-of-home placements placed in hotels. DHS shall provide, by subprogram detail, payments and anticipated payments for youth in out-of-home placements placed in hotels paid through the Foster Care Maintenance Payments program for fiscal 2025 and 2026 actual, fiscal 2027 working, and fiscal 2028 allowance. Costs reported shall include both costs paid for the hotel and any other costs associated with the stay including one-on-one service provision. Data for the fiscal 2025 and 2026 actual expenditures shall be submitted by September 30, 2026, and fiscal 2027 and 2028 estimated costs shall be submitted with the fiscal 2028 budget. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the last report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the reports may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the reports are not submitted.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in monitoring costs associated with placing children and youth experiencing stays in hotels. DHS did not provide costs associated with placing children and youth in hotels, as requested by a committee narrative in 2025 Joint Chairmen’s Report. This language

N00B00

withholds funding until costs associated with hotel stays are submitted for fiscal 2025 and 2026 actual, fiscal 2027 working, and fiscal 2028 allowance.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Costs associated with children and youths in out-of-home placements placed in hotels	DHS	September 30, 2026 With submission of the fiscal 2028 allowance

Committee Narrative

Implementation of Provisions of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA): The committees are interested in continuing to receive updates on the implementation of evidence-based prevention practices and other services under provisions of the federal FFPSA and the outcomes of those programs and services for families and children served. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report including:

- a list of all evidence-based practices being implemented through fiscal 2026, including data on jurisdiction and the number of families and children served during the fiscal year;
- any new evidence-based practices being implemented during fiscal 2027;
- the status of the updated five-year Title IV-E prevention services plan;
- data on the effectiveness of implemented evidence-based practices at preventing occurrences of subsequent maltreatment and out-of-home placements from occurring as well as an evaluation of any other outcomes related to parent and child well-being;
- the current number of providers in the State that have received designation as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) to allow for federal reimbursement under the FFPSA, including if any additional providers received this designation during fiscal 2025 and if future solicitations of applications for QRTP designation are planned; and
- the status of the approval of the State's revised cost allocation plan, including a discussion of the current ability of DHS to seek federal reimbursement for evidence-based prevention practices.

N00B00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Update on the implementation of provisions of the federal FFPSA	DHS	November 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Child Fatalities Where Abuse or Neglect Are Determined to Be a Contributing Factor: The committees are interested in receiving updates on the number of child fatalities that involved child abuse and/or neglect. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report that provides data for calendar 2025 and 2026 separately by jurisdiction. In addition, the data should be provided by age category.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on child fatalities	DHS	January 11, 2027

N00F
Office of Technology for Human Services
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendment

N00F00.05 Maryland (MD) Benefits

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the fiscal 2027 appropriation for the Child, Juvenile, and Adult Management System and Child Support Management System applications by \$5,542,089 to more closely align with anticipated ongoing operating and maintenance costs provided by the Department of Human Services.	-4,144,954	GF
	-1,397,135	FF
Total Change	-5,542,089	
	0	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	2.00	2.00		0.00
General Funds	24,095,717	19,950,763	-4,144,954	
		24,095,717	0	
Federal Funds	6,633,157	5,236,022	-1,397,135	
		6,633,157	0	

Amendment No.

36

N00G
Local Department Operations
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendment

N00G00.01 Foster Care Maintenance Payments

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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

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

Budget Amendment

N00G00.02 Local Family Investment Program

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the federal fund appropriation in the Family Investment Administration to reflect the decrease in the federal share of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) administrative match beginning October 1, 2026. The fiscal 2027 budget includes \$43.12 million of general funds in the Local Family Investment Program to reflect the increase in the State share of the SNAP administrative match from 50% to 75%. However, the fiscal 2027 budget does not reflect the equivalent reduction in federal fund appropriation. This action reduces the equivalent amount of federal fund appropriation. The department is authorized to allocate the reduction among programs to reflect the areas of reduced federal fund availability.	-43,120,000	FF
Total Change	-43,120,000	0.00

N00G

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	1,660.50	1,660.50		0.00
Federal Funds	120,346,657	77,226,657	-43,120,000	

Budget Amendment

N00G00.03 Child Welfare Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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

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

Committee Narrative

N00G00.06 Child Support Administration

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

The committees request that DHS submit three reports on performance using data as of June 30, 2026; September 30, 2026; and December 31, 2026. Each report should include the following:

N00G

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Child support performance reports	DHS	September 15, 2026 December 15, 2026 February 28, 2027

Committee Narrative

Reconciliation of the Child Support Reinvestment Fund: The Department of Human Services (DHS) annually receives federal funding related to child support performance in certain measures. These funds are received into the Child Support Reinvestment Fund and used to support child support service activities. Over the last several years, reported Child Support Reinvestment Fund revenue has differed significantly by source, leading to differing accounts of both revenue and balances in the account. The committees request that DHS submit a report reconciling Child Support Reinvestment Fund revenue and expenditures by year from fiscal 2019 through 2026. This report should include opening and closing fund balances for each year.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report reconciling the Child Support Reinvestment Fund	DHS	November 30, 2026

N00G

Budget Amendment

N00G00.08 Assistance Payments

Add the following language:

Provided that all appropriations provided for program N00G00.08 Assistance Payments are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no budgetary transfer to any other program or purpose. Funds not expended shall be reverted or canceled.

Explanation: This language restricts funding for the Assistance Payments program, which supports public benefit programs administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS), to that purpose only and prevents budgetary transfers to any other programs. This language is consistent with actions on other entitlement programs and is the same language as was applied for fiscal 2026. In fiscal 2024 and 2025, DHS made errors at closeout in the Assistance Payments program, including in fiscal 2024 transferring special fund appropriation from the Assistance Payments program, which was needed to cover costs in the Assistance Payments program.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the appropriation for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to better align with benefit levels. The fiscal 2027 allowance provides \$1.66 billion in federal funds for SNAP benefits, which is approximately \$172 million more than was spent in fiscal 2025, despite caseload declines since fiscal 2025. This action reduces the appropriation for SNAP, while leaving an appropriation that is more than \$200 million higher than forecasted levels in the event that caseload and benefit reductions are lower than anticipated.	-200,000,000	FF
Total Change	-200,000,000	0.00

N00G

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Federal Funds	1,844,730,837	1,644,730,837	-200,000,000	

N001
Family Investment Administration
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendment

N00100.04 Director's Office

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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

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

The first quarterly report shall include data for February through April 2026, and each subsequent report shall provide data for the appropriate quarter. The first report shall be submitted by August 1, 2026, the second report shall be submitted by November 1, 2026, the third report shall be submitted by February 1, 2027, the fourth report shall be submitted by May 1, 2027, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the fourth report to review

N001

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

Explanation: The General Assembly remains interested in tracking the timeliness of application processing as well as the reason for denials and case closures. This language restricts funds pending submission of four quarterly reports on application processing times; application denial rates; reasons for application denials; and case closures for TCA, SNAP, TDAP, and PAA. Similar reports have been requested since fiscal 2022.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Application processing times, denial rates, and case closures	Department of Human Services	August 1, 2026 November 1, 2026 February 1, 2027 May 1, 2027

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services submits a report to the budget committees including the calculation of the Maryland Minimum Living Level annual inflationary adjustment including details of the calculation, and the resulting Temporary Cash Assistance benefit levels separately by size of the assistance unit. The report shall also include the date for which the resulting benefit changes will become effective, and if applicable, an explanation for the reason for an effective date beyond October 1, 2026. The report shall be submitted by October 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.

Explanation: Annually, the Department of Human Services (DHS) calculates the Maryland Minimum Living Level (MMLL) to ensure that the Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) benefit levels comply with statutory requirements that the TCA plus the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit level equals 61.25% of the MMLL. This calculation has historically been completed to allow the benefit change to become effective October 1

N001

for each, the date for which SNAP benefit changes are effective. In calendar 2024, DHS was delayed in providing information on the calculation and for each of calendar 2024 and 2025, DHS did not implement the benefit increases until January 1, of the following year. This language requires DHS to submit the calculation and resulting benefit increases by October 1, 2026, the date for which benefit increases are effective, and an explanation of the reason for an effective date after October 1, 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MMLL calculation and resulting TCA DHS benefit changes		October 1, 2026

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that ~~\$100,000~~ \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Department of Human Services (DHS) submits a report providing information including details on prior and current penalties related to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) payment error rates and strategies undertaken by DHS to reduce the SNAP payment error rates. The report shall include:

- (1) the outcome of the appeal for the federal fiscal 2023 and 2024 penalties or, if still in process, the status of the appeal;
- (2) if a penalty was issued to Maryland based on the federal fiscal 2025 rate and amount if applicable; and
- (3) a detailed plan outlining strategies that the department is undertaking or plans to undertake to reduce the payment error rate below 10%, including a timeline for beginning and each key milestone for these strategies.

The report shall be submitted by September 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.

N001

Explanation: Maryland’s SNAP payment error rate has exceeded 10% in each federal fiscal 2022 through 2024. Beginning with federal fiscal 2028, States with payment error rates exceeding 6% will be required to pay a share of SNAP costs. At Maryland’s most recent error rate, the State could qualify for a delay in this cost share, but if required to pay, it will likely be at the maximum level of 15%. In addition, Maryland was assessed penalties for the payment error rate by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for federal fiscal 2023 and 2024. These penalties were under appeal in fiscal 2026. This action restricts funds pending submission of a report on strategies to reduce the payment error rate for SNAP, including the timeline for each action, and the status of current appeals or penalties related to the error rate.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
SNAP payment error rate reduction strategies	DHS	September 1, 2026
		Amendment No. 37

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funds for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Nutrition Education Program. This program was repealed effective the end of federal fiscal 2025 as part of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. States were able to continue to spend funds in federal fiscal 2026 if the state had unused appropriation from federal fiscal 2025. However, the fiscal 2027 budget does not account for the repeal of the program by appropriating funds at the same level as the fiscal 2026 budget as enacted, prior to the repeal of the program.	-377,639 -8,893,211	GF FF
Total Change	-9,270,850	0.00

N001

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	182.00	182.00		0.00
General Funds	23,924,352	23,546,713	-377,639	
Federal Funds	64,855,498	55,962,287	-8,893,211	

Committee Narrative

Adopt the following narrative:

SUN Bucks Participation and Administration: The fiscal 2027 budget includes funding to support the third year of participation in the SUN Bucks program. The committees are interested in continuing to monitor the operation of the program. The committees request that the Department of Human Services (DHS) submit a report that:

- details administrative cost by object and purpose separately by budgetary program for fiscal 2026 and 2027;
- the number of regular positions and contractual full-time equivalents (FTE) supporting the program (including total and filled) and how these positions and contractual FTEs are allocated by budgetary program and jurisdiction (if allocated within specific jurisdiction position complements) in fiscal 2026 and 2027;
- the number of children receiving benefits by jurisdiction and month of issuance, the total number of unique recipients, and the dollar amount of benefits provided by jurisdiction and month of issuance for the summer 2026 program;
- the number of children receiving benefits that were directly certified and the number of children receiving benefits for which a separate application was submitted for the summer 2026 program;
- a description of outreach to households with children attending Community Eligibility Provision schools to inform the households about the availability of the program and application requirements; and
- an update on the status of the summer 2027 program including the timing of submission of the Notice of Intent to participate and Final Plan of Operations.

N001

It is the intent of the committees that DHS begin reporting expenditures within the object and comptroller subobject related to that spending and in the budgetary program for which the expenditures occur beginning with the fiscal 2028 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
SUN Bucks participation and administration	DHS	December 15, 2026

N00I0006
Office of Home Energy Programs
Department of Human Services

Budget Amendment

N00I00.06 Office of Home Energy Programs

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds for personnel expenses. The Office of Home Energy Programs administrative costs are supported with special and federal funds.	-46,229	GF
Total Change	-46,229	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	11.00	11.00		0.00
General Funds	46,229	0	-46,229	

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

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

- (1) the number of applications received;
- (2) the average number of days to process an application; and
- (3) the number and percentage of applications processed within 30 days, 55 days, and longer than 60 days.

The report shall discuss the primary reasons for any substantial changes in processing times that have occurred for individual LAAs between fiscal 2026 and 2027 year-to-date data. The report shall also provide application denial rates separately by benefit type as well as the share of

N00I0006

application denials by reasons separately by benefit type. Data shall also include the number of applications initially denied due to incomplete information that were subsequently cured due to applicants providing missing information within the additional three months, as allowed under Chapters 638 and 639 of 2021. Fiscal 2026 end-of-year actual data for denial rates shall be included in the report as well as fiscal 2027 data current through November 1, 2026. The report shall be submitted by December 31, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment from the date of receipt of the report. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: The General Assembly continues to be interested in monitoring the application processing times and denial rates for energy assistance. This language withholds funding until a report is submitted providing fiscal 2026 and 2027 year-to-date application processing times and denial rates.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Application processing times and denial rates	Department of Human Services	December 31, 2026

Committee Narrative

Energy Assistance Participation Rates: The committees are interested in receiving data on energy assistance participation rates for vulnerable populations as well as general participation rate measures for fiscal 2026. General participation rate measures should be reported separately by program. The data should be submitted with the Managing for Results (MFR) submission during the fiscal 2028 budget process.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR data for fiscal 2026	Department of Human Services	With the fiscal 2028 submission of MFR data

P00G
Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning
Maryland Department of Labor

Budget Amendment

P00G01.07 Workforce Development

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for the Dwyer Workforce Development grant to the fiscal 2026 level.	-250,000	GF
Total Change	-250,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	273.00	273.00		0.00
General Funds	26,570,222	26,320,222	-250,000	

Q00A
Administration and Offices
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendment

Q00A01.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, 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 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

Q00A

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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;
- (2) reported staffing rates from July 2025 to June 2026;
- (3) an update on whether the department has audited staffing rates and the results of those audits;
- (4) reported pay rates of medical professionals by position type and a comparison to the U.S. Department of Labor index;
- (5) a description of the procedures to guarantee contractors complete medical and mental health examinations within the required timeframes as well as investigate and resolve inmate complaints in a timely manner;
- (6) results of audits regarding whether the contractor adequately responded to medical grievances and complaints made by incarcerated individuals; and
- (7) determinations and outcomes regarding liquidated damages, including the amount charged and collected as of the submission of the report.

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

Q00A

care contract with 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

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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.

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.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Major information technology projects report	DPSCS	November 15, 2026

Committee Narrative

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

Committee Narrative

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
JRA Report	DPSCS	December 1, 2026

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Committee Narrative

Use of Deficiency Appropriations: *The fiscal 2027 budget includes proposed deficiencies for the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) that increase the department's fiscal 2026 appropriation by a total of \$87.3 million, including \$25.9 million to cover fiscal 2025 shortfalls in inmate health costs. The fiscal 2026 budget increased the DPSCS fiscal 2025 appropriation by \$203.4 million, including \$48.4 million to cover fiscal 2024 shortfalls in operating costs. The committees request that DPSCS submit a report by September 15, 2026, on its use of deficiency appropriations. The report should include:*

- *an explanation for the use of each deficiency appropriation from fiscal 2024 to 2026;*
- *strategies taken by DPSCS to improve forecasting to reduce the need for deficiency appropriations;*
- *an assessment of whether deficiencies represent ongoing structural funding gaps in the DPSCS operating budget; and*
- *fiscal 2027 year-to-date spending compared to projected spending for programs and expenses that commonly require deficiency appropriations, including overtime and other personnel costs, facility operational costs, legal settlements, healthcare costs, and new or expanded contractual obligations.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Report on deficiency appropriations</i>	<i>DPSCS</i>	<i>September 15, 2026</i>

Budget Amendment

Q00A01.10 Administrative Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, 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

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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:

- (1) 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
- (2) 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.

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.

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

Q00B
Corrections
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Committee Narrative

Q00B01.01 General Administration

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;
- the role of community partners to assist in the rollout of the program, including the Cash Campaign of Maryland *and Life After Release*;
- challenges to full rollout; and
- the potential impact on recidivism.

Q00B

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the reentry passport program	DPSCS	October 15, 2026

Committee Narrative

Treatment of Transgender Individuals: Transgender incarcerated individuals are subject to high rates of violence, sexual abuse, and inappropriate housing assignments, such as unwarranted restrictive housing. The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report, in collaboration with experts, technical assistants, and transgender stakeholders, on the treatment of transgender individuals in correctional facilities. The report should be provided by October 1, 2026. The report should also contain data for fiscal 2023 through 2026 on the following items:

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

Q00B

- annual number of requests by transgender individuals to receive gender-affirming care and the outcomes of those requests disaggregated by type of medical care;
- annual number of requests by individuals identified as vulnerable under Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standard 115.41 and by transgender individuals for privacy in showers, bathrooms, and while changing clothing, and the outcomes of those requests;
- annual number of PREA complaints filed and investigated and the outcome for complaints made by transgender individuals compared to cisgender peers;
- annual number of complaints received, number of complaints that were investigated, and outcomes of each complaint for each correctional facility regarding violence, sexual abuse, harassment, discrimination against transgender individuals, other abuse, access to gender-affirming health care, and access to gendered commissary items;
- the number and dollar amount of settlements paid to transgender individuals during each fiscal year from fiscal 2023 to 2026;
- all policies regarding transgender individuals and/or gender dysphoria, including but not limited to intake procedures, identification of transgender individuals, provision of gender-affirming health care, housing assignment, safety from violence and sexual abuse, and access to gendered commissary items;
- a plan to issue guidelines that, at a minimum, are the equivalent of PREA Standard 115.42; and
- an analysis of whether the above DPSCS policies are being implemented and followed at each correctional facility and an analysis of the education and training that DPSCS staff receive regarding LGBTQ+ individuals, along with a discussion of any obstacles to implementation and compliance.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the treatment of transgender individuals	DPSCS	October 1, 2026

Q00B

Committee Narrative

Supports for Aging and Medically Frail Incarcerated Individuals: *In July 2025, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) reported 1,326 individuals over 60 years old in its custody. The budget committees request that DPSCS submit a report by August 15, 2026, detailing its healthcare services and other supports for aging and medically frail individuals under its custody. The report should discuss:*

- *the number of individuals in DPSCS custody by facility, broken down by age group, between 60 to 69 years old, 70 to 79 years old, 80 to 89 years old, 90 to 99 years old and above 100 years old;*
- *the number of individuals in each facility who are considered medically frail;*
- *common accommodations or support services needed among aging and medically frail individuals in DPSCS custody;*
- *a description of any requirements in the medical and mental health care inmate contract related to caring for aging and medically frail individuals;*
- *challenges with providing healthcare for geriatric incarcerated individuals, including medical, operational, and infrastructure-related challenges the department faces in housing and caring for these individuals;*
- *whether current medical facilities and prison architecture can accommodate wheelchairs, breathing apparatuses, and other equipment for elderly individuals and whether facilities need to be retrofitted; and*
- *planned or ongoing initiatives or programs intended to address the needs of aging individuals.*

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on supports for aging and medically frail incarcerated individuals

DPSCS

August 15, 2026

Q00C
Division of Parole and Probation
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendment

Q00C01.01 General Administration and Hearings

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration in the Maryland Parole Commission (MPC) may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits a report to the budget committees providing data on geriatric and medical parole, including information on the transition of individuals granted parole into the community. The report shall include the following annual data on geriatric and medical parole shown separately for fiscal 2024 to 2026:

- (1) number of eligible individuals;
- (2) number of screened individuals;
- (3) number of individuals granted parole;
- (4) number of individuals denied, including a breakdown of the reasons for denial; and
- (5) number of individuals whose cases are pending at the end of the fiscal year.

