



SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2020 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 30, 2020
Schedule 18

PLEASE NOTE: January 31 – Bill introduction deadline.

All bills should be given to the Secretary of the Senate's office by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, February 3.

As required by Senate Rule 32(b), bills introduced after this date will be referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED January 30, 2020

SB 512 Senator Waldstreicher

VEHICLE LAWS – INJURY OR DEATH OF VULNERABLE INDIVIDUAL – PENALTIES

Prohibiting an individual from causing the serious physical injury or death of a vulnerable individual as a result of the individual operating a vehicle in a careless or distracted manner or in violation of any provision of the Maryland Vehicle Law; defining “vulnerable individual” as a pedestrian, including certain workers and emergency services personnel, an individual walking an animal, or an individual lawfully operating certain modes of transport; establishing certain penalties, including community service; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

TR, § 21-901.3 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Department of Legislative Services

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401–1991

Baltimore Area: 410–946–5400 — Washington Area: 301–970–5400

Other Maryland Areas: 1–800–492–7122 — Maryland Relay Service: 1–800–735–2258

SB 513 **Senator Waldstreicher, et al****CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – CONDITIONS OF PRETRIAL RELEASE – HOME DETENTION MONITORING**

Exempting certain defendants placed in private home detention as a condition of pretrial release from the requirement to pay a certain monitoring fee if the defendant qualifies as an indigent individual under certain circumstances or if a private home detention monitoring device is provided by the State or a local jurisdiction.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

CP, § 5-201 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 514 **Senator Waldstreicher****PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT – REQUIRED DENIALS – DISTRIBUTION LISTS**

Requiring a custodian to deny inspection under the Public Information Act of only the part of a distribution list that identifies a physical address, an e-mail address, or a telephone number of an individual that is used by a governmental entity or an elected official for the sole purpose of periodically sending news about certain official activities or emergency alerts; defining “distribution list” as a list of recipients who have affirmatively opted to receive information or alerts; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

GP, § 4-341 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 515 **Senator Waldstreicher, et al****CRIMES – INDECENT EXPOSURE – ELEMENTS**

Establishing that the offense of indecent exposure prohibits a person from, in public, intentionally making an obscene or indecent exposure of the person’s genitalia or anus, engaging in a certain act of masturbation, or engaging in a certain sexual act; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

CR, § 11-107 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 516 Senator Ready, et al

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – MURDER – DIMINUTION CREDITS(GERALDINE’S LAW)

Prohibiting the earning of diminution credits to reduce the term of confinement of an inmate who is serving a sentence for murder in the first degree or murder in the second degree in a State or local correctional facility; and providing for the prospective application of the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

CS, §§ 3-702 and 11-502 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 517 Senator Ready, et al

GENERAL PROVISIONS – STANDARD TIME – YEAR-ROUND DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Altering the standard time in the State to be Eastern Daylight Time year-round.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

GP, § 1-301 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 518 Senator Ready, et al

HIGHER EDUCATION – COUNCIL ON THE FAIR TREATMENT OF STUDENT ATHLETES(JORDAN MCNAIR SAFE AND FAIR PLAY ACT)

Establishing the Council on the Fair Treatment of Student Athletes; requiring the Council to study the use of images of student athletes, rule changes by a certain collegiate association, health-related issues, including resources for prevention of sports-related injuries, and other issues related to student athletes; requiring the Council to report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland and the Board of Regents of Morgan State University; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

ED, §§ 12-201 and 14-102 - amended and §§ 15-126 and 15-127 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 519 **Senator McCray, et al****PUBLIC HEALTH – BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS AND HEALTH CARE FACILITIES – SAFETY PLAN**

Requiring that the regulations adopted by the Behavioral Health Administration under certain provisions of law governing requirements for the licensure of behavioral health programs include a requirement that a behavioral health program establish and implement a safety plan for the safety of the individuals served by and the community surrounding the behavioral health program before being issued a license; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