The report shall also provide the number of risk assessments MPC conducted from fiscal 2024 to 2026 related to its consideration of geriatric and medical parole, as outlined in Chapter 102 of 2025. The report shall provide information on DPSCS's efforts to assist individuals granted medical or geriatric parole in transitioning into the community. This information shall include the department's efforts to collaborate with nursing homes and community resources to support individuals' transition into the community.

The report shall be submitted by November 15, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Q00C

Explanation: Chapter 102 of 2025 made several changes to how MPC evaluates and considers suitability for geriatric and medical parole for specified individuals. This language restricts funding for general administration in MPC until DPSCS submits a report providing data on medical and geriatric parole.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on geriatric and medical parole	DPSCS	November 15, 2026

Committee Narrative

Q00C02.01 Division of Parole and Probation – Support Services

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 DPSCS agent safety efforts		October 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

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:

Q00C

- 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

Committee Narrative

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

Q00N
Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendment

Q00N00.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

. provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration 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 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 DPSCS report		September 15, 2026

Q00S
Division of Correction – East Region
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Committee Narrative

Q00S02.03 Maryland Correctional Institution for Women

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;
- eligibility requirements;
- the number of applicants, individuals approved, individuals denied, current population, and average daily population for each month in fiscal 2026 in Project FRESH and any other prerelease programming for women;
- resources dedicated to the program, including staff, funding, and facility space;
- a plan to measure program effectiveness, including any outcomes or performance data that will be measured and reported;
- a summary of participant satisfaction and feedback on the program;

Q00S

- an evaluation of the inclusivity and accessibility of the program for women with various backgrounds and needs;
- implementation challenges and future steps for improvement or expansion within the existing facility during the delay in constructing the new facility; and
- a comparison to the opportunities, resources, and conditions provided in men’s prerelease facilities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on women’s prerelease programming	DPSCS	August 1, 2026

Budget Amendment

Q00S02.08 Eastern Correctional Institution

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the inmate medical care contract within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) may not be expended until DPSCS submits a letter to the budget committees confirming that the vendor has responded to an average of 95% or more of audited inmate medical grievances and Administrative Remedy Procedures complaints over a three-month period. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the letter may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the letter is not submitted to the budget committees. DPSCS shall withhold \$250,000 from the vendor for the inmate medical care contract until the budget committees authorize the release of these restricted funds to DPSCS.

Explanation: *From February to August 2025, the department audited 1,257 medical grievances and Administrative Remedy Procedure complaints and found that 34.8% were not responded to in a timely manner or that no response was provided at all. Administrative Remedy Procedures are a formal process that allows incarcerated individuals to issue complaints regarding the conditions of their*

Q00S

confinement. This language restricts funds from the inmate medical care contract until DPSCS provides a letter to the committees confirming that the inmate medical care contractor has responded to an average of 95% or more medical Administrative Remedy Procedures complaints and grievances over a three-month period.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Letter confirming health care contract remedy procedures</i>	<i>DPSCS</i>	<i>30 days after the vendor has met the 95% average response rate</i>

Amendment No.

38

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

Committee Narrative

Q00T04.01 Chesapeake Detention Facility

Chesapeake Detention Facility (CDF) New Contract: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has operated CDF since fiscal 2012. DPSCS signed a seven-year contract with the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) to continue operating the facility. The committees request that DPSCS submit a report detailing the structure and financial terms of the new contract with USMS. The report should be provided by August 15, 2026. Additionally, the report should explain the methodology used to calculate the monthly federal payment, including underlying assumptions and the cost escalation incorporated in the agreement. The report should also discuss how the contract’s inflation compares with the historic rate of growth in operating costs to operate the facility. The report should outline the actions that DPSCS plans to take to reduce the reliance on State funds to support CDF operations and provide its projected operating costs of CDF for each year through fiscal 2032. *The report should also provide a breakdown of the offenses committed by the individuals held in the facility by fiscal year, specifying whether any individuals are held due to immigration enforcement or immigration-related crimes.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the new CDF contract	DPSCS	August 15, 2026

Budget Amendment

Q00T04.09 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a report to the budget committees on compliance with the Duvall v. Moore decree. The report shall include:

- (1) an update on the compliance status of each of the provisions in the Duvall v. Moore consent decree;

Q00T04

- (2) 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;
- (3) 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;
- (4) the status of any motions to terminate provisions of the consent decree and updates on any other motions filed; and
- (5) a summary of any costs associated with the compliance process.

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.

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

R00A01
Headquarters
Maryland State Department of Education

Budget Amendment

R00A01.01 Office of the State Superintendent

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) submits a report to the budget committees describing how the agency has implemented feedback and corrective actions from the Office of Legislative Audits related to the January 2026 fiscal compliance audit of the agency. The report shall include the following:

- (1) the procedures in place to ensure that applicants who will have direct access to minors undergo the required preemployment screenings, including criminal history, past disciplinary action, and licensing checks;
- (2) the system in place for monitoring local education agencies' (LEA) class assignment practices to ensure that teachers are only assigned to areas in which they are licensed;
- (3) MSDE's process and capacity for independently reviewing and approving initial educator license applications;
- (4) the procedures established to ensure the accuracy of LEAs' eligibility determinations for prekindergarten funding;
- (5) the status of federal fund reimbursement requests, the outstanding balance of expenditures that are awaiting federal reimbursement, the actions taken to obtain reimbursement in a timely manner, and the system developed to document federal revenues and expenditures;
- (6) the justification for procuring non-competitive contracts, the process for documenting the scope of services required under each agreement, and any steps MSDE has taken to recover funds paid for undelivered services; and
- (7) from January 2025 onward, a list of reimbursements owed to 21st Century Community Learning Centers that exceeded the 60-day required window, as well as the agency's justification for delays and the steps in place to ensure timely reimbursements.

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than December 1, 2026. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and

R00A01

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 January 2026 fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) contained 11 findings related to MSDE for the period from June 2021 to July 2024. The report disclosed issues with hiring and licensing oversight and financial management, as well as 2 redacted cybersecurity findings. This language restricts funding pending a report discussing OLA’s feedback and the changes made to MSDE’s oversight and documentation processes.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on hiring, licensing, and financial management oversight	MSDE	December 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Report on Accounting Practices: The committees request that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) submit a closeout report by October 1, 2026. This report should include:

- an explanation for encumbrances and reversions for all general, special, federal, and reimbursable funds for any amount that does not equal zero; and
- expenditures and closeout balances by program for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on accounting practices	MSDE	October 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Report on State Education Agency Federal Stimulus Funds: Due to school closures prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) received approximately \$3.6 billion in State Education Agency (SEA) federal stimulus funds. Though most of the funds have been obligated, significant amounts have not been expended. To ensure proper monitoring of the use of these funds, the committees request that MSDE report by

R00A01

January 1, 2027, on all SEA program expenditures distributed as part of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds. This report should include:

- grant expenditures by school and program for State-mandated funds allocated to the Maryland School for the Blind, the Maryland School for the Deaf, and the School for Educational Evolution and Development;
- grant procedures, allocations, and expenditures by program for all discretionary allocations;
- expenditures by MSDE department and object for administrative costs; and
- unexpended funds by program, reasons that funds were not allocated or expended, anticipated expenditures of those funds by program for future years, and funds that may have been canceled.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on SEA Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds	MSDE	January 1, 2027

Committee Narrative

Report on the Maryland Leads Program: The American Rescue Plan Act requires State agencies to spend a designated percentage of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds to address learning loss. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) applied these funds to a grant program for local education agencies (LEA), Maryland Leads. To ensure proper oversight of this program and funding, the committees request that MSDE report by December 1, 2026, on the Maryland Leads program. The report should include the following information:

- a summary of progress on Maryland Leads objectives to date;
- LEA implementation plans by Maryland Leads subprogram;
- expenditures by LEA and subprogram for fiscal 2025 and 2026, including expenditures on personnel;

R00A01

- standardized assessment measures, outcome measures, and progress, by LEA and program, on the framework implemented by MSDE to remediate student learning loss;
- documentation of improvements in literacy and mathematics proficiency, by LEA, grade, and subprogram, as the result of Maryland Leads initiatives; and
- documentation of how MSDE shares Maryland Leads information with the public, either on the MSDE website, LEA websites, or by other means.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Maryland Leads	MSDE	December 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Report on Science of Reading (SoR) and State Literacy Policy: In January 2024, the State Board of Education (SBOE) passed Resolution 24-01 adopting SoR as Maryland’s official approach to literacy instruction and required local education agencies (LEA) to align their literacy instruction to SoR starting in the 2024-2025 school year. As part of this resolution, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) was tasked with drafting a comprehensive literacy policy for prekindergarten through third grade that aligned with SoR and MSDE’s strategic plan. MSDE also received a total of \$47.2 million from federal and nonprofit grants to implement initiatives to improve early literacy proficiency and SoR professional development. The committees request that MSDE and the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) submit a report by October 1, 2026, on SoR and State literacy policy. The report should include the following information:

- a summary of the final version of the State literacy policy adopted by SBOE;
- expenditures on SoR by LEA including allocations through State allocations, Maryland Leads federal stimulus funds, and other federal and nonprofit grants;
- a summary of materials related to readiness for promotion policies, implementation, and LEA reporting;
- a summary of the key objectives in LEA literacy plans submitted to AIB in calendar 2024 and reported progress on these objectives submitted in LEA annual reports due September 2026;

R00A01

- progress on teacher training, preparation, and support for the State literacy policy and SoR instruction;
- status of the student support model for student reading improvement plans; and
- an updated timeline for completion of the adolescent literacy plan for grades 4 through 12.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on SoR and State literacy policy	AIB MSDE	October 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

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

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

R00A01

Committee Narrative

R00A01.04 Division of Early Childhood

Child Care Scholarship (CCS) Program Quarterly Reports: The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has implemented a series of significant changes under the CCS program. These changes, along with increasing program enrollment, have contributed to higher costs and shortfalls in fiscal 2023 through 2026. In response to these financial pressures, the department has implemented an enrollment freeze as a cost-saving measure to control program expenditures and align them with available funding. The committees request that MSDE submit quarterly reports with the following information:

- monthly CCS expenditures by fund;
- fiscal 2027 year-to-date spending and annualized cost estimates, noting the adequacy of remaining State and federal fund sources;
- the number of scholarships awarded by income eligibility category by month, total expenditures for those scholarships, and average cost per child;
- updates on the CCS waiting list including which income categories are impacted, how many children and families have applied for CCS benefits and been added to the waiting list by county and family income levels;
- information on outreach efforts to families on the waiting list, including how families are notified of their status, any actions required to maintain eligibility, and strategies used to ensure families remain informed during the enrollment freeze;
- the number of children and families removed from the waiting list and subsequently enrolled in the program, disaggregated by county and family income level, including the average length of time on the waiting list prior to enrollment; and
- the total available federal funds updated quarterly including carry over balances from prior years.

In its September 2026 report, MSDE should include actual data for the CCS program in the final quarter of fiscal 2026 and aggregate fiscal 2026 data. All reports should provide data on a monthly basis for fiscal 2027 year to date.

R00A01

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CCS quarterly expenditure reports	MSDE	September 15, 2026 December 15, 2026 March 15, 2027 June 15, 2027

Committee Narrative

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

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

Committee Narrative

R00A01.06 Office of Finance and Operations

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

R00A01

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

R00A02
Aid to Education
Maryland State Department of Education

Budget Amendment

Add the following language:

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

Explanation: *The Maryland State Department of Education shall not transfer any funds budgeted for Aid to Education to any other program or purpose.*

Amendment No.

39

Budget Amendment

R00A02.06 Prekindergarten

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation made for the purpose of the prekindergarten funding formula shall be reduced by \$3,602,296 contingent on the enactment of legislation to limit the expansion of Tier II full-day prekindergarten eligibility.

Explanation: The expansion of full-day prekindergarten is a key initiative aimed at increasing access to early childhood education. To ensure a more sustainable funding trajectory while maintaining the core objectives of the program, this language reduces funding for the full-day prekindergarten formula contingent on the enactment of legislation that limits the expansion of Tier II eligibility. The Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026 includes a provision that caps Tier II eligibility at 450% of the federal poverty level (FPL) rather than expanding to 600% FPL starting in fiscal 2027 as required under current law.

R00A02

Committee Narrative

R00A02.07 Students With Disabilities

Report on the Autism Waiver Program: The committees request a report by October 1, 2026, on the Autism Waiver program, which is managed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). This status update should provide information on the following:

- the current number of individuals on the Autism Waiver waitlist;
- the number of slots utilized in fiscal 2023 through 2026;
- the number of slots in use in fiscal 2027;
- the average cost per slot in fiscal 2023 through 2026 and forecasted for fiscal 2027 through 2032;
- a timeline for unfreezing enrollment and increasing utilized slots to the target level;
- MSDE's strategy for managing high program costs, including specific cost containment measures implemented and anticipated savings from these measures; ~~and~~
- projected costs for Autism Waiver services through fiscal 2032 by year based on the timeline for increasing utilized slots-;
- *the process for enrolling in life skills classes and the costs associated with participation;*
- *the costs associated with allowing participants to attend school until age 21 by taking additional life skills courses if they are pursuing a diploma;*
- *the number of participants who received a diploma before the age of 21 in fiscal 2016 through 2026 and their age at graduation, provided separately by year;*
- *the number of students who graduated before age 21 who participated in life skills classes; and*
- *transition services that provide information and resources immediately prior to graduation.*

R00A02

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the autism waiver program	MSDE	October 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Report on the Nonpublic Placement Program: The committees request a report on costs for the Nonpublic Placement program; implementation of nonpublic school special education teacher pay parity related to the Teacher Pay Parity Act (Chapter 648 of 2023); and actions taken by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) to implement this program. The committees request that MSDE submit a report by October 1, 2026, including (1) program closeout data for fiscal 2026 by provider, including annual reimbursement costs and any costs that could not be covered within the fiscal 2026 appropriation; (2) actions taken in calendar 2026 and 2027 to implement Chapter 648; and (3) planned actions related to implementation of Chapter 648 and efforts to achieve pay parity in future years.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the nonpublic placement program	MSDE	October 1, 2026

R00A02

Budget Amendment

R00A02.13 Innovative Programs

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:		
1. Delete the appropriation for a grant to the Yleana Leadership Foundation, which is no longer in operation.	-70,000	GF
2. Reduce Adult High School Pilot Program general funds to the level of actual expenditures. In fiscal 2025, the program only had two eligible applicants.	-750,000	GF
 Total Change	 -820,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	15,846,834	15,026,834	-820,000	

Committee Narrative

Final Reports on Local Education Agency (LEA) COVID-19 Federal Stimulus Fund Expenditures: In fiscal 2021, 2022, and 2023, LEAs received a total of \$256.6 million as authorized in the RELIEF Act (Chapter 39 of 2021) and allocated in the fiscal 2022 Budget Bill (Chapter 357 of 2021) for tutoring, behavioral health, summer school, school reopening, and transitional supplemental instruction. As part of mandated reporting in Chapter 55 of 2021, the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Program – Revisions, LEAs were required to report on expenditures of these funds to the General Assembly and the Accountability and Implementation Board through calendar 2023. However, as of December 2025, multiple LEAs still report carrying federal stimulus fund balances. Therefore, the committees request that the LEAs with remaining balances submit a final closeout report by October 1, 2026, consistent with the requirements of the previously mandated report on COVID-19 federal stimulus fund expenditures, which requested the following information: (1) the county board’s use of federal funding to address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on education; and (2) State funding received to implement the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Program, including a description of the amount of funding spent on student instruction. Additionally, as part of this submission, LEAs should review previous reports for this purpose and document corrections in this final report. The

R00A02

jurisdictions that have expended all federal stimulus funds and are therefore exempt are as follows: Allegany County; Anne Arundel County; Frederick County; St. Mary's County; and Worcester County.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reports on LEA COVID-19 expenditures	LEAs	October 1, 2026

Budget Amendment

R00A02.55 Teacher Development

Strike the following language:

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

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

Amendment No.

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Committee Narrative

R00A02.60 Blueprint for Maryland's Future Transition Grants

Report on Enrollment and Counts for Blueprint for Maryland's Future Programs: The committees request a report by October 1, 2026, on Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) enrollment collection procedures for free and reduced-price meal (FRPM) students; the count of national board certification (NBC) eligible teachers in the career ladder program; and student counts for the college and career readiness (CCR) program.

R00A02

For FRPM student enrollment, this report should include data by local education agency (LEA) and school for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), including the percentage of FRPM students in the fiscal year prior to entry into CEP; and greater than comparisons by LEA and school used to calculate compensatory education enrollment.

For NBC teachers counts, the report should include the following data by LEA and school-type (either low-performing and non-low-performing) if applicable:

- count of teachers eligible for a fiscal 2026 award and their year of NBC attainment;
- count of teachers who attempted NBC but did not attain it in either school year 2024-2025 or 2025-2026;
- count of teachers attempting NBC in school year 2026-2027;
- count of school counselors who hold NBC in school counseling;
- count of school counselors who have enrolled in, registered for, or submitted at least one component of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards school counseling certification process during school year 2024-2025 or 2025-2026; and
- steps taken by MSDE and LEAs to encourage NBC staff to move to low-performing schools.

For CCR student counts, this report and data should include projected CCR counts and funding from fiscal 2028 through 2031 based on expanded CCR standard.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on enrollment and counts for Blueprint for Maryland's Future programs	MSDE	October 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

R00A02.62 College and Career Readiness

Report on the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP): The committees remain interested in tracking the costs for MCAP assessment development and

R00A02

implementation. The committees request by October 1, 2026, that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) submit a report on MCAP, which should include, but is not limited to:

- a timetable for MCAP administration for all assessments for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years, including field testing and pilots for new assessments;
- details on MCAP measurement of student learning loss in the 2026-2027 school year by local education agency (LEA), subject area, grade level, and assessment, as well as additional steps taken, if any, by MSDE at the State level to measure student learning loss;
- details on MCAP administration in the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years by LEA, program, grade level, and assessment, including alternative assessments and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment;
- anticipated changes, if any, to assessments for virtual school students in the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years;
- expenditures in fiscal 2026 and 2027, and anticipated allowances for fiscal 2028, for each MCAP assessment, assessments under development, and administration, including contractual expenditures by vendor;
- a discussion of reasons for increased costs relative to budgeted expenses for MCAP assessments and how MSDE is working to improve its forecasting of these costs beginning with the fiscal 2028 budget submission;
- information pertaining to any formal review of MCAP assessments and standards in calendar 2027 and 2028 by MSDE, by curriculum and assessment, including any anticipated changes to MCAP assessments as a result of that review and the projected costs of those changes; and
- alignment of MCAP goals and outcomes with Blueprint for Maryland's Future outcome measures.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MCAP	MSDE	October 1, 2026

R00A03
Funding for Educational Organizations
Maryland State Department of Education

Budget Amendment

R00A03.05 Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today

Modify the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation shall be for a Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) Program that provides scholarships for students who are eligible for the free or reduced price lunch program to attend eligible nonpublic schools. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) shall administer the grant program in accordance with the following guidelines:

- (1) To be eligible to participate in the BOOST Program, a nonpublic school must:
 - (a) have participated in Program R00A03.04 Aid to Non–Public Schools Program for textbooks and computer hardware and software administered by MSDE during the ~~2024–2025~~ 2025-2026 school year;
 - (b) provide more than only prekindergarten and kindergarten programs;
 - (c) administer national, norm–referenced standardized assessments chosen from the list of assessments published by the U.S. Department of Education ~~used for the 2024–25 school year~~ to qualify nonpublic schools for the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program. The nonpublic schools must administer the assessments to all students as follows:
 - (i) English/language arts and mathematics assessments each year for students in grades 3 through 8, and at least once for students in grades 9 through 12; and
 - (ii) a science assessment at least once for students in grades 3 through 5, at least once for students in grades 6 through 8 9, and at least once for students in grades ~~9~~ 10 through 12; and
 - (d) comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article, and not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion or otherwise discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression.

R00A03

Nothing herein shall require any school or institution to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with its religious or moral teachings. However, all participating schools must agree that they will not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion or otherwise discriminate against any student based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. If a nonpublic school does not comply with these requirements, it shall reimburse MSDE all scholarship funds received under the BOOST Program for the ~~2025–2026~~ 2026-2027 school year and may not charge the student tuition and fees instead. The only other legal remedy for violation of this provision is ineligibility for participating in the BOOST Program.

Explanation:

This language makes technical changes to align annual language related to the BOOST Program with policies set in the fiscal 2026 Budget Bill. This language specifies that to be eligible to participate in the BOOST Program, a nonpublic school must have participated in the program for textbooks and computer hardware and software administered by MSDE during the prior school year (2025-2026), and must administer national, norm-referenced standardized assessments chosen from the list of assessments published by the U.S. Department of Education to qualify nonpublic schools for the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program. This language also specifies that if a nonpublic school does not comply with these requirements, it shall reimburse MSDE all scholarship funds received under the BOOST Program for the 2026-2027 school year.

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$569,800 of this appropriation shall be used only to provide an additional award for each student with special needs that is at least equal in amount to the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) Program scholarship award that a student is awarded in accordance with paragraph (6) above.

Further provided that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) shall submit a report to the budget committees by January 15, 2027, that includes the following:

- (1) the number of students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (2) the amount of the BOOST Program scholarships received;

R00A03

- (3) the number of certified and noncertified teachers in core subject areas for each nonpublic school participating in the BOOST Program;
- (4) the assessments being administered by nonpublic schools participating in the BOOST Program and the results of these assessments. MSDE shall report the assessment results reported by nonpublic schools to the budget committees in an aggregate manner that does not violate student data privacy;
- (5) in the aggregate, for each BOOST Program scholarship awarded (a) the nonpublic school and grade level attended by the student; (b) the school attended in the 2025-2026 school year by the student; and (c) if the student attended the same nonpublic school in the 2025-2026 school year, whether, what type, and how much nonpublic scholarship aid the student received in the 2025-2026 school year and will receive in the 2026-2027 school year;
- (6) the average household income of students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (7) the racial breakdown of students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (8) the number of students designated as English language learners receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (9) the number of special education students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (10) the county in which students receiving BOOST Program scholarships reside;
- (11) the number of students who were offered BOOST Program scholarships but declined them as well as their reasons for declining the scholarships and the breakdown of students attending public and nonpublic schools for students who declined scholarships;
- (12) the number of students who received BOOST Program scholarships for the 2025-2026 school year who are attending public school for the 2026-2027 school year as well as their reasons for returning to public schools; and
- (13) the number of students who received BOOST Program scholarships for the 2025-2026 school year who withdrew or were expelled from the nonpublic schools they were attending and the reasons for which they withdrew or were expelled; the schools they withdrew or were expelled from; and the length of time students receiving BOOST Program scholarships were enrolled at a nonpublic school before withdrawing or being expelled.

R00A03

Explanation:

This language requires MSDE to report by January 15, 2027, on the distribution of the BOOST scholarships; information on the students receiving BOOST scholarships; teacher certifications for nonpublic schools participating in the BOOST Program; and assessments being administered in nonpublic schools participating in the BOOST Program, including student performance. The language also requires that MSDE report on students who choose to decline scholarships or attend public schools after participating in the BOOST Program in the past, along with their reasons for doing so, and information on students receiving scholarships for the 2025-2026 school year who withdrew or were expelled from the nonpublic schools that they were attending. Finally, the language requires that the BOOST Advisory Board shall take into account the special needs of students with disabilities as it is determining scholarship award amounts and that \$569,800 of the BOOST appropriation shall be used to provide higher awards for these students.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
BOOST Program participation	MSDE	January 15, 2027

R00A06
Maryland Center for School Safety
Maryland State Department of Education

Committee Narrative

R00A06.01 Maryland Center for School Safety – Operations

Report on Safe Schools Fund (SSF) Utilization: The committees request that the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS) submit a report by September 1, 2026. The report should include the following:

- allocations and expenditures by local education agency (LEA) for the School Resource Officer grant program; the Hate Crimes Grant; the SSF Grant; and any other one-time grants, programs, or evaluations administrated by MCSS;
- the starting and ending balances for fiscal 2022 through 2026, and projected balances for fiscal 2027 through 2028;
- obstacles to balance utilization and LEA participation; and
- potential solutions to those obstacles.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on SSF utilization	MCSS	September 1, 2026

R12 Accountability and Implementation Board

Committee Narrative

R12A01.01 Accountability and Implementation Board

Status Report on Blueprint Implementation: The committees request that the Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB) submit a report by September 1, 2026, on agency actions to implement Blueprint for Maryland’s Future (Blueprint). This report shall include a timeline and detailed information on the progress in completing and/or implementing the following programs, reports, and measures:

- calendar 2026 and 2027 local education agency (LEA) Blueprint implementation plans and current status relative to minimum school funding requirements;
- calendar 2025 and 2026 State agency Blueprint implementation plans;
- collaboration with the Maryland State Department of Education, the State Board of Education, the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board, and the teacher preparation workgroup to revise teacher preparation program requirements;
- targeted training on Blueprint and any changes to training and/or funding for the 2026-2027 school year;
- measures taken for any LEAs that did not meet the July 1, 2026 deadline to increase minimum salaries to \$60,000;
- progress on the independent evaluation of Blueprint implementation and outcomes;
- LEA and Career and Technology Education Committee technical assistance Phase I and II grants, including use of funds; roles and responsibilities of strategic facilitators; categorized expenditures by LEA; and AIB collaboration, training, and accountability measures for grantees;
- LEA career ladder implementation plans;
- LEA career counseling programs for middle and high school students and accompanying fiscal reports;
- monthly Blueprint financial reporting on minimum funding requirements; and

R12

- progress to determine Blueprint final outcome measures, baseline data, and targets for early childhood education; college and career readiness; career ladder; student support personnel; or any other outcome measures under development.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status report on Blueprint implementation	AIB	September 1, 2026

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

Budget Amendment

R30B22.01 Instruction

Add the following language to the current unrestricted appropriation:

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

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

R30B30
University of Maryland Global Campus
University System of Maryland

Committee Narrative

R30B30.06 Institutional Support

UMGC Ventures and AccelerEd’s Reintegration: Since June 13, 2025, the University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) has been reintegrating UMGC Ventures and AccelerEd, its former information technology (IT) office that was spun-off as a High Impact Economic Development Activity. The committees are interested in better understanding the progress of the reintegration and request UMGC submit a report containing the following information as of November 1, 2026:

- the timeline for hiring, including the date hiring began;
- the number of vacant IT positions, including employee class title;
- the status of contracts AccelerEd used for its operations, including if these contracts will continue after reintegration;
- the status of revenue-generating contracts AccelerEd had, including if these contracts will continue after reintegration;
- any recoveries related to the original seed investment in AccelerEd and UMGC Ventures and an explanation for why, if some or all funds were not recovered;
- a complete list of UMGC Ventures’ assets and any assets that have been sold since UMGC Ventures began operations, including the price and date of the sale; and
- the status of transferring UMGC Ventures’ ownership in HelioCampus to UMGC.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Ventures and AccelerEd’s Reintegration	UMGC	December 1, 2026

R30B30

Committee Narrative

~~**National Marketing Campaign:** The University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) is undertaking a new national campaign to expand its reach, with authorization to spend \$246 million over a three-year period from July 3, 2025, to June 30, 2028. The committees are interested in the results of this campaign. The committees request that UMGC submit a report by December 15, 2026, detailing the amount spent in each fiscal year, as well as the number and dollar value of each media contract used, and the number of new students gained each fiscal year. The report should also include metrics on how the institution determined enrollment gains from the campaign.~~

Information Request	Author	Due Date
National Marketing Campaign	UMGC	December 15, 2026

R62I0001
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Budget Amendment

R62I00.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) submits a report to the budget committees on the errors related to the Guaranteed Access (GA) grant and Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarship in the recent award cycle including:

- (1) an explanation for why students eligible for the GA grant were initially deemed ineligible;
- (2) a discussion of safeguards that will be implemented to prevent students with incomplete information from erroneously being awarded the GA grant;
- (3) a description of all internal controls in place to monitor the accurate awarding of scholarships and grants;
- (4) an explanation for the decision to deem off campus recipients of the Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarship to be ineligible to have room and board costs covered after students had already been awarded and subsequent partial reversal; and
- (5) a discussion of MHEC's timeline for making changes in financial assistance awards policy to ensure these decisions are made and disseminated prior to the award period.

The report shall be submitted by July 15, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the GA grant and Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarship	MHEC	July 15, 2026

R62I0001

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that ~~\$100,000~~ \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Higher Education Commission submits a report to the budget committees pertaining to the March 2025 audit findings, including the number of:

- (1) cases that are in the backlog for the verification of career-based financial aid awards with service obligations as of June 1, 2026;
- (2) accounts that were referred to the Central Collections Unit in each fiscal year from fiscal 2021 to 2026; and
- (3) positions that were moved to the Service Obligation Unit after the audit.

The report shall be submitted by August 15, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This action restricts funds pending the submission of a report providing information pertaining to a finding in the fiscal compliance audit released in March 2025, which involves ensuring career-based financial aid programs with service obligations are tracked and enforced properly.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Actions to address audit findings	Maryland Higher Education Commission	August 15, 2026

Amendment No.

41

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Maryland Higher Education Commission submits a report to the budget committees on the Next Generation Scholars (NGS) program, including:

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- (1) the number of NGS seniors for the 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027 academic years;
- (2) the number of NGS seniors who successfully met all of the eligibility requirements, and the number of eligible NGS seniors receiving a Guaranteed Access award; and
- (3) the number of seniors who later enrolled in a postsecondary institution of higher education in either the summer session or the fall semester and identify to which higher education segment those students enrolled.

The report shall be submitted by December 10, 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 remain interested in determining how many NGS students met the eligibility requirements and later enrolled in a postsecondary institution. A similar report due December 1, 2025, for academic years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 was requested in the 2025 Joint Chairmen’s Report but was not submitted as of February 24, 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on postsecondary outcomes for NGS senior students	Maryland Higher Education Commission	December 10, 2026

Add the following language:

Further provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation made for general administration may not be expended until the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) submits a report detailing for each fiscal 2020 through 2025, the appropriation and usage of funds for each grant, scholarship, and loan assistance repayment program administered by MHEC. The report should include, by program, the total appropriation; number of recipients, total amount of awards, program deficit or surplus, if the program had a deficit how the shortfall was covered and if a surplus if the funds were transferred to the Need-Based Student Financial Assistance Fund or another financial assistance program, and an explanation of all transfers of funds including whether transfers to other financial assistance programs occurred by budget amendment or other mechanism. This report shall be submitted by December 1, 2026, and the budget committees

R62I0001

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

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

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

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation by \$250,000 as these funds represent a backfill of withheld funds that were not released due to progress not being in resolving repeat audit findings. The Maryland Higher Education Commission may allocate the reduction across general administration program.	-250,000 GF	
Total Change	-250,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	85.00	85.00		0.00
General Funds	11,432,225	11,182,225	-250,000	

Committee Narrative

***Tuition Exemption for Incarcerated Individuals:** The committees request that the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC), in consultation with all segments of higher education, submit a report on how institutions might implement tuition exemption for incarcerated individuals. It is the intent of the committees that in order to qualify for the exemption, an incarcerated individual must apply for federal and State financial aid and similar to last dollar*

R62I0001

scholarship programs, the exemption would only apply to the amount of the tuition not covered by financial aid.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
<i>Tuition exemption for incarcerated individuals</i>	<i>MHEC</i>	<i>November 15, 2026</i>

Committee Narrative

Report on Relocating the Office of Student Financial Assistance: *The committees request that the Department of Legislative Services, in consultation with the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC), the Department of Budget and Management, and segments of higher education, conduct a study evaluating options for removing the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) from the organizational structure of MHEC. Multiple options should be considered including, but not limited to, establishing OSFA as a separate agency in the executive branch or incorporating OSFA into another State agency. The report should include:*

- *a survey of the administration of student financial assistance programs in other states including organization and structure;*
- *revisions to statute to effectuate the recommended relocation options of OSFA; and*
- *estimated costs associated with the relocation options including additional personnel and other operating costs.*

Committee Narrative

Study of Public Service Loan Forgiveness Programs: *The committees request that the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) submit a report by November 15, 2026, on loan forgiveness programs and the potential for such a program for the State of Maryland. To determine whether a program would be suitable for Maryland students, this study should examine the following information about similar programs in other states including, but not limited to:*

- *rationale for starting a loan forgiveness program;*
- *student eligibility requirements and majors including undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees;*

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- *funding sources;*
- *residency requirements;*
- *occupations that qualify for loan forgiveness;*
- *length of the exemption period;*
- *unique graduate majors that are particularly suited for loan forgiveness; and*
- *changes to the program since initial implementation.*

In conducting this study, MHEC should consult other State agencies that might be impacted by a public loan forgiveness program and if possible, calculate the cost of a program in Maryland based on costs in other states.

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Study of public service loan forgiveness programs</i>	<i>MHEC</i>	<i>November 15, 2026</i>

Budget Amendment

R62I00.03 Joseph A. Sellinger Formula for Aid to Non-Public Institutions of Higher Education

Strike the following language:

~~provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$4,467,023 contingent upon the enactment of legislation to fund the Joseph A. Sellinger program at the fiscal 2026 level.~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not necessary for the General Assembly to reduce the appropriation directly.

R62I0001

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the appropriation for the Joseph A. Sellinger formula to fund the formula at the fiscal 2026 level. The Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026 includes a provision that specifies funding per institution at the fiscal 2026 level. This action takes the reduction directly rather than contingently.	-4,467,023	GF
 Total Change	 -4,467,023	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	77,789,747	73,322,724	-4,467,023	

Budget Amendment

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

Strike the following language:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$20,990,480 contingent upon the enactment of legislation that alters the John A. Cade Funding Formula by implementing a 3% cap on the maximum percentage increase each institution can receive compared to the prior fiscal year~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not necessary for the General Assembly to reduce the appropriation directly.

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that the appropriation for the Senator John A. Cade Funding Formula shall be allocated to the institutions in the following amounts:

- (1) Allegany College 9,397,435

R62I0001

- (2) Anne Arundel Community College 44,660,516
- (3) Community College of Baltimore County 70,896,218
- (4) Carroll Community College 13,212,963
- (5) Cecil College 7,991,668
- (6) College of Southern Maryland 20,371,285
- (7) Chesapeake College 10,538,004
- (8) Frederick Community College 23,303,494
- (9) Garrett College 4,250,368
- (10) Hagerstown Community College 17,857,106
- (11) Harford Community College 19,212,843
- (12) Howard Community College 34,939,725
- (13) Montgomery Community College 74,640,855
- (14) Prince George's Community College 51,165,697
- (15) Wor-Wic Community College 12,743,753

Explanation: This language specifies the allocation of Cade funds among the Maryland Association of Community Colleges institutions based on the level resulting from the provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026, which caps the increase in funding year over-year for each institution at 3%.