HG, § 7.5-402 - amended and § 19-150 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 520 **Senators McCray and Ellis****BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS – OPIOID TREATMENT SERVICES – LIMITATION ON LICENSES**

Prohibiting the Behavioral Health Administration from approving more than five licenses in each county for behavioral health programs that provide opioid treatment services; and authorizing the Administration to approve licenses for certain behavioral health programs in a county above a certain amount if the Administration is authorized by legislation passed by the General Assembly.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

HG, § 7.5-405 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 521 **Senator McCray, et al****BEHAVIORAL HEALTH – OPIOID TREATMENT SERVICES PROGRAMS – MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Requiring each opioid treatment services program to be under the direction of at least one on-site medical director; requiring the medical director to be on-site at the opioid treatment services program at least 20 hours per week; and prohibiting opioid treatment services programs from satisfying certain requirements through telehealth.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

HG, § 7.5-404 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 522 **Senator McCray, et al****BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS – LICENSING AND FEES**

Providing the term of a license issued to a behavioral health program may not exceed 3 years; providing that a certain license expires at the end of the term of the license unless the license is renewed; requiring the Behavioral Health Administration to collect reasonable fees for the costs associated with the issuance of licenses; establishing the Behavioral Health Program Grant Program to award grants to local areas to enhance safety and improve programs and make improvements to communities where certain programs are located; etc.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021

HG, §§ 7.5-401, 7.5-402, and 8-6A-01 - amended and § 7.5-405 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 523 **Senator Guzzone, et al****INCOME TAX – PASS–THROUGH ENTITIES – IMPOSITION OF TAX**

Altering the tax imposed on certain pass–through entities; requiring each pass–through entity to pay the tax imposed with respect to certain shares of certain nonresident and nonresident entity members of the pass–through entity; authorizing a pass–through entity to pay the tax imposed with respect to certain shares of all members of the pass–through entity; providing for the calculation of the tax; prohibiting the tax required to be paid for any taxable year from exceeding a certain amount; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

TG, §§ 10-102.1, 10-701.1, and 10-706 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 524 **Senator Elfreth, et al****BUILDING LIFELONG LIBRARY LEARNERS ACT**

Prohibiting a public library from charging a minor a replacement fine or fee for an overdue library book until 3 months after the date on which the library book was due; requiring a public library to cancel or return a certain replacement fine or fee if a book is returned; altering the calculation of certain funding for the State Library Research Center; requiring the Governor to include \$7,500,000 in fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter in the annual operating or capital budget for county library capital projects; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

ED, § 23-110 - added and §§ 23-205(d), 23-503(b), and 23-509(e)(5) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Budget and Taxation

SB 525 **Senator Beidle, et al****ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – GIFT BASKET PERMIT**

Establishing, in Anne Arundel County, a gift basket permit; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County to issue the permit to persons whose primary business is the sale of gift baskets; authorizing a permit holder to sell and deliver gift baskets containing beer, wine, or liquor to certain individuals; requiring a permit holder to maintain certain records and submit certain reports; limiting the total annual sales from alcoholic beverages to 25% of the annual gross sales of the permit holder; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

AB, § 11-1006.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 526 **Senator Beidle, et al**TRANSPORTATION – PRIVATE SECTOR TRANSPORTATION
PROJECTS OMBUDSMAN – ESTABLISHED

Establishing the Private Sector Transportation Projects Ombudsman within the Department of Transportation; requiring the Secretary of Transportation to designate an Ombudsman to respond to concerns, complaints, and inquiries from residents, local government officials, and other entities regarding private sector transportation projects being developed or tested within the State; requiring the Department to provide the Ombudsman with sufficient resources to respond to all inquiries in an accurate and timely manner; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

TR, § 2-113 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 527 **Senator Edwards**HEALTH INSURANCE – POLICY OF GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE –
ASSOCIATIONS