R62I0001

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation for the Senator John A. Cade Funding Formula. This action reflects a change in the funding formula included in a provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026.	-20,990,480	GF
 Total Change	 -20,990,480	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	459,845,526	438,855,046	-20,990,480	

R62I0010
Student Financial Assistance
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Committee Narrative

R62I00.10 Educational Excellence Awards

Credit Requirements for Community College Students Receiving Educational Excellence Awards: The committees request that the Maryland Higher Education Commission submit a report by November 1, 2026, that calculates the cost of reducing credit completion requirements during the second academic year for community college students to maintain eligibility for their Educational Excellence Awards grants based on the following standards:

- completing 24 or more credits to maintain the full award; and
- completing 18 or more but less than 24 credits to receive a prorated award.

The report should calculate the costs that would have occurred had the listed credit completion standards been in effect for fiscal 2022 to 2025. The report should also discuss reasons why the rate of ineligibility among community college recipients has consistently exceeded the ineligibility rate for recipients at public and private four-year institutions.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Credit completion requirements for Maryland Higher community college students	Education Commission	November 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Impact of Credit Completion Requirement on Financial Aid Awards: The committees remain interested in the impact that the 30-credit-hour requirement had on students in the 2025-2026 academic year and the 2026-2027 awarding year, specifically if students are meeting the requirement in order to receive the full amount of award, how many students had their awards prorated, and how many students lost eligibility. The report should also include the graduation rates, ~~of students who completed 30 credit hours compared to those who completed less than 30 credit hours~~ *average credits earned, and on-time degree completion rates for students who completed at least 30 credit hours compared to those who completed less than 30 credit hours*. The report should provide summary data by segment (community colleges, four-year public, and independent institutions) and by institution. The report should identify the updated

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funding disbursement, by Educational Excellence Awards (EEA) award type and by total credit attainment grouping, for the students from the most recent review cycle as well as what the total funding amount was, by EEA award type, prior to those students having their award funding amounts revised. *Additionally, the report should discuss new initiatives currently in development to alert students who are in danger of losing their awards.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Impact of credit completion requirements on financial aid awards	Maryland Higher Education Commission	December 1, 2026

Budget Amendment

R62I00.48 Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship Program

Strike the following language:

~~; provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$1,000,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation to reduce the program funding mandate~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not necessary for the General Assembly to reduce the appropriation directly.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funds for the Community College Promise Scholarship from \$13.5 million to \$12.5 million.	-1,000,000	GF
Total Change	-1,000,000 0	0.00

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R62I0010

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	13,500,000	12,500,000 13,500,000	-1,000,000 0	

Budget Amendment

R62I00.52 Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers

Strike the following language:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$1,500,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation to reduce the program funding mandate~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not necessary for the General Assembly to reduce the appropriation directly.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funds for the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Police Officers and Probation Agents, reflecting a provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026 that reduces the mandate from \$2.0 million to \$500,000.	-1,500,000	GF
Total Change	-1,500,000	0.00

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

R62I0010

Budget Amendment

R62I00.53 Maryland Police Officers Scholarship Program

Strike the following language:

~~, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$1,500,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation to reduce the program funding mandate~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not necessary for the General Assembly to reduce the appropriation directly.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Delete funds for the Maryland Police Officer and Probation Agents Scholarship program, reflecting a provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026 that reduces the mandate from \$2.0 million to \$500,000.	-1,500,000	GF
Total Change	-1,500,000	0.00

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

R75T0001
Higher Education

R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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

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

Committee Narrative

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual report on faculty workload	USM MSU SMCM	December 15, 2026

R95C00
Baltimore City Community College

R95C00.17 **Scholarships and Fellowships**

Committee Narrative

Enrollment and the Mayor’s Scholars Program (MSP): The committees request a report on MSP that includes updated information on MSP for the 2025-2026 academic year and that identifies what additional actions are being taken to increase enrollment. Additionally, the report should provide the following information on MSP: (1) the number of applications received for all cohorts, the number of students who enrolled each semester, and the number of first-year students who enrolled in the second, third, and fourth year (where applicable); (2) the number of students who participated in the Summer Bridge program for all cohorts; (3) the number of students in all cohorts applicable who have successfully completed at least 15 credits each semester or a total of 30 credits in their academic year; (4) the amount of financial aid provided to scholars in year one, two, three, and four by cohort, including the total amount each year and the average student award; and (5) other funding sources being used to support the program after the end of funding from Baltimore City including amounts by source.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Enrollment and MSP Data	BCCC	December 1, 2026

S00A
Department of Housing and Community Development

Committee Narrative

S00A20.01 Office of the Secretary

Housing Industry Apprenticeships: The committees request that the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) conduct a study on registered apprenticeships in the housing industry. DHCD should consult with the Maryland Department of Labor and other relevant stakeholders and submit a report that details:

- current registered apprenticeship programs and number of apprentices in the housing industry, including in construction, real estate, rental housing, and other related occupations;
- the potential for new apprenticeship pathways in the housing industry; and
- any barriers to creating and expanding apprenticeships in occupations in the housing industry.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on housing industry apprenticeships	DHCD	December 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Housing Production Opportunities at Rail Mass Transit Stops: The committees request that the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) conduct a comprehensive study of housing availability and potential at rail mass transit stops in each jurisdiction. DHCD should consult with the Maryland Department of Transportation and other relevant stakeholders and submit a report that details:

- the current availability of housing units at each rail transit stop;
- current zoning requirements at each rail transit stop; and
- an assessment of how many potential housing units could be added at each rail transit stop.

S00A

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on housing production opportunities at rail mass transit stops	DHCD	December 1, 2026

Budget Amendment

S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$3,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) submits a report to the budget committees on the department's progress toward reducing vacant properties in Baltimore City. The report shall include:

- (1) the status of DHCD efforts to work with Baltimore City in addressing vacant properties;
- (2) issues that may lead to delays in developing properties and blocks targeted for demolition and redevelopment, specifically including issues related to vacant properties in the Penn North neighborhood that burned down in March 2026; and
- (3) any recommendations to reduce administrative or other barriers that would enable projects to move forward more quickly.

The report shall be submitted by September 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 be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending the submission of a report on efforts to address vacant properties in Baltimore City.

S00A

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on vacant properties in Baltimore City	DHCD	September 1, 2026

Budget Amendment

S00A25.04 Housing and Building Energy Programs

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$183,673 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 to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, provided that \$191,321 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 to more closely align with the applicable Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act provision.

S00A

Budget Amendment

S00A29.01 Homeless Solutions

Add the following language:

Provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that community action agencies be defined as emergency providers.

Explanation: This language expresses the intent of the General Assembly that community action agencies be defined as emergency providers.

T00
Department of Commerce

Budget Amendment

T00A00.01 Office of the Secretary

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration may not be expended until the Department of Commerce submits a report to the budget committees on the utilization of the Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account program over the past five years, challenges in deploying the full appropriation, strategies that have been used to increase utilization and the outcome of these strategies, and recommendations for program modifications that could increase program utilization. The report shall be submitted by October 30, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account (SMWOBA) and its fund managers have been unable to utilize the program’s full appropriation in recent years, leading to a significant balance in the account. The committees request that the Department of Commerce (Commerce) report on challenges in deploying the funds, what strategies have been tried to increase deployment of the funds, and recommendations for program modifications to increase program utilization.

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

T00

Budget Amendment

T00C00.05 Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority (MSBDF)

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority management fees that were overfunded in the allowance due to a data entry error.	-625,000	SF
Total Change	-625,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Funds	8,533,375	7,908,375	-625,000	

Budget Amendment

T00C00.15 Maryland Biotech Investment Tax Credit Reserve Fund

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds for the Biotechnology Investment Incentive Tax Credit by \$2 million, to a total program funding level of \$10 million.	-2,000,000	GF
Total Change	-2,000,000	0.00

T00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	4,658,750	2,658,750	-2,000,000	

Budget Amendment

T00C00.17 More Jobs For Marylanders Tax Credit Reserve

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$17,000,000 contingent upon the enactment of legislation limiting to no more than \$15,000,000 the aggregate amount of final tax credit certificates the Department of Commerce may issue each year under the More Jobs for Marylanders program.

Explanation: *A related Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act recommendation would limit the annual amount of final tax credit certificates that may be issued each year under the More Jobs for Marylanders program to no more than \$15 million. This language reduces general funds for the program contingent on the enactment of the provision, so that total fiscal 2027 funding is \$15 million.*

Amendment No.

43

T00

Budget Amendment

T00D00.05 Maryland State Arts Council

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds for the Maryland State Arts Council.	-310,120	-GF
 Total Change	 -310,120	
	0	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	22.00	22.00		0.00
General Funds	29,688,011	29,377,894	-310,120	
		29,688,011	0	

Amendment No.

44

T50T01
Maryland Technology Development Corporation

Budget Amendment

T50T01.01 Technology Development, Transfer and Commercialization

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Reduce funding for a grant to the Baltimore Tech Hub Consortium, intended to support the consortium's ongoing pursuit of federal funding, due to the State's fiscal condition and the uncertain outlook for future federal funding.</i>	-250,000	GF
Total Change	-250,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	8,125,816	7,875,816	-250,000	

Amendment No.

45

U00A
Department of the Environment

Budget Amendment

U00A04.01 Water and Science Administration

Amend the following language on the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that ~~\$500,000~~\$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) submits a report to the budget committees evaluating and recommending options to standardize the interpretation and implementation of State septic system regulations and guidance across jurisdictions. The report shall be developed in consultation with stakeholders including local health departments, the development community, septic system installers and engineers, environmental stakeholders, and other relevant experts. The report shall include the following:

- (1) an examination of variations in how local environmental health officers interpret and apply MDE regulations and guidance, including identification of the statutory or regulatory basis for more restrictive local interpretations; a review of the justification for enhanced or intensive percolation testing and septic system requirements in certain jurisdictions, including but not limited to Howard County; and consideration of how elevated and other nonconventional septic systems are treated across jurisdictions and whether additional clarification or standardization from MDE is warranted;
- (2) an independent assessment of customer satisfaction across jurisdictions, including feedback from individuals directly involved in the percolation testing, plan review, and building permit processes;
- (3) an evaluation of septic system performance data, including the average number of failures annually by jurisdiction, the percentage of failures resulting in significant environmental or public health impacts, and any correlation between local testing requirements and documented environmental outcomes;
- (4) recommendations on predictive flow metrics for all uses, including restaurants, other businesses, and housing, and on how to permit reasonable flexibility in approved flow rates based on plumbing upgrades, flow monitoring, and lookback data after initial approval; and

U00A

- (5) recommendations for a standardized statewide process for reviewing, approving, and implementing percolation plans and septic system approvals, including individual, shared, and multi-use systems; a coordinated approval framework for accessory dwelling units and other multi-unit developments served by multi-use systems; and a statewide flowchart depicting how county health departments, MDE, and local public works or permitting agencies coordinate throughout the approval and implementation process.

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

Explanation: This action restricts *a lower amount of* funding in the Maryland Department of the Environment’s Water and Science Administration pending the submission of a report on septic system regulations and guidance standardization. The report is intended to identify inconsistencies, improve transparency, and determine whether additional statewide guidance or standardization is needed to address local differences in stringency and permitting requirements across counties.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Septic system regulations and guidance standardization report	MDE	December 1, 2026
		Amendment No. 46

U00A

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</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.	-11,100,000	SF
Total Change	-11,100,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	387.50	387.50		0.00
Special Funds	33,595,419	22,495,419	-11,100,000	

Committee Narrative

Potomac Interceptor Oversight Failures and Water Quality Monitoring Plan: *The committees are concerned about the oversight failures and both public health and environmental impacts of the Potomac Interceptor sewer line collapse on January 19, 2026, near the Clara Barton Parkway and I-495 interchange in Montgomery County. The collapse of the 72-inch diameter pipe – owned, operated, and maintained by D.C. Water – caused an estimated 243-300 million gallon sanitary sewer overflow into the C&O Canal National Historical Park and ultimately the Potomac River.*

Repairs to the interceptor infrastructure are expected to take many months to complete and intermittent sewage overflows and leakages may continue. As such, the committees find that ongoing, coordinated, and transparent water quality monitoring is necessary to protect public health and ensure full understanding of the environmental impacts of this incident. The committees request the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), which regulates unauthorized discharges into Maryland waterways and wetlands, oversees drinking water safety and enforcement, and monitors shellfish harvesting, submit reports as follows.

U00A

- *MDE is requested to submit a report by June 1, 2026, that provides a detailed analysis of the events and factors that led to the Potomac Interceptor collapse, including a timeline of events and an evaluation of any oversight and monitoring failures that might have contributed to the sewer line collapse. The report should include a detailed evaluation of MDE's and D.C. Water's role in ensuring the safety and integrity of the sewer and wastewater systems. The report should also provide an assessment of the condition of the Potomac Interceptor along its alignment within Maryland, including any factors impacting the structural capacity and integrity of the system. In addition, the report should also include a plan for a continuous water quality monitoring program for bacteria, nutrients, dissolved oxygen, and other relevant ecological indicators, aquatic habitat conditions to assess ecological impacts, and coordination with existing citizen science and watershed monitoring programs operating in Maryland waters of the Potomac River, including nonprofit watershed organizations with demonstrated expertise.*
- *MDE is requested to submit monthly status reports on the steps taken by all parties to address the identified deficiencies that contributed to the Potomac Interceptor collapse. The report should include (1) a description of all water quality monitoring results from all available sources during the report period, including publicly accessible data from nonprofit watershed organizations, University of Maryland, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, other academic institutions, qualified scientific contractors and nonprofit organizations with demonstrated expertise in water quality monitoring and aquatic ecosystem assessment; (2) updates regarding potential impacts to Maryland ratepayers or other direct Maryland costs; details on the pump bypass system performance and any subsequent leakages, spills, and overflows; Potomac Interceptor repair status; (3) canal, National Park, and ecological restoration; (4) a plan for updates on a continuous water quality monitoring program and ecosystem assessment that tests for bacteria, nutrients, dissolved oxygen, and other relevant ecological indicators; and (5) environmental remediation. The monthly status reports are requested to begin as soon as practicable but not later than June 1, 2026, and continue until the risk to public health and the environment has been reduced to a de minimis level due to complete and permanent repair, and to be posted on MDE's website by the close of business of the first Friday following submission.*

U00A

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>Oversight failures at the Potomac Interceptor and plan for coordinated, ongoing water quality monitoring</i>	<i>MDE</i>	<i>June 1, 2026</i>
<i>Potomac Interceptor status reports</i>	<i>MDE</i>	<i>Monthly beginning not later than June 1, 2026, and continue until the risk to public health and the environment has been reduced to a de minimis level with postings on MDE's website by the close of business of the first Friday following submission.</i>

U00A07.01 **Air and Radiation Administration**

Committee Narrative

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;

U00A

- an evaluation of mechanisms other than energy use intensity to meet greenhouse gas emission targets; and
- an economic feasibility study of meeting energy use intensity standards, which shall consider factors including, but not limited to, building age, technological limitations, and limits of building resources and include recommendations addressing covered buildings and underresourced buildings that, after considering all possible incentives, including avoided penalties and fees, would still result in building noncompliance with greenhouse gas emission regulations and targets.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Energy use intensity costs and alternatives reporting for building energy performance standards	MDE	December 1, 2026

U10B00
Maryland Environmental Service

U10B00.41 General Administration

Committee Narrative

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

V00D01.01 **Office of the Secretary**

Committee Narrative

Report on the Substance Abuse Program: The fiscal 2026 budget as introduced included \$3.0 million in general funds for the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) to open the Catoctin Treatment Center 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 the Alfred D. Noyes Children’s Center (Noyes) as an adolescent drug treatment center that serves as a treatment alternative to detention and commitment. In coordination with the Maryland Department of Health (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. The budget committees request that DJS submit a report that contains the following information:

- a description of its role and responsibilities at each facility;
- an estimated or actual date for which DJS and MDH will begin their facility swap;
- an estimated or actual date for which juvenile justice involved youth will begin receiving care through the substance abuse program;
- a description of the care that youth will receive through each provider;
- a status update on the hiring of educational staff who will work at Noyes; and
- a list of estimated expenses associated with the programs in fiscal 2026 and 2027.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the substance abuse program	DJS	August 1, 2026

W00A
Department of State Police

Budget Amendment

W00A01.01 Office of the Superintendent

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided it is the intent of the General Assembly that grant funding that the Department of State Police provides to the Maryland Sheriffs' Association for operational training and support be used by the Maryland Sheriffs' Association to provide trainings to law enforcement agencies related to State law regarding immigration enforcement agreements.

Explanation: *Chapters 1 and 2 of 2026 prohibit the State; a unit of local government; a county sheriff; or any agency, officer, employee, or agent of the State or a unit of local government from entering into an immigration enforcement agreement. Any existing immigration enforcement agreement must be terminated on or before July 1, 2026. The fiscal 2027 budget includes \$333,000 in general funds for the Department of State Police to provide to the Maryland Sheriffs' Association. This language expresses the intent of the General Assembly that this funding be used for the Maryland Sheriffs' Association to provide trainings to law enforcement agencies regarding immigration enforcement agreements.*

Amendment No.

47

Committee Narrative

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 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

W00A

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

Committee Narrative

Report on Registered Apprenticeship Opportunities: As a full-service law enforcement agency, the Department of State Police (DSP) workforce includes a complement of sworn and civilian personnel with a wide range of job responsibilities. Among its sworn personnel, DSP estimates that the vacancy rate was 11.6% in calendar 2025. The department fills its sworn vacancies by hiring trooper candidates following their graduation from the Maryland State Police Trooper Academy. Typically, individuals must be at least 21 years old upon their graduation from the 26-week academy. DSP also operates a cadet program for individuals between 18 and 21 as a way of promoting a career in law enforcement and attracting additional candidates for its academics. The committees request that DSP submit a report describing opportunities for registered apprenticeship programs for its sworn workforce as well as what apprenticeship models the department is aware of within the law enforcement sector. To develop the report, DSP should consult with any exclusive bargaining representatives of the employees, the Department of

W00A

Budget and Management, and the Maryland Department of Labor. The report should include the following:

- a review of registered apprenticeship programs for the law enforcement sector in other states;
- any barriers to implementation for apprenticeship programs within the DSP workforce;
- the resources needed to support one or more registered apprenticeship programs within DSP; and
- the benefits of registered apprenticeship programs and expected impact on DSP staffing levels.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on registered apprenticeship opportunities	DSP	December 1, 2026

Committee Narrative

Report on Workforce Diversity Strategies: The Department of State Police (DSP) is the fifth largest employer within the Executive Branch, and one of its goals, as reported through the Managing for Results process, is to develop an efficient and effective workforce. An objective related to this goal is to increase actions focused on workforce diversity, equity, and inclusion. The committees request that DSP submit a report identifying any new strategies or initiatives that the department has engaged in to support diversity within its sworn and civilian personnel as well as within applicants to the department. Strategies and initiatives that support equity and inclusion should also be reported. The committees further request that a demographic breakdown of the department's civilian and sworn employees be provided for each division for the three most recent calendar years and that this breakdown provide information specific to gender and race.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on workforce diversity strategies	DSP	October 1, 2026

**Y01A
State Reserve Fund**

Budget Amendment

Y01A01.01 Revenue Stabilization Account

Strike the following language:

~~, provided that \$449,787,611 of this appropriation shall be reduced contingent upon enactment of legislation eliminating the required Revenue Stabilization Account appropriation for fiscal 2027.~~

Explanation: This action strikes contingent language that is not needed for the General Assembly to reduce the appropriation directly.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the appropriation to the Revenue Stabilization Account (Rainy Day Fund). Adequate funding exists to meet Spending Affordability Committee goals without the statutory appropriation to the Rainy Day Fund in fiscal 2027.	-449,787,611	GF
Total Change	-449,787,611	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	449,787,611	0	-449,787,611	

Budget Amendment

Y01A02.01 Dedicated Purpose Account

Strike the following language:

~~Legislative Priorities 30,000,000~~

Explanation: This action amends line-item appropriations for legislative priorities to be replaced by the General Assembly in separate actions. This is a technical amendment.

Y01A

Strike the following language:

~~, provided that \$82,000,000 of this appropriation is contingent upon the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund.~~

Explanation: This action strikes language that is no longer applicable due to legislative action on the appropriation.

Add the following language:

, provided that \$42,000,000 of this appropriation is made for the purpose of the Higher Ed Research Fund contingent on the enactment of legislation authorizing the use of Strategic Energy Investment Funds for this purpose may be used for any research field and shall not be limited to energy related research.

Explanation: This action enables funding in the Dedicated Purpose Account for Higher Education research to be used for any type of research.

Strike the following language:

~~Energy Resource Adequacy and Planning Act Implementation 25,000,000~~

~~Grid Enhancing Technologies/Advanced Transmission Technologies (GET/ ATT) Planning 15,000,000~~

Explanation: This action strikes line-items for appropriations that are being reduced by the General Assembly.

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for Energy Resource Adequacy and Planning Act Implementation.	-25,000,000	SF
2. Reduce funding for Grid-Enhancing Technologies/Advanced Transmission Technologies Planning.	-15,000,000	SF

Y01A

3.	Reduce placeholder for legislative priorities. This is a technical action to strike the placeholder appropriation for legislative priorities so that the legislature can add legislative priorities in specified amounts for specified purposes.	-30,000,000	GF
Total Change		-70,000,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	44,100,000	14,100,000	-30,000,000	
Special Funds	82,000,000	42,000,000	-40,000,000	

Committee Narrative

Dedicated Purpose Account Accounting: *The committees request that the Comptroller of Maryland, in collaboration with the Department of Management (DBM), submit a report that identifies, for each funding reversion to the Dedicated Purpose Account (DPA) for fiscal 2021 through 2025, the purpose as expressed in the appropriating language to the extent practical and the budget amendment number that authorized the transfer of funds. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Comptroller of Maryland, in annual fiscal year-end closeout reports beginning with the fiscal 2026 report, identify the budget amendment of origin for funds returned to the DPA or the budget bill purpose for which it was appropriated.*

<i>Information Request</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>DPA accounting</i>	<i>Comptroller of Maryland DBM</i>	<i>July 15, 2026</i>

Y01A

Budget Amendment

Y01A03.01 Economic Development Opportunities Program Account

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. <i>Reduce funding for the Economic Development Opportunities Program Account, commonly referred to as the Sunny Day Fund, due to the State's budget constraints.</i>	-8,000,000	GF
 Total Change	 -8,000,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Funds	16,000,000	8,000,000	-8,000,000	

Amendment No.

48

C80B00
Office of the Public Defender

Fiscal 2026 Deficiency

Budget Amendment

C80B00.02 District Operations

Amend 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
	<u>1,935,000</u>
	<u>2,000,000</u>

Explanation: This action ~~reduces~~ *restores* \$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.

Amendment No.

49

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, 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

C80B00.03 Appellate and Inmate Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, 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.

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.

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Fiscal 2026 Deficiency

Budget Amendment

D52A01.01 Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Amend the following language on the special fund appropriation:

, 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 initiatives related to resiliency efforts defined and implemented by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, including the annual report by the Office of Resilience.

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.

M00Q01
Medical Care Programs Administration
Maryland Department of Health

Fiscal 2026 Deficiency

Budget Amendment

M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements

Modify the following language:

M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements - Medical Care Programs Administration

To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to adjust the appropriation for fiscal 2026 to reflect enrollment, utilization, and rate projection assumptions for the traditional Medicaid and Affordable Care Act (ACA) Expansion populations.

General Fund Appropriation.....	106,416,159	<u>62,216,159</u>
Special Fund Appropriation.....	-513,006	
Federal Fund Appropriation.....	675,313,430	<u>568,082,603</u>
Reimbursable Fund Appropriation.....	18,554,072	
	799,770,655	<u>648,339,828</u>

Explanation: This action reduces funding from a fiscal 2026 deficiency appropriation to account for recoveries from calendar 2023 managed care organization medical loss ratio results.

M00Q01

Modify the following language:

M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements - Medical Care Programs Administration

To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to supplement the appropriation for fiscal 2026 to fund Service Year 2025 claims for traditional Medicaid services.

General Fund Appropriation	62,682,133	<u>52,682,133</u>
Federal Fund Appropriation.....	231,948,798	<u>171,948,798</u>
	294,630,931	<u>224,630,931</u>

Explanation: This action reduces funding from a fiscal 2026 deficiency appropriation due to lower estimated spending on prior year Medicaid expenses, based on recent actual claims paid through January 2026.

M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements

Add the following language:

Provided that all fiscal 2026 deficiency appropriations are to be used only for the purposes herein appropriated, and there shall be no transfer to any other program or purpose except that funds may be transferred to programs M00L01.02 Community Services, M00L01.03 Community Services for Medicaid State Fund Recipients, or M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements. Funds not expended or transferred shall be reverted or canceled.

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

N00A01
Administration
Department of Human Services

Fiscal 2026 Deficiency

Budget Amendment

N00A01.01 Office of the Secretary

Modify the following language:

N00A01.01 Office of the Secretary - Office of the Secretary

To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to supplement the appropriation for fiscal 2026 to fund call center services.

Special Fund Appropriation....	7,468,454	0
<i>Special Fund Appropriation....</i>	<i>7,468,454</i>	
Federal Fund Appropriation....	-711,193	

	6,757,261	711,193
	<i>6,757,261</i>	

Explanation: ~~Reduce special funds provided in a fiscal 2026 deficiency associated with the Constituent Services Call Center to more closely align with the agency's projected need and due to the special funds supporting this deficiency appropriation, when combined with other appropriations, exceeding the statutory level of revenue. This action restores funding for a deficiency appropriation for the Constituent Services Call Center.~~

Amendment No. 50

N00G
Local Department Operations
Department of Human Services

Fiscal 2026 Deficiency

Budget Amendment

N00G00.01 Foster Care Maintenance Payments

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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

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

N00H
Child Support Administration
Department of Human Services

Fiscal 2026 Deficiency

Budget Amendment

N00H00.08 Child Support-State

Modify the following language:

N00H00.08 Child Support-State - Child Support Administration

To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to supplement the appropriation for fiscal 2026 to fund call center services.

~~Special Fund Appropriation.... 1,858,906 0~~
Special Fund Appropriation.... 1,858,906

Federal Fund Appropriation.... -306,707

~~1,552,199 -306,707~~ 1,552,199

Explanation: ~~Reduce special funds provided in a fiscal 2026 deficiency associated with the Constituent Services Call Center to more closely align with the agency's projected need. This action restores funding for a deficiency appropriation for the Constituent Services Call Center.~~

Amendment No.

51

Sections

Budget Amendments

Amend the following section:

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

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

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

- ~~(b) To allot all or any portion of funds coming into the hands of any department, board, commission, officer, school and institution of the State, from sources not estimated or calculated upon in the budget.~~

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

- ~~(d)~~ (c) To prescribe procedures and forms for carrying out the above provisions.

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

Amend the following section:

SECTION 17. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds appropriated to the various State agency programs and subprograms in Comptroller Objects 0152 (Health Insurance), 0154 (Retirees Health Insurance Premiums), 0175 (Workers' Compensation), 0217 (Health Insurance), 0305 (Department of Budget and Management Paid Telecommunications), 0839 (Human Resources Shared Services), 0874 (Office of Attorney General Administrative Fee), 0876 (Department of Information Technology Information Technology Services Allocation), 0894 (State Personnel System Allocation), 0897 (Enterprise Budget System Allocation), and 1303 (rent paid to the Department of General Services) are to be utilized for their intended purposes only. ~~The expenditure or transfer of these funds for other purposes requires the prior approval of the Secretary of Budget and Management.~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Budget and Management may transfer amounts appropriated in Comptroller Objects 0152, 0154, 0217, 0305, and 0876 between State departments and agencies by approved budget amendment in fiscal 2026 and 2027. All funds budgeted in or transferred to Comptroller Objects 0152 and 0154 and any funds restricted in this budget for use in the employee and retiree health insurance program that are unspent shall be credited to the fund as established in accordance with Section 2-516 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article.

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

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

Sections

Add the following section:

Section 18 Executive Long-term Forecast

SECTION 18. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor’s budget books shall include a forecast of the impact of the executive budget proposal on the long-term fiscal condition of the General Fund, the Transportation Trust Fund, the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Fund, and higher education Current Unrestricted Fund accounts. This forecast shall estimate aggregate revenues, expenditures, and fund balances in each account for the fiscal year last completed, the current year, the budget year, and four years thereafter. Expenditures shall be reported at such agency, program or unit levels, or categories as may be determined appropriate after consultation with the Department of Legislative Services. A statement of major assumptions underlying the forecast shall also be provided including, but not limited to, general salary increases, inflation, and growth of caseloads in significant program areas.

Explanation: This annual language provides for the delivery of the Executive’s General Fund, transportation, Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Fund, and higher education forecasts and defines the conditions under which it is to be provided.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Executive forecasts	Department of Budget and Management	With submission of the Governor’s Fiscal 2028 Budget Books

Add the following section:

Section 19 Across-the-board Reductions and Higher Education

SECTION 19. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That all across-the-board reductions applied to the Executive Branch, unless otherwise stated, shall apply to current unrestricted and general funds in the University System of Maryland, St. Mary’s College of Maryland, Morgan State University, and Baltimore City Community College.

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

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Add the following section:

Section 20 Reporting Federal Funds

SECTION 20. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor’s budget books shall include a summary statement of federal revenues by major federal program sources supporting the federal appropriations made therein along with the major assumptions underpinning the federal fund estimates. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall exercise due diligence in reporting this data and ensure that they are updated as appropriate to reflect ongoing congressional action on the federal budget. In addition, DBM shall provide to the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) data for the actual, current, and budget years listing the components of each federal fund appropriation by Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number or equivalent detail for programs not in the catalog. Data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of DLS.

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reporting components of each federal fund appropriation	DBM	With submission of the Governor’s Fiscal 2028 Budget Books

Add the following section:

Section 21 Federal Fund Spending

SECTION 21. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That in the expenditure of federal funds appropriated in this budget or subsequent to the enactment of this budget by the budget amendment process:

- (1) State agencies shall administer these federal funds in a manner that recognizes that federal funds are taxpayer dollars that require prudent fiscal management, careful application to the purposes for which they are directed, and strict attention to budgetary and accounting procedures established for the administration of all public funds.
- (2) For fiscal 2027, except with respect to capital appropriations, to the extent consistent with federal requirements:

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- (a) when expenditures or encumbrances may be charged to either State or federal fund sources, federal funds shall be charged before State funds are charged except that this policy does not apply to the Department of Human Services with respect to federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds to be carried forward into future years;
- (b) when additional federal funds are sought or otherwise become available in the course of the fiscal year, agencies shall consider, in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), whether opportunities exist to use these federal revenues to support existing operations rather than to expand programs or establish new ones; and
- (c) DBM shall take appropriate actions to effectively establish the provisions of this section as policies of the State with respect to the administration of federal funds by executive agencies.

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

Add the following section:

Section 22 Reporting on Budget Data and Organizational Charts

SECTION 22. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that all State departments, agencies, bureaus, commissions, boards, and other organizational units included in the State budget, including the Judiciary, shall prepare and submit items for the fiscal 2028 budget detailed by Comptroller subobject classification in accordance with instructions promulgated by the Comptroller of Maryland. The presentation of budget data in the Governor's budget books shall include object, fund, and personnel data in the manner provided for in fiscal 2027 except as indicated elsewhere in this Act; however, this may not preclude the placement of additional information into the budget books. For actual fiscal 2026 spending, the fiscal 2027 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2028 allowance, the budget detail shall be available from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) automated data system at the subobject level by subobject codes and classifications for all agencies. To the extent possible, except for public higher education institutions, subobject expenditures shall be designated by fund for actual fiscal 2026 spending, the fiscal 2027 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2028 allowance. The agencies shall exercise due diligence in reporting this data and ensuring correspondence between reported position and expenditure data for the actual, current, and budget fiscal years. This data shall be made available on request and in a format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services (DLS). Furthermore, the expenditure of

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appropriations shall be reported and accounted for by the subobject classification in accordance with the instructions promulgated by the Comptroller of Maryland.

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

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

Further provided that for each across-the-board reduction to appropriations or positions in the fiscal 2028 Budget Bill affecting fiscal 2027 or 2028, DBM shall allocate the reduction for each agency in a level of detail not less than the three-digit R*Stars financial agency code and by each fund type.

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

Further provided that DBM shall provide to DLS by September 1, 2026, a list of subprograms used by each department, unit, agency, office, and institution, along with a brief description of the subprograms' purpose and responsibilities.

Explanation: This annual language provides for consistent reporting of fiscal 2026, 2027, and 2028 budget data and provides for the submission of department, unit, agency, office, and institutions' organizational charts to DLS with the allowance. It also requires DBM to allocate across-the-board reductions to positions or funding to ensure transparency in budget allocations.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Agency organizational charts and special and federal fund accounting detail	DBM	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2028 Budget Books
List of subprograms	DBM	September 1, 2026

Add the following section:

Section 23 Interagency Agreements

SECTION 23. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That on or before August 1, 2026, each State agency and each public institution of higher education shall report to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) any agreements in place for any part of fiscal 2026 between State agencies and any public institution of higher education involving potential expenditures in excess of \$100,000 over the term of the agreement. Further provided that DBM shall provide direction and guidance to all State agencies and public institutions of higher education as to the procedures and specific elements of data to be reported with respect to these interagency agreements, to include at a minimum:

- (1) a common code for each interagency agreement that specifically identifies each agreement and the fiscal year in which the agreement began;
- (2) the starting date for each agreement;
- (3) the ending date for each agreement;
- (4) a total potential expenditure, or not-to-exceed dollar amount, for the services to be rendered over the term of the agreement by any public institution of higher education to any State agency;
- (5) a description of the nature of the goods and services to be provided;
- (6) the total number of personnel, both full- and part-time, associated with the agreement;
- (7) contact information for the agency and the public institution of higher education for the person(s) having direct oversight or knowledge of the agreement;
- (8) total indirect cost recovery or facilities and administrative (F&A) expenditures authorized for the agreement;

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- (9) the indirect cost recovery or F&A rate for the agreement and brief description of how the rate was determined;
- (10) actual expenditures for the most recently closed fiscal year;
- (11) actual base expenditures that the indirect cost recovery or F&A rate may be applied against during the most recently closed fiscal year;
- (12) actual expenditures for indirect cost recovery or F&A for the most recently closed fiscal year; and
- (13) total authorized expenditures for any subaward(s) or subcontract(s) being used as part of the agreement and a brief description of the type of award or contract.

Further provided that DBM shall submit a consolidated report to the budget committees and the Department of Legislative Services by December 1, 2026, that contains information on all agreements between State agencies and any public institution of higher education involving potential expenditures in excess of \$100,000 that were in effect at any time during fiscal 2026.

Further provided that no new higher education interagency agreement with State agencies with a projected value in excess of \$500,000 may be entered into during fiscal 2027 without prior approval of the Secretary of Budget and Management.