Clarifying that, for purposes of provisions of law concerning health insurance, a chamber of commerce may be considered an association; repealing certain provisions of law that apply certain provisions of law governing small group market plans to health benefit plans offered by certain entities; applying the Act to policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2021; etc.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021

IN, §§ 11-601(d)(1), 15-302(c) and (d)(2), 15-1201(i)(2), and 15-1202 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 528 **Senator West****PUBLIC HEALTH – DISPOSITION OF REMAINS – AUTHORIZING AGENT**

Clarifying that a certain document through the execution of which a certain individual may decide the disposition of the individual's own body without certain consent includes a document designating a person to act as an authorizing agent; providing that an authorizing agent is bound by certain documents in making certain decisions; and clarifying the order of priority of persons that have the right to serve as the authorizing agent for a decedent.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

HG, §§ 5-408.1 and 5-509 - amended and HO, § 7-101(c-1) - added and § 7-410 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 529 **Senator Feldman****PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – ELECTRIC COMPANIES AND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES – CUSTOMER IDENTIFICATION**

Requiring the Public Service Commission to adopt regulations requiring electric companies and electric cooperatives to adopt a method for an electricity supplier enrolling a certain customer to provide certain information to adequately identify the customer without using the customer's account number; requiring the regulations to require that a certain customer enrolling with an electricity supplier may offer certain information as proof of identity under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

PU, § 7-311 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 530 **Senator Smith, et al****HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES MADE EQUAL ACT**

Expanding the housing policy of the State to include providing for fair housing to all citizens regardless of source of income; stating the Act seeks to deconcentrate poverty by providing additional opportunities for tenants utilizing public subsidies to live in certain neighborhoods; prohibiting a person from refusing to sell or rent a dwelling to any person because of source of income; establishing qualifications and limitations on the prohibition against discrimination in housing based on source of income; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

SG, §§ 20-701, 20-702, 20-704, 20-705, 20-707, and 20-1103 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 531 **Senator Smith, et al****DISCRIMINATION – DEFINITION OF RACE – HAIR TEXTURE AND HAIRSTYLES**

Defining “race”, for the purposes of certain laws prohibiting discrimination, to include certain traits historically associated with race, including hair texture and certain hairstyles; and defining “protective hairstyle” as a hairstyle designed to protect the ends of the hair by decreasing tangling, shedding, and breakage, including braids, twists, and locks.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

SG, § 20-101 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 532 **Senator Smith, et al****TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM**

Establishing the Task Force to Study the Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise Program; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding opportunities for veteran-owned small business enterprises to participate in State procurement contracts and the improvement of the veteran-owned small business enterprise program; requiring the Task Force to report its findings to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1, 2020; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

SB 533 **Senator Smith****EDUCATION – TEACHER CERTIFICATION – MONTESSORI SCHOOLS**

Making an individual eligible for a certificate to teach students in a Montessori school if the individual holds a Montessori-related credential from a certain organization and a bachelor’s degree; authorizing the State Board of Education to require an individual to successfully pass an examination to be certified under the Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

ED, § 6-124 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 534 **Senator Smith, et al****COURTS – DISCOVERY – IN-CUSTODY WITNESS TESTIMONY**

Requiring a State’s Attorney to record certain information if a State’s Attorney obtains certain testimony from an in-custody witness and to report certain information to the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention; requiring a State’s Attorney to comply with certain discovery requirements; requiring a court to hold a certain hearing at the request of the defendant to determine whether testimony of an in-custody witness is admissible at trial; providing for the prospective application of the Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

CJ, § 10-924 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 535 **Senators Kagan and Reilly****PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT – DENIAL OF PART OF A PUBLIC RECORD – VICTIMS AND WITNESSES**

Defining “contrary to the public interest” for the purposes of a certain provision of law authorizing a custodian to deny inspection of a part of a public record because the custodian believes the inspection would reveal the identity of a victim or a witness; defining the term “witness” for the purposes of certain provisions of the Act relating to inspections of part of a 9–1–1 communications record; and requiring a custodian to take certain actions before granting inspection of the part of a 9–1–1 communications record; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