Explanation: This annual language requires DBM to report on all interagency agreements between State agencies and public institutions of higher education having a total potential expenditure over the term of the agreement in excess of \$100,000. This applies only to agreements for the purchase of goods and/or services and does not apply to grants or space agreements. Further, it requires that no new higher education interagency agreement with State agencies with a projected value in excess of \$500,000 be entered into during fiscal 2027 without prior approval of the Secretary of Budget and Management.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Consolidated report on interagency agreements	DBM	December 1, 2026

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Add the following section:

Section 24 Budget Amendments

SECTION 24. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any budget amendment to increase the total amount of special, federal, or higher education (current restricted and current unrestricted) fund appropriations, or to make reimbursable fund transfers from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy or the Maryland Department of Emergency Management made in Section 1 of this Act shall be subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) This section may not apply to budget amendments for the sole purpose of:
 - (a) appropriating funds available as a result of the award of federal disaster assistance; and
 - (b) transferring funds from the State Reserve Fund – Economic Development Opportunities Account for projects approved by the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC).
- (2) Budget amendments increasing total appropriations in any fund account by \$100,000 or more may not be approved by the Governor until:
 - (a) that amendment has been submitted to the Department of Legislative Services (DLS); and
 - (b) the budget committees or LPC has considered the amendment or 45 days have elapsed from the date of submission of the amendment. Each amendment submitted to DLS shall include a statement of the amount, sources of funds and purposes of the amendment, and a summary of the impact on regular position or contractual full-time equivalent payroll requirements.
- (3) Unless permitted by the budget bill or the accompanying supporting documentation or by any other authorizing legislation, and notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3-216 of the Transportation Article, a budget amendment may not:
 - (a) restore funds for items or purposes specifically denied by the General Assembly;
 - (b) fund a capital project not authorized by the General Assembly provided, however, that subject to provisions of the Transportation Article, projects of the Maryland

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Department of Transportation (MDOT) shall be restricted as provided in Section 1 of this Act;

- (c) increase the scope of a capital project by an amount 7.5% or more over the approved estimate or 5.0% or more over the net square footage of the approved project until the amendment has been submitted to DLS, and the budget committees have considered and offered comment to the Governor, or 45 days have elapsed from the date of submission of the amendment. This provision does not apply to MDOT; and
- (d) provide for the additional appropriation of special, federal, or higher education funds of more than \$100,000 for the reclassification of a position or positions.
- (4) A budget may not be amended to increase a federal fund appropriation by \$100,000 or more unless documentation evidencing the increase in funds is provided with the amendment and fund availability is certified by the Secretary of Budget and Management.
- (5) No expenditure or contractual obligation of funds authorized by a proposed budget amendment may be made prior to approval of that amendment by the Governor.
- (6) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any federal, special, or higher education fund appropriation may be increased by budget amendment upon a declaration by the Board of Public Works that the amendment is essential to maintaining public safety, health, or welfare, including protecting the environment or the economic welfare of the State.
- (7) Budget amendments for new major information technology projects, as defined by Sections 3A-301 and 3A-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, must include an Information Technology Project Request, as defined in Section 3A-308 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.
- (8) Further provided that the fiscal 2027 appropriation detail as shown in the Governor's budget books submitted to the General Assembly in January 2027 and the supporting electronic detail may not include appropriations for budget amendments that have not been signed by the Governor, exclusive of the MDOT pay-as-you-go capital program.
- (9) Further provided that it is the policy of the State to recognize and appropriate additional special, higher education, and federal revenues in the budget bill as approved by the General Assembly. Further provided that for the fiscal 2028 allowance, the Department of Budget and Management shall continue policies and procedures to minimize reliance

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on budget amendments for appropriations that could be included in a deficiency appropriation.

- (10) Further provided that budget amendments submitted for a fiscal year that has ended must be submitted to the General Assembly no later than October 31 of the next fiscal year to be considered for approval.

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

Add the following section:

Section 25 Maintenance of Accounting Systems

SECTION 25. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

- (1) The Secretary of Health shall maintain the accounting systems necessary to determine the extent to which funds appropriated for fiscal 2026 in program M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements and M00Q01.10 Medicaid Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements have been disbursed for services provided in that fiscal year and shall prepare and submit the monthly reports by fund type required under this section for that program.
- (2) The State Superintendent of Schools shall maintain the accounting systems necessary to determine the extent to which funds appropriated for fiscal 2026 to program R00A02.07 Students With Disabilities for nonpublic placements have been disbursed for services provided in that fiscal year and to prepare monthly reports as required under this section for that program.
- (3) The Secretary of Human Services shall maintain the accounting systems necessary to determine the extent to which funds appropriated for fiscal 2026 in program N00G00.01 Foster Care Maintenance Payments have been disbursed for services provided in that fiscal year, including detail by placement type for the average monthly caseload, average monthly cost per case, and the total expended for each foster care program, and to prepare the monthly reports required under this section for that program.
- (4) For the programs specified, reports must indicate by fund type total appropriations for fiscal 2026 and total disbursements for services provided during that fiscal year up through the last day of the second month preceding the date on which the report is to be submitted and a comparison to data applicable to those periods in the preceding fiscal year.

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- (5) Reports shall be submitted to the budget committees, the Department of Legislative Services, the Department of Budget and Management, and the Comptroller beginning August 15, 2026, and submitted on a monthly basis thereafter.
- (6) It is the intent of the General Assembly that general funds appropriated for fiscal 2026 to the programs specified that have not been disbursed within a reasonable period, not to exceed 12 months from the end of the fiscal year, shall revert.

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on appropriations and disbursements in M00Q01.03, M00Q01.10, R00A02.07, and N00G00.01	MDH MSDE DHS	August 15, 2026, and monthly thereafter

Add the following section:

Section 26 Positions Abolished in the Budget

SECTION 26. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That no position identification number assigned to a position abolished in this budget may be reassigned to a job or function different from that to which it was assigned when the budget was submitted to the General Assembly. Incumbents in positions abolished may continue State employment in another position.

Explanation: This language prevents employees from being moved into positions abolished in the budget. It also allows that incumbents in abolished positions may continue State employment in another position.

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Add the following section:

Section 27 Injured Workers' Insurance Fund Accounts

SECTION 27. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Accounting Division of the Comptroller of Maryland shall establish a subsidiary ledger control account to debit all State agency funds budgeted under subobject 0175 (Workers' Compensation) and to credit all payments disbursed to the Injured Workers' Insurance Fund (IWIF) via transmittal. The control account shall also record all funds withdrawn from IWIF and returned to the State and subsequently transferred to the General Fund. IWIF shall submit monthly reports to the Department of Legislative Services concerning the status of the account.

Explanation: This section provides continuation of a system to track workers' compensation payments to IWIF for payments of claims, current expenses, and funded liability for incurred losses by the State.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the status of ledger control account	IWIF	Monthly beginning July 1, 2026

Add the following section:

Section 28 The "Rule of 100"

SECTION 28. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Board of Public Works (BPW), in exercising its authority to create additional positions pursuant to Section 7-236 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, may authorize during the fiscal year no more than 100 positions in excess of the total number of authorized State positions on July 1, 2026, as determined by the Secretary of Budget and Management. Provided, however, that if the imposition of this ceiling causes undue hardship in any department, agency, board, or commission, additional positions may be created for that affected unit to the extent that an equal number of positions authorized by the General Assembly for the fiscal year are abolished in that unit or in other units of State government. It is further provided that the limit of 100 does not apply to any position that may be created in conformance with specific manpower statutes that may be enacted by the State or federal government nor to any positions created to implement block grant actions or to implement a program reflecting fundamental changes in federal/State relationships. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, BPW may authorize additional positions to meet public emergencies resulting from an act of God and violent acts of man that are necessary to protect the

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health and safety of the people of Maryland. BPW may authorize the creation of additional positions within the Executive Branch provided that 1.25 contractual full-time equivalents (FTE) are abolished for each regular position authorized and that there be no increase in agency funds in the current budget and the next two subsequent budgets as the result of this action. It is the intent of the General Assembly that priority is given to converting individuals that have been in contractual FTEs for at least two years. Any position created by this method may not be counted within the limitation of 100 under this section. The numerical limitation on the creation of positions by BPW established in this section may not apply to positions entirely supported by funds from federal or other non-State sources so long as both the appointing authority for the position and the Secretary of Budget and Management certify for each position created under this exception that:

- (1) funds are available from non-State sources for each position established under this exception; and
- (2) any positions created will be abolished in the event that non-State funds are no longer available. The Secretary of Budget and Management shall certify and report to the General Assembly by June 30, 2027, the status of positions created with non-State funding sources during fiscal 2024 through 2027 under this provision as remaining, authorized, or abolished due to the discontinuation of funds.

Explanation: This annual language, the Rule of 100, limits the number of positions that may be added after the beginning of the fiscal year to 100 and provides exceptions to the limit.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Certification of the status of positions created with non-State funding sources during fiscal 2023 through 2027	Department of Budget and Management	June 30, 2027

Add the following section:

Section 29 Annual Report on Authorized Positions

SECTION 29. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That immediately following the close of fiscal 2026, the Secretary of Budget and Management shall determine the total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) positions that are authorized as of the last day of fiscal 2026 and on the first day

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of fiscal 2027. Authorized positions shall include all positions authorized by the General Assembly in the personnel detail of the budgets for fiscal 2026 and 2027, including nonbudgetary programs, the Maryland Transportation Authority, the University System of Maryland self-supported activities, and Maryland Correctional Enterprises. The Department of Budget and Management shall also prepare a report during fiscal 2027 for the budget committees upon creation of regular FTE positions through Board of Public Works action and upon transfer or abolition of positions. It shall note, at the program level:

- (1) where regular FTE positions have been abolished;
- (2) where regular FTE positions have been created;
- (3) from where and to where regular FTE positions have been transferred; and
- (4) where any other adjustments have been made. Provision of contractual FTE information in the same fashion as reported in the appendices of the Governor's Fiscal 2027 Budget Books shall also be provided.

Further provided that this report shall also be submitted as an appendix with the Governor's Fiscal 2028 Budget Books, and that the report shall provide information that is consistent with information in the individual agency pages of the Budget Books and with data provided to the Department of Legislative Services.

Explanation: This annual language provides reporting requirements for regular positions and contractual FTEs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Total number of FTEs on June 30, 2026, and July 1, 2026	Department of Budget and Management (DBM)	July 14, 2026
Report on the creation, transfer, or abolition of regular positions	DBM	With the Governor's fiscal 2028 budget submission and as needed

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Add the following section:

Section 30 Annual Report on Health Insurance Receipts and Spending

SECTION 30. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Budget and Management shall include as an appendix in the Governor’s Fiscal 2028 Budget Books an accounting of the fiscal 2026 actual, fiscal 2027 working appropriation, and fiscal 2028 estimated revenues and expenditures associated with the employees’ and retirees’ health plan. The data in this report should be consistent with the budget data submitted to the Department of Legislative Services. This accounting shall include:

- (1) any health plan receipts received from State agencies, as well as prescription rebates or recoveries, or audit recoveries, and other miscellaneous recoveries;
- (2) any health plan receipts received from employees and retirees, broken out by active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees;
- (3) any premium, capitated, or claims expenditures paid on behalf of State employees and retirees for any health, mental health, dental, or prescription plan, as well as any administrative costs not covered by these plans, with health, mental health, and prescription drug expenditures broken out by medical payments for active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees, and prescription drug expenditures broken out by active employees, non-Medicare-eligible retirees, and Medicare-eligible retirees; and
- (4) any balance remaining and held in reserve for future provider payments.

Explanation: This language provides an accounting of the health plan revenues received and expenditures made on behalf of State employees and retirees. The language proposes that the language in the report be consistent with the budget data submitted with the budget bill.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Accounting of the employee and retiree health plan revenues and expenditures	Department of Budget and Management	With the submission of the Governor’s Fiscal 2028 Budget Books

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Add the following section:

Section 31 Uniform Crime Report

SECTION 31. 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 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

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Budget Amendments

Add the following section:

Section 32 Out-of-home Placements Report

SECTION 32. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Department of Human Services Social Services Administration, \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Department of Juvenile Services, \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Maryland Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Administration, and \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Maryland State Department of Education may not be expended until the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) submits a report on behalf of the Children's Cabinet to the budget committees on out-of-home placements (OOHP) containing:

- (1) the total number and one-day counts (as of October 15) of OOHPs and entries by jurisdiction, by agency, and by placement type for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026;
- (2) the total number and one-day counts (as of October 15) of out-of-state placements, including the number of family home, community-based, and noncommunity-based out-of-state placements for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 categorized by state and by age category;
- (3) the costs associated with OOHPs;
- (4) an examination of recent placement trends;
- (5) findings of child abuse and neglect occurring while families are receiving family preservation services or within one year of each case closure; and
- (6) areas of concern related to trends in OOHPs and/or out-of-state placements and potential corrective actions that the Children's Cabinet and local management boards can take to address these concerns.

Further provided that each agency or administration that funds or places children and youth in OOHPs shall assist GOC and comply with any data requests necessary for the timely production of the report. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees by January 1, 2027, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise for any other purpose. Should the report not be submitted by the requested date, the restricted funds shall revert to the General Fund.

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
OOHPs report	Department of Human Services Department of Juvenile Services GOC Maryland Department of Health Maryland State Department of Education	January 1, 2027

Add the following section:

Section 33 Medicaid State Plan Amendment

SECTION 33. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$200,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Department of Human Services (DHS) Social Services Administration and \$200,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Medical Care Programs Administration may not be expended until MDH and DHS submit a joint letter confirming the Medicaid State Plan Amendment has been submitted to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that would allow for reimbursement of clinical care services for children in DHS and Maryland Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) out-of-home placements in residential child care settings. 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.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in receiving updates on the submission of the State Plan Amendment (SPA). This language withholds funds in DHS and MDH pending submission of a joint letter confirming submission of the SPA that allows for reimbursement of clinical care

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services for children in DHS and DJS out-of-home placements in residential child care settings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Letter confirming submission of a Medicaid SPA	DHS MDH	December 1, 2026

Add the following section:

Section 34 Artificial Intelligence Implementation

SECTION 34. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) and \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Department of General Services (DGS) may not be expended until DoIT and DGS submit a joint report to the budget committees on artificial intelligence (AI). The report shall include:

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

DoIT, in collaboration with DGS, shall submit the report to the budget committees by November 1, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on AI implementation	DoIT DGS	November 1, 2026

Add the following section:

Section 35 Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan Implementation Report Intent

SECTION 35. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Department of Natural Resources, in collaboration with the Deep Creek Watershed Management Partnership and the Maryland Department of the Environment, produce a report on reactivating the implementation of the Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan initially adopted October 1, 2014, and amended March 7, 2016. Long-term monitoring has documented overall water quality to be generally good, but recent water quality trend analyses indicate areas showing signs of declining water quality and habitat conditions. Addressing these negative trends would sustain Deep Creek Lake and support the local workforce, infrastructure, and economy. The report shall include a review of the current gaps in implementation readiness and evaluate and recommend a prioritized, implementation-ready list of best management practices, credible planning-level cost estimates, and coordinated implementation and financing framework to support informed investments and near-term implementation decisions for the Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan. The report shall be submitted to the Western Maryland delegation by December 1, 2026.

Explanation: This action expresses the General Assembly’s intent that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in collaboration with the Deep Creek Watershed Management Partnership and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), complete a report on what is needed to reactivate implementation of the Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan initially adopted October 1, 2014, and amended March 7, 2016.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Deep Creek Watershed Management Plan reactivation report	DNR MDE	December 1, 2026

Add the following section:

Section 36 Pediatric Hospital Overstay

SECTION 36. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Department of Human Services (DHS) Social Services Administration and \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Behavioral Health Administration may not be expended until DHS and MDH submit a joint report confirming that the departments have established a pediatric hospital overstay coordinator within each department, as required by § 19-390 of the Health – General Article. The report shall confirm that the coordinators performed duties required by the article, including maintenance of data associated with pediatric hospital overstay. The report shall include the data collected for each month of the period July 2025 through October 2026. 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.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in monitoring the status of pediatric overstays in hospitals. This language withholds funds in DHS and MDH pending the submission of a joint report confirming that the departments have performed activities as required by § 19-390 of the Health Article. Among other requirements, the Article requires the pediatric hospital overstay coordinators to review policies and procedures and make recommendations for necessary changes to better serve pediatric hospital overstay patients and maintain data on pediatric hospital overstay, including length of stay, information on the responsible State agency, placement options sought by the patient, and information regarding previous hospital admissions for behavioral health diagnosis.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on pediatric hospital overstay	DHS MDH	December 1, 2026

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Add the following section:

SECTION 37. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds are added, and shall be available immediately upon the enactment of this budget, to the fiscal 2026 working appropriation in the following manner:

- (1) \$59,314,476 in special funds from the Fiscal Responsibility Fund is added to the fiscal 2026 working appropriation for program F50A01.01 Information Technology Investment Fund (ITIF) within the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) for the purpose of funding of Major Information Technology Development Projects. The Secretary of DoIT may allocate the funds among projects. Unexpended funds shall be retained within ITIF for use for projects in fiscal 2027;
- (2) \$51,200,000 in general funds is added to the fiscal 2026 appropriation for S00A25.07 Rental Housing Programs – Capital Appropriation within the Department of Housing and Community Development;
- (3) \$3,000,000 in pay-as-you-go general funds is added to the fiscal 2026 appropriation for program H00H01.02 Statewide Capital Appropriation within the Department of General Services for the purpose of providing grants to companies that specialize in regenerative medicine and other advanced manufacturing. The Maryland Technology Development Corporation shall award and administer these grants. Grant recipients may only use grant proceeds for:
 - (a) the acquisition, renovation, or construction of space for regenerative medicine and other advanced manufacturing;
 - (b) infrastructure improvements necessary to support regenerative medicine and other advanced manufacturing; and
 - (c) equipment necessary for regenerative medicine and other advanced manufacturing.

Funds not expended for this added purpose in (3) of this Section may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This section outlines funds added to the fiscal 2026 appropriation.

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Add the following section:

SECTION 38. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds are added to the fiscal 2027 appropriation in the following manner:

- (1) \$100,000,000 in special funds from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Alternative Compliance Payment (ACP) revenue or Account is added to the appropriation for C90G00.01 General Administration and Hearings within the Public Service Commission (PSC) for the purpose of providing grants to utilities to provide a downpayment on EmPOWER Maryland Residential program costs contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of SEIF ACPs to include providing funds for a downpayment on EmPOWER Maryland Residential program costs. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise and shall be canceled;
- (2) \$100,000,000 in special funds from the SEIF ACP revenue or Account is added to the appropriation for D13A13.08 Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives within the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) for the purpose of providing grants for new renewable energy and new energy storage capacity under a reverse auction process contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of SEIF ACPs to include a new grant program in MEA to provide grants based on a reverse auction process. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise and shall be canceled;
- (3) \$36,800,000 in special funds from the SEIF ACP revenue or Account is added to the appropriation for C90G00.01 General Administration and Hearings within PSC for the purpose of offsetting ratepayer costs associated with the Limited Income Discount Program contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of SEIF ACPs to include offsetting ratepayer costs associated with the Limited Income Discount Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise and shall be canceled;
- (4) \$10,000,000 in special funds from the SEIF ACP revenue or Account is added to the appropriation for D25E03.02 Capital Appropriation within the Interagency Commission on School Construction for the purpose of public school HVAC upgrades contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of SEIF ACPs to include public school HVAC upgrades. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise and shall be canceled;
- (5) \$2,000,000 in special funds from the SEIF ACP revenue or Account is added to the appropriation for D13A13.08 Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives

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within MEA for the purpose of additional funding for the Residential and Commercial Energy Storage Grant program contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of SEIF ACPs to include the Residential and Commercial Energy Storage Grant program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise and shall be canceled; and

- (6) \$1,200,000 in special funds from the SEIF ACP revenue or Account is added to the appropriation for U00A01.01 Office of the Secretary within the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) for the purpose of implementing modified permit review and evaluation requirements as established under SB 781 or HB 1268 contingent on the enactment of SB 781 or HB 1268 modifying permitting requirements and the enactment of legislation expanding the allowable uses of SEIF ACPs to include costs associated with implementing new permits and reviewing permits associated with covered individual permit applications. MDE is authorized to reallocate the funds among programs and administrations to be used only for the same purposes. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise and shall be canceled.

Explanation: This section outlines fiscal 2027 funding from Alternative Compliance Payments that are added for various purposes contingent on legislation authorizing the uses of funds for these purposes.

Amend the following section:

Section 39 Fiscal 2027 Legislative Additions

SECTION 39. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds are added to the fiscal 2027 appropriation in the following manner:

- (1) \$23,100,000 in general funds and \$23,100,000 in federal funds from the Medical Assistance Program are added to the appropriation for M00M01.02 Community Services within the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of restoring funds to reduce the amount of cost containment proposed for fiscal 2027. Cost containment actions that DDA implements in fiscal 2027 shall be limited to the following actions:
- (a) modify the reasonable and customary wages for family as staff;
 - (b) modify the reasonable and customary wages for non-family as staff with wage enhancements for benefits;

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- (c) eliminate the reasonable and customary wages for unlicensed vendors, excluding nursing staff and support brokers;
- (d) implement a 60/40 hourly cap on family as staff in a week;
- (e) eliminate the wage exception process that allows participants to request wages for staff higher than the reasonable and customary wages;
- (f) enforce a dedicated hours policy;
- (g) cap fee-for-service rates at 102% of the fully loaded brick rates; and
- (h) reduce rates by 2% for community service providers and coordinator of community service agencies.

Further provided that DDA shall not implement a cap on person-centered plan budgets.

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

- (2) \$20,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A02.59 Child Care Assistance Grants within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing funds to the Child Care Scholarship program to reduce the waitlist. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (3) \$10,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program C81C00.01 Legal Counsel and Advice within the Office of the Attorney General for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Legal Services Corporation for access to counsel. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (4) \$8,077,623 in general funds and \$8,090,991 in federal funds from the Medical Assistance Program is added to the appropriation for M00Q01.03 Medical Care Provider Reimbursements within the Medical Care Programs Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of funding a one percent provider rate increase for nursing facilities. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund or be canceled;

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- (5) \$8,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00C00.04 Office of Finance Programs within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of the Western Maryland Economic Future Investment Fund. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (6) ~~\$5,000,000~~–\$6,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A29.01 Homeless Solutions within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of supplementing funding for the Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program. *Provided that \$3,000,000 of this appropriation may be used only for Rental Assistance for Community School Families in Prince George’s County.* Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (7) \$5,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of supporting Community Access grants. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (8) \$5,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T50T01.04 Maryland Innovation Initiative within the Maryland Technology Development Corporation for the purpose of supplementing funding for the Maryland Innovation Initiative. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (9) \$4,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T50T01.01 Technology Development, Transfer and Commercialization within the Maryland Technology Development Corporation for the purpose of the Maryland Growth Initiative, contingent on the enactment of SB 763 or HB 1596 establishing the Maryland Growth Initiative. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (10) \$3,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation of D13A13.08 Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives within the Maryland Energy Administration for the purpose of providing funding to the Maryland Clean Energy Center. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (11) \$2,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D40W01.03 Planning Data and Research within the Department of Planning for the purpose of an integrated data dashboard. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (12) \$2,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D26A07.03 Community Services within the Maryland Department of Aging for the purpose of providing funding for the operation of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Office. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (13) \$2,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program J00H01.01 Transit Administration within the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) within the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) for the purpose of funding a pilot bus route from White Marsh to Tradepoint Atlantic in Baltimore County. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (14) \$1,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B28 University of Baltimore for the purpose of providing funding to the Schaefer Center for Public Policy. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (15) \$1,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children for the purpose of providing an operating grant to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Maryland. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (16) \$1,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00B00.01 Office of the Deputy Secretary – Innovation and Growth within the Department of Commerce (Commerce) for the purpose of the Maryland's Future Fund, contingent on the enactment of SB 770 or HB 1473 establishing the Maryland's Future Fund within Commerce. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to Maryland's Future Fund;
- (17) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00R01.01 Maryland Health Care Commission within the Health Regulatory Commissions within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland

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

- (18) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters within the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy for the purpose of awarding a grant to the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault for support of community rape crisis centers. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (19) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters within the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy for the purpose of providing grants to domestic violence centers through the Domestic Violence Centers Grant Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (20) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D40W01.07 Management Planning and Educational Outreach within the Department of Planning for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Center for History and Culture. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (21) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B30 University of Maryland Global Campus for the purpose of supporting the Maryland Completion Scholarship program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (22) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00C00.03 Office of Business Advancement, Recruitment and Retention within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of the Maryland Workforce Launch Pilot Program, contingent on the enactment of SB 869 establishing the Maryland Workforce Launch Pilot Program in the Department of Commerce. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (23) \$1,000,000 in general funds for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Association of Boards of Education to establish direct primary care health

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centers for school system employees, county government employees, city government employees, and families of these employees in Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (24) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A02.07 Students With Disabilities within the Aid to Education budget within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of a grant to Anne Arundel County Public Schools for a pilot program for high acuity students. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (25) \$750,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.02 Local Law Enforcement Grants within the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy to provide an operating grant to the Maryland Children's Alliance and support Child Advocacy Centers. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (26) \$600,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F06.01 Office of Preparedness and Response within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Information Network for 2-1-1 for development of the Maryland Information Exchange. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (27) \$550,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T50T01.03 Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund within the Maryland Technology Development Corporation for the purpose of supplementing funding for the Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (28) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D40W01.07 Management Planning and Educational Outreach within the Department of Planning for the purpose of a passthrough grant for the Strengthening the Humanities in Nonprofits for Equity (SHINE) program within Maryland Humanities to support small and mid-size nonprofits in strengthening artistic, cultural, and educational opportunities and programming in communities across the State. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (29) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Academy of Sciences to support Maryland Science Center operations. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (30) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters within the Governor's Office for Crime Prevention and Policy for the purpose of providing an operating grant to Vehicles for Change Inc. to provide training in automotive repair to formerly incarcerated individuals. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (31) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D52A01.01 Maryland Department of Emergency Management for the purpose of providing additional funding to the Maryland State Firefighters Association for Volunteer Company Assistance Fund for loans. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (32) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00B00.03 Office of Strategic Industries and Entrepreneurship within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of a grant to the Maryland Tech Council for BioHub Maryland. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (33) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to NorthBay. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (34) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00D00.05 Maryland State Arts Council within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to Baltimore Center Stage. Further provided that these added funds shall not be included in the fiscal 2028 calculation of Arts Council formula funding. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (35) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.03 The Children's Cabinet Interagency Fund within the Governor's Office for Children for the

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purpose of providing grants to local management boards (LMBs), to be allocated among the jurisdictions in the same proportion as other awards to all LMBs are made in fiscal 2027. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (36) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R15P00.04 Content Enterprises within the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission for the purpose of providing funds to Maryland Public Television. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (37) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00D00.05 Maryland State Arts Council within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Baltimore Museum of Art. Further provided that these added funds shall not be included in the fiscal 2028 calculation of Arts Council formula funding. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (38) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of supporting the Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (39) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program K00A04.01 Statewide Operations within the Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of providing a grant to the Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park Ltd. for promoting stewardship of Patapsco Valley State Park through programming, sustainable recreation, and the preservation and restoration of natural resources. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (40) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation to support operating expenses for STEM centers. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (41) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A01.01 Office of the State Superintendent within Headquarters within the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) for the purpose of supporting costs associated with Artificial Intelligence Ready Schools Act initiatives, such as establishing an artificial intelligence (AI) Education Collaborative to monitor, evaluate, and establish metrics regarding AI implementation in schools, contingent on the enactment of SB 720 or HB 1057 requiring MSDE to provide certain guidance on AI to local school systems and evaluate AI tools. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (42) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B36 University System of Maryland Office for the purpose of creating a statewide Artificial Intelligence partnership and Maryland Tech Extension Hubs, contingent upon enactment of SB 597 creating a statewide Artificial Intelligence partnership and Maryland Extension Hubs. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (43) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00C00.03 Office of Business Advancement, Recruitment and Retention within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation (MEDCO) to develop technology solutions to streamline and reduce duplication in required filings for small businesses across multiple agencies, including the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, the Comptroller of Maryland, and the Maryland Department of Labor. Further provided that MEDCO shall submit a report to the budget committees by December 1, 2026, on its progress along with any recommendations for legislative actions to streamline required filings for small businesses. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (44) ~~\$500,000~~-\$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the fiscal 2027 appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (45) \$400,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D12A02.01 General Administration within the Department of Disabilities for the purpose of the Individuals with Disabilities and Service-Disabled Veterans Boating Fund. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (46) \$400,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B34 University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science for the purpose of providing funding for general operations of the Horn Point Laboratory. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (47) \$400,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00D00.03 Maryland Tourism Development Board within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of the Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing Promotion Fund. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (48) \$350,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00D00.05 Maryland State Arts Council within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company to support the Shakespeare Beyond initiative. Further provided that these added funds shall not be included in the fiscal 2028 calculation of Arts Council formula funding. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (49) \$300,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Association of Youth Service Bureaus to stabilize existing Youth Service Bureaus and support the reestablishment of closed bureaus. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (50) \$300,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00D00.05 Maryland State Arts Council within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Hippodrome Foundation, Inc. Further provided that these added funds shall not be included in the fiscal 2028 calculation of Arts Council formula funding. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (51) \$300,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A02.13 Innovative Programs within the Aid to Education budget within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of a grant to Thread, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (52) \$300,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake, Inc. for helping individuals with barriers to employment become self-sufficient through training and employment services. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (53) \$300,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program P00G01.07 Workforce Development within the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Maryland Department of Labor for the purpose of awarding grants under the Employment Advancement Right Now program to industry partnerships for a leasing agent training program to train, prepare, and connect job seekers with careers in the residential rental housing industry in Maryland. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (54) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to the Zaching Against Cancer Foundation. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (55) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions for Higher Education for R30B24 Towson University for the purpose of providing funding for the Maryland Center for Community Schools. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (56) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B24 Towson University for the purpose of providing funding for the Dr. Nancy Grasmick Leadership Institute. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (57) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D26A07.03 Community Services within the Maryland Department of Aging for the purpose of providing a grant to Economic Action Maryland for the funding to Support Older Adults with Aging Securing Older Adult Resources Program. Funds not expended for this added

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

- (58) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D28A03.41 General Administration within the Maryland Stadium Authority for the purpose of a comprehensive assessment of the condition of The Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall and associated structures on the campus in Baltimore City. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (59) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing an operating grant to the Robert W. Johnson Community Center, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (60) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to Living Classrooms Foundation, Inc. to support educational programming. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (61) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to the Alzheimer's Association for health care provider dementia education and awareness initiatives. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (62) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to Frederick Health for the Family Connects program in Frederick County. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (63) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.11 Miscellaneous Grants to Local Governments within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to the West Baltimore County Development Authority for

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making recommendations to Baltimore County to acquire, develop, redevelop or dispose of certain land or property in west Baltimore County. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (64) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the fiscal 2027 appropriation for program J00A01.02 Operating Grants-in-Aid within the Maryland Department of Transportation for the purpose of providing a grant for the operations of the Pride of Baltimore II. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (65) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D26A07.03 Community Services within the Maryland Department of Aging for the purpose of providing a grant to Gilchrist Hospice Care Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (66) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B27 Coppin State University for the purpose of campus safety. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (67) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00A01.01 Executive Direction within the Office of the Secretary within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to the ALS Association District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia Chapter. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (68) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program P00G01.07 Workforce Development within the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Maryland Department of Labor for the purpose of providing a grant to Dwyer Workforce Development to support healthcare workforce training. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (69) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program E00A01.01 Executive Direction within the Comptroller of Maryland for the purpose of conducting a study related to economic growth trends in Maryland, contingent on the enactment of SB 770 or HB 1473 establishing the Maryland's Future Fund to provide funds for projects

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recommended by the Maryland's Future Board. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (70) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B22 University of Maryland, College Park for the purpose of providing a grant to the TerpsEXCEED Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (71) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters within the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy to provide an operating grant to the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (72) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Historic Annapolis for management of historic properties. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (73) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing a grant to Humanim for iHomes. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (74) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters within the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) for the purpose of procuring a consultant to develop a report that evaluates the levels of violence within Maryland's adult prison system. The completed evaluation shall include recommendations for the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) to reduce violence and deaths among incarcerated individuals and correctional staff. The evaluation shall further summarize existing best practices related to rehabilitation and make recommendations for DPSCS and/or other criminal justice partners to implement. GOCPP shall submit this report to the budget committees by June 30, 2027. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (75) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program K00A04.01 Statewide Operations within the Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of providing a grant to Parks & People for creating a community of environmental stewards for a healthier Baltimore. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (76) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00D00.05 Maryland State Arts Council within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Merriweather Arts and Culture Center. Further provided that these added funds shall not be included in the fiscal 2028 calculation of Arts Council formula funding. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (77) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of supplementing funding for the Main Street Improvement Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (78) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Autism Society of Maryland to expand services. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (79) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00L01.02 Community Services within the Behavioral Health Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to Easterseals for behavioral health services. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (80) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program E50C00.10 Charter Unit within the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for the purpose of waiving business licensing fees for former federal employees whose employment was terminated due to reductions in force. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (81) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State

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Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

- (82) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00C00.03 Office of Business Advancement, Recruitment and Retention in the Department of Commerce for the purpose of a grant to the Greater Washington Board of Trade Foundation for its Business Growth Initiative. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (83) \$130,000 in general funds and 1.0 regular position is added to the appropriation for program R62I00.01 General Administration within the Maryland Higher Education Commission for the purpose of establishing and funding a Historically Black Colleges and Universities liaison. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (84) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00C00.09 Office of Business Assistance within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to Prince George's Financial Services Corporation d.b.a. FSC First for the Level Up program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (85) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00C00.03 Office of Business Advancement, Recruitment and Retention in the Department of Commerce for the purpose of a grant to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for a regional artificial intelligence workforce platform. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (86) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00L01.02 Community Services within the Behavioral Health Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to Camp Attaway. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (87) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to Glenwood Academy. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (88) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program N00I00.07 Office of Grants Management within the Family Investment Administration within the Department of Human Services for a grant to Columbia Community Care. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (89) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program J00H01.06 Statewide Program Operations within the Maryland Transit Administration within the Maryland Department of Transportation for the purpose of providing a grant for the Neighbor Ride program, which provides door-to-door transportation services for seniors in Howard County. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (90) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing a grant to the Mission First Housing Development Corporation for programming at Patuxent Commons. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (91) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Water's Edge Museum for the Chesapeake Bay Mapping and Youth Leadership Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (92) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.11 Miscellaneous Grants to Local Governments within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Baltimore City Recreation and Parks for portable flood lighting for youth fields. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (93) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.11 Miscellaneous Grants to Local Governments within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Baltimore City Department of Transportation for stop sign safety camera implementation. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (94) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00B00.03 Office of Strategic Industries and Entrepreneurship within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of a grant to the Technology Advancement Center. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (95) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the AthLife Foundation. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (96) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to the Olney Civic Fund for planning community events such as Olney Days. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (97) \$75,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad for running steam and diesel excursions from Cumberland to Frostburg. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (98) \$75,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to Horizon Day Camp. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (99) \$75,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program P00G01.07 Workforce Development within the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Maryland Department of Labor for the purpose of providing a grant to Lincoln Technical Institute, Inc. to support a regional technical career fair for high school students. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (100) \$75,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A20.01 Office of the Secretary within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of conducting a study on housing industry apprenticeships. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (101) ~~\$75,000~~ \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00D00.03 Maryland Tourism Development Board within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Military Bowl Foundation. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (102) \$65,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00D00.05 Maryland State Arts Council within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Fund for Art in Ellicott City, Inc. Further provided that these added funds shall not be included in the fiscal 2028 calculation of Arts Council formula funding. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (103) \$65,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to the Assateague Coastal Trust Coast Kids program for educational programming. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (104) \$60,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A29.01 Homeless Solutions within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing a grant to the Maryland Community Action Partnership for a needs assessment. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (105) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children for the purpose of providing a grant to the City of Frederick for operating or programming costs associated with the Frederick Youth Center. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (106) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F01.01 Executive Direction within the Office of the Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to the YMCA of the

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

- (107) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00L01.02 Community Services within the Behavioral Health Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of a grant to Hygea Healthcare for residential addiction treatment. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (108) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Cumberland Valley Race Management, LLC for the JFK 50 Mile ultramarathon. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (109) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program P00G01.07 Workforce Development within the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Maryland Department of Labor for the purpose of providing a grant to Foundation for Educational Development, Inc. for the STEM City Baltimore Workforce Development Initiative. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (110) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00D00.05 Maryland State Arts Council within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of providing a grant to the Boulanger Initiative, Inc. Further provided that these added funds shall not be included in the fiscal 2028 calculation of Arts Council formula funding. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (111) \$45,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Baltimore City Recreation and Parks for a flag football league. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (112) \$37,500 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children to provide an operating grant to End Time Harvest Ministries Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (113) \$37,500 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing a grant to Port Towns Community Development Corporation. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (114) \$37,500 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters within the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy to provide an operating grant to Community Advocates for Family & Youth. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (115) \$37,500 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing a grant to the Carole Highlands Neighborhood Association. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (116) \$35,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing a grant to Parity Baltimore Incorporated. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (117) \$30,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children for the purpose of providing an operating grant to Board Room Chess Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (118) \$25,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to Arts for Learning Maryland, initially known as Young Audiences of Maryland. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (119) \$25,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A02.13 Innovative Programs within the Aid to Education budget within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of a grant to OhanaHC. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

Sections

- (120) \$25,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F03.04 Family Health and Chronic Disease Services within the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to For 3 Sisters, Inc. to support people affected by breast cancer. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (121) \$25,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00C00.03 Office of Business Advancement, Recruitment and Retention within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of a grant to the Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (122) \$25,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00C00.03 Office of Business Advancement, Recruitment and Retention within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of a grant to the Olney Chamber of Commerce. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (123) \$25,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program T00C00.03 Office of Business Advancement, Recruitment and Retention within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of a grant to the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund; and
- (124) \$10,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D40W01.07 Management Planning and Educational Outreach within the Department of Planning for the purpose of a grant to the Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.;
- (125) *\$10,000,000 in special funds from the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund is added to the appropriation for program R00A02.06 Prekindergarten within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing funds to support the Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;*
- (126) *\$5,687,000 in special funds from the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund is added to the appropriation for program R00A02.59 Child Care Assistance Grants within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing funds for the*

Sections

Maryland Child Care Credential Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;

- (127) \$1,500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F02.01 Office of Population Health Improvement within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to CCI Health Services for the Family Medicine Residency Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (128) \$1,417,383 in general funds and 25.0 regular positions are added to the appropriation for program E00A04.03 Taxpayer Services within the Comptroller of Maryland for the purpose of addressing personnel shortages and improving customer service. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (129) \$1,400,000 in special funds from the Public Utility Regulation Fund and 9.0 regular positions are added to the appropriation for program C90G00.01 General Administration and Hearings within the Public Service Commission. The Public Service Commission is authorized to reallocate the new positions and associated funding among programs. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;
- (130) \$1,300,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program P00G01.15 Cyber Maryland Program within the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Maryland Department of Labor for the purpose of providing a grant to BCR Cyber for the Cyber Workforce Accelerator program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (131) \$1,000,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A01.04 Division of Early Childhood within Headquarters within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing funds for the Child Care Administration Tracking System. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (132) \$856,686 in general funds and 8.0 regular positions are added within the Department of Legislative Services for the following uses:

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- (a) \$503,008 to the appropriation for program B75A01.07 Office of Policy Analysis for the purpose of creating and funding 4.0 policy analyst positions;
- (b) \$235,785 to the appropriation for program B75A01.07 Office of Policy Analysis for the purpose of creating and funding 3.0 legislative assistant positions; and
- (c) \$117,893 to the appropriation for program B75A01.04 Office of Operations and Support Services for the purpose of creating and funding 1.0 human resources position.

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

- (133) \$800,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program V00E01.02 Facility Operations Administration and Support within the Department of Juvenile Services for the purpose of providing additional funding for the Boys' Village of Maryland Cemetery project. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (134) \$500,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children to provide an operating grant to Latin American Youth Center, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (135) \$450,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R62I00.07 Educational Grants Maryland Higher Education Commission for the purpose of providing funding for the Next Generation Scholars program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (136) \$330,000 in general funds and 3.0 positions are added to the appropriation for program J00A01.01 Executive Direction within The Secretary's Office within the Maryland Department of Transportation for the purpose of creating and funding 3.0 new positions. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (137) \$300,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Rebirth, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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(138) \$250,000 in general funds and 2.0 regular positions are added for the purpose of creating and funding pediatric hospital overstay coordinators in the following amounts and programs:

(a) \$125,000 and 1.0 regular position are added for program M00L01.02 Community Services within the Behavioral Health Administration within the Maryland Department of Health; and

(b) \$125,000 and 1.0 regular position are added for program N00B00.04 General Administration within the Social Services Administration within the Department of Human Services.

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

(139) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program F50B04.01 State Chief of Information Technology within the Department of Information Technology for the purpose of procuring services from a third-party to conduct an independent study regarding compensation, salaries, recruitment, and retention of the State's information technology and cybersecurity personnel contingent on the enactment of HB 1335 requiring a study. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(140) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00F02.01 Office of Population Health Improvement within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to the Western Maryland Health Clinic. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(141) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B22 University of Maryland, College Park for the purpose of providing a grant to The Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. Center for Education, Justice and Ethics. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(142) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A03.03 Other Institutions within Funding for Educational Organizations within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to Living Classrooms Foundation, Inc. to support Baltimore's Sail 250. Funds not expended for this added

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

(143) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D16A06.01 Office of the Secretary of State within the Secretary of State for the purpose of providing a grant to the Sister States of Maryland, Inc. for the Dr. Joseph E. Harris Port Markers Trail. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(144) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program K00A04.01 Statewide Operations within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study of the creation of a State park on portions of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center contingent upon the federal government officially notifying DNR of its intent to dispose of the property and granting DNR access to the property to conduct field and site evaluations necessary to complete the study. The study shall be conducted on the following portions of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center: the area known as the East Farm, bounded by Powder Mill Road on the north and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway on the west, and that portion of the areas known as the Central Farm, which is bounded on the north by Beaver Dam Road, on the west by Research Road, and on the east by the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(145) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D28A03.41 General Administration within the Maryland Stadium Authority for the purpose of a comprehensive assessment and feasibility study of the establishment of a childcare center at the Old Annapolis Post Office building and grounds. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the proposed center provide priority placement for children of State employees who work in the State Government Center – Annapolis Complex. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

(146) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A02.13 Innovative Programs within the Aid to Education budget within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of a grant to the Maggie McIntosh School Arts Fund to provide subgrants to specified schools in Baltimore City to purchase art supplies for classrooms and provide arts experiences to students. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (147) \$250,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00R01.03 Maryland Community Health Resources Commission within the Health Regulatory Commissions within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of a study of how to meet the need for behavioral health services for young adults in Prince George's County. In completing the study, the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission shall include recommendations for the establishment of comprehensive behavioral health services to meet the needs across a continuum of care. In developing the recommendations, consideration should be made regarding the establishment of adolescent and young adult crisis beds, step down units or beds for after a crisis or to avoid a crisis for adolescents and young adults, comprehensive neurobehavioral outpatient services to address mental health needs for adolescents and young adults, and whether these services can or should be provided by a single provider or multiple providers. The study shall be submitted to the budget committees by December 1, 2026. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (148) \$200,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for D60A10.01 Archives within the State Archives for the purpose of the Maryland Reparations Commission. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (149) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters within the Governor's Office for Crime Prevention and Policy to provide an operating grant to Change The Conversation, Inc. for activities with Frederick County Public Schools. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (150) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R00A01.04 Division of Early Childhood within Headquarters within the Maryland State Department of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to Child Resource Connect also known as Prince George's Child Resource Center, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (151) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions for Higher Education for R30B21 University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus for the purpose of funding the Center for Infant and Child Loss at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (152) \$150,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing a grant to the Friends of White Oak. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (153) \$125,000 in special funds from Waterway Improvement Fund is added to the appropriation for program K00A17.01 Fishing and Boating Services within the Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of supporting activities funded by the Waterway Improvement Fund. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled;
- (154) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program E50C00.08 Property Tax Credit Programs within the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for the purpose of providing funds for the Homeowner Protection Program. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (155) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions for Higher Education for R30B22 University of Maryland, College Park Campus (UMCP) for the purpose of funding the Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability that is administered by the National Center for Smart Growth at UMCP. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (156) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Annapolis Immigration Justice Network, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (157) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program N00I00.07 Office of Grants Management within the Family Investment Administration within the Department of Human Services for the purpose of a grant to Anne Arundel County Food Bank, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (158) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Lakeland Community Heritage Project, Inc. Funds

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

- (159) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups within the Board of Public Works for the purpose of providing a grant to Field of Firsts Foundation, Inc. to support the College Park Aviation Museum operated by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (160) \$100,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing a grant to Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (161) \$65,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program R62I00.07 Educational Grants Maryland Higher Education Commission for the purpose of funding program development research and grant writing related to social connection in the Office of the Provost at Goucher College. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (162) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children to provide an operating grant to Vine Corps, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (163) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for S00A24.01 Neighborhood Revitalization within the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of providing a grant to the Huntington City Community Development Corporation. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (164) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D26A07.03 Community Services within the Maryland Department of Aging for the purpose of providing a grant to Neighbors Helping Neighbors of College Park. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;

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- (165) \$50,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program N00I00.07 Office of Grants Management within the Family Investment Administration within the Department of Human Services for the purpose of a grant to College Park Community Food Bank, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (166) \$30,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children to provide an operating grant to Empowering Minds of Maryland Youth, Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (167) \$20,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for T00C00.03 Office of Business Advancement, Recruitment and Retention within the Department of Commerce for the purpose of a grant to the Black Enterprise Resource Center for the Maryland Small Batch Manufacturing Ecosystem Project and Innovation Training Center. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund;
- (168) \$20,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program D18A01.01 Governor's Office for Children to provide an operating grant to Action For Kindness. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund; and
- (169) \$10,000 in general funds is added to the appropriation for program M00L01.02 Community Services within the Behavioral Health Administration within the Maryland Department of Health for the purpose of providing a grant to NAMI Prince George's County, MD Inc. Funds not expended for this added purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation:

This section outlines the fiscal 2027 legislative additions. This section also includes language requiring ~~two~~ three reports: (1) MEDCO to submit a report with legislative recommendations on to streamline required business filings; and (2) GOCPP to submit an evaluation related to violence in Maryland's prisons; and (3) MCHRC to submit an study with recommendations on adolescent behavioral health services in Prince George's County.

Sections

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Streamlining Required Business Filings	MEDCO	December 1, 2026
Evaluation related to violence in Maryland's prisons	GOCPP	June 30, 2027
<i>Report on Behavioral Health Services for Adolescents in Prince George's County</i>	<i>MCHRC</i>	<i>December 1, 2026</i>

Amendment No.

52

Add the following section:

Section 40 Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program Fund Swap

SECTION 40. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$3,000,000 of the general fund appropriation made for the purpose of retiree health insurance in program Q00S02.08 Eastern Correctional Institution within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) shall be reduced. DPSCS is authorized to process a budget amendment to replace these funds with special funds from the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program Fund for the purpose of funding retiree Health Reimbursement Accounts for certain retirees.

Explanation: This action reduces general funds with the intention of replacement with special funds available in the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program Fund. These funds will support costs for Health Reimbursement Accounts for certain retirees as authorized in existing law.

Section 41 Dedicated Purpose Account Accounting

SECTION 41. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation for the purpose of general administration within program F10A01.01 Executive Direction – Office of the Secretary and \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation for the purpose of general administration within program E00A01.01 Executive Direction – Office of the Comptroller may not be expended until the Office of the Comptroller, in collaboration with the Department of Budget and Management, submits a report that identifies, for each funding reversion to the Dedicated Purpose Account (DPA) for fiscal 2021 through 2025, the purpose as expressed in the appropriating language to the extent practical and the budget amendment number

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~~that authorized the transfer of funds. The report shall be submitted by July 15, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Comptroller of Maryland, in annual fiscal year end closeout reports beginning with the fiscal 2026 report, identify the budget amendment of origin for funds returned to the DPA or the budget bill purpose for which it was appropriated.~~

Amendment No.

53

Add the following section:

Section 41 *Requirements for Police Certification*

SECTION 41. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission (MPTSC) within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) and the Department of State Police (DSP) require, as part of the application for police certification, an attestation made by the individual under penalty of perjury that the applicant is not currently affiliated with or has not previously been affiliated with and not subsequently renounced affiliation to any racially or ethnically motivated violent extremist group or other domestic terrorist group as defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and assessed in 2020, 2021, and 2022 by the FBI and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the requirement for attestation be included in the application for police certification in perpetuity.

Further provided that \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation for MPTSC within DPSCS and \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation for DSP may not be expended until DPSCS and DSP submit a joint report to the budget committees on the implementation of requirements for certain attestations from individuals prior to providing police certification. The report shall discuss the timeline and implementation of requirements for attestation under penalty of perjury, as part of the application for police certification, police certification renewal, and other onboarding processes, that an individual is not affiliated with racially or ethnically motivated violent extremist groups or other domestic terrorist groups as defined by the FBI and assessed in 2020, 2021, and 2022 by the FBI and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The report shall include the policies and verification procedures established to require law enforcement agencies to receive applicants' attestations that they are not affiliated with the specified groups. The report shall also include a description of the policies, requirements, and procedures in place to ensure

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that all police officers and individuals trained to become police officers are not affiliated or members of the specified groups.

The joint report shall be submitted to the budget committees by November 1, 2026, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: *This language expresses the intent of the General Assembly that MPTSC and DSP require attestation under penalty of perjury from applicants for police certification that they are not affiliated or have previously been affiliated with certain racially or ethnically motivated violent extremist groups or other domestic terrorist groups. This language also restricts funds from MPTSC and DSP pending the submission of a joint report on the implementation of policies and requirements related to these attestation requirements through application for police certification, renewal of police certification, and other onboarding processes, including procedures for law enforcement agencies to verify and receive attestations.*

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on vetting procedures for police officers	DPSCS DSP	November 1, 2026

Amendment No.

54

Add the following section:

Section 42 Timing of Budget Amendments

SECTION 42. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation to the Department of Human Services, \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Maryland Department of Health, \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation of the Department of Commerce, \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Office of the Public Defender, and \$100,000 of the appropriation for the State Department of Assessments and Taxation may not be expended unless the respective agency submits all fiscal 2026 budget

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amendments prior to October 31, 2026. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the budget amendments may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: Fiscal 2026 budget bill language required the Department of Budget and Management to submit all budget amendments to the Department of Legislative Services no later than October 31, 2025. Several agencies submitted budget amendments over a month late, impeding legislative review in some cases and limiting transparency into agency finances. This action restricts funding in agencies that submitted fiscal 2025 budget amendments after November 1, 2025 pending timely submission of fiscal 2026 budget amendments.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Fiscal 2026 budget amendments	Department of Human Services Maryland Department of Health Department of Commerce Office of the Public Defender State Department of Assessment and Taxation	October 31, 2026

Add the following section:

Section 43 Reduced Unneeded Fiscal Responsibility Funds in Fiscal 2026

SECTION 43. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That funds are reduced immediately upon passage of this budget from the fiscal 2026 appropriation in the following manner: \$59,314,476 in special funds from the Fiscal Responsibility Fund is reduced from the appropriation for program N00G00.08 Assistance Payments within the Department of Human Services that was made for the purpose of providing partial State funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits during the federal government shutdown.

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Explanation: During a State of Emergency related to the federal government shutdown, \$62 million from the Fiscal Responsibility Fund was transferred to the Department of Human Services to pay partial State-funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits in that month. Due to court rulings, the federal government ultimately distributed funds for a partial benefit prior to the end of the federal government shutdown, reducing the needed funds to pay a partial benefit through State funds. As a result, DHS used only \$2,685,524 of the appropriated funds. The remainder of these funds would revert back to the Fiscal Responsibility Fund at the close of the fiscal year. The Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2026 assumes that these funds are available to be transferred, along with other balance in the fund, to the general fund in fiscal 2026. This action reduces the appropriation by the amount of the unused appropriation.

Add the following section:

Section 44 Crime Victim Compensation Funds

SECTION 44. 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.

Add the following language:

SECTION 45. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Governor is authorized to process a fiscal 2027 budget amendment from the balance in the Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) to provide funding in the following amounts for the following purposes:

- (1) \$72,650,000 in program D13A13.06 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs, Low and Moderate Income Residential Sector within the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) for the Residential Energy Equity Program for the purpose of heat pump installation and replacement for low- and moderate-income households;

Sections

- (2) \$23,750,000 in program D13A13.08 Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives within MEA for the purpose of providing funding to the Maryland Clean Energy Center for the Climate Catalytic Capital Fund;
- (3) \$3,000,000 in program K00A12.05 Power Plant Assessment Program within the Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of supplemental funding to assist with the review of renewable and clean energy projects;
- (4) \$500,000 in program D13A13.08 Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives within MEA for the purpose of a grant to Easton Utilities for an energy storage project; and
- (5) \$100,000 in program R75T00.01 Support for State Operated Institutions of Higher Education for R30B36 University System of Maryland Office for the purpose of conducting a study to evaluate the relationship between climate change, the availability and price of homeowner's insurance, and emergency disaster preparedness, contingent on the enactment of HB 1219 or SB 739 requiring the study and expanding the authorized uses of the SEIF to include a study.

Explanation: This section authorizes the Governor to appropriate funding through budget amendment from the SEIF for various purposes. One of these purposes is authorized only contingent on legislation requiring the study and legislation authorizing the use of funds for this purpose.

Amendment No.

55

Technical Corrections

Budget Amendments

Sections

Amend the following language:

SECTION 18. ~~45.46.~~

Explanation: Technical amendment to renumber sections.

Amend the following language:

SECTION 19. ~~46.47.~~

Explanation: Technical amendment to renumber sections.

Amendment No.

56

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

Budget Amendment

D13A13.08 Renewable and Clean Energy Programs and Initiatives

Strike the following language:

Amendment No. 2:

~~On page 13, in line 8, strike “\$100,000,000” and replace it with “\$70,000,000”. On page 44, in line 33, strike “\$20,000,000” and replace it with “\$17,000,000”.~~

Explanation: This language strikes an amendment making a portion of the appropriation in the Maryland Energy Administration and Department of General Services contingent on the expansion of allowable uses.