GP, §§ 4-343 and 4-356 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 536 **Senator Kagan****DIVORCE AND ANNULMENT – REMOVAL OF BARRIERS TO REMARRIAGE**

Requiring a party who files a complaint for an absolute divorce or annulment to file an affidavit stating that the affiant has taken, or will take before the entry of final judgment, all steps within the affiant’s control to remove all barriers to remarriage by the other party to the marriage or that the other party waived in writing the submission of a certain affidavit; authorizing a party who files a certain affidavit to request that the other party to the marriage file a certain affidavit; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2020

FL, § 7-104.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 537 **Senator Edwards (Chair, Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics), et al**GENERAL ASSEMBLY – LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTERS –
PUBLICATION EXPENSES AND LINKS TO SOCIAL MEDIA
ACCOUNTS

Providing that publication expenses related to unofficial legislative newsletters may be paid by an authorized candidate campaign committee, rather than a campaign account of a campaign finance entity, of an incumbent under certain circumstances; providing that an official electronic legislative newsletter may include a link to a social media account only under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

EL, §§ 13-406 and 13-408 - amended and § 13-409 - repealed and GP, § 5-514.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 538 **Senator Kelley, et al**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE
OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY – PRESERVATION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND THE CLIMATE

Requiring the Public Service Commission to give due consideration to the effect of a generating station, overhead transmission line, or qualified generator lead line on the preservation of environmental quality and the climate before taking final action on an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

PU, § 7-207(e) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 539 **Senator Hayes, et al****LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE INSURANCE PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program to provide temporary benefits to a covered individual who is taking leave from employment; establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund; requiring, beginning January 1, 2021, certain employees, employers, and self-employed individuals to pay certain contributions; authorizing, beginning July 1, 2022, a covered individual taking certain leave from employment to submit a claim for benefits; authorizing the establishment of private employer plans; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2020

LE, § 8-302 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)121. and 122. - amended and LE, §§ 8.3-101 through 8.3-1001 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)123. - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 540 **Senator Hershey, et al****MEMBER-REGULATED COOPERATIVES – ESTABLISHMENT (RURAL BROADBAND FOR THE EASTERN SHORE ACT OF 2020)**

Establishing a process for a cooperative to operate as a member-regulated cooperative in a certain area; specifying that the Public Service Commission does not have jurisdiction over a member-regulated cooperative, subject to certain exceptions; prohibiting a member-regulated cooperative from exercising a certain power of condemnation for the sole purpose of providing broadband Internet service; specifying certain provisions of law that apply to a member-regulated cooperative; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

PU, § 2-112(a) and CA, §§ 5-601, 5-632(b), and 5-646(b) - amended and CA, §§ 5-635 through 5-642 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 541 Senator Eckardt, et al**MENTAL HEALTH – INVOLUNTARY ADMISSIONS – PROCEDURES**

Authorizing a facility or Veterans' Administration hospital to take an individual who is involuntarily admitted under certain circumstances into confinement on observation status; requiring an individual confined on observation status to be examined within 24 hours by a physician, psychologist, or psychiatric nurse practitioner; requiring that certain regulations require that an impartial hearing officer receive testimony from the physician, psychologist, or psychiatric nurse practitioner who examined the confined individual; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

HG, §§ 10-617 and 10-632 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 542 Senator Young**PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS – DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
(STUDENT HEALTH AND FITNESS ACT)**

Providing as the goal of the State that each public school student in elementary school be provided a daily program of at least 150 minutes each week of developmentally appropriate, moderate-to-vigorous physical activity that includes recess and at least 90 minutes each week of physical education; requiring that the program of physical activity for a certain category of student be consistent with the student's Individualized Education Program; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

ED, § 7-409 - amended and § 7-409.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 543 Senator Young**REAL PROPERTY – HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS – NUMBER OF
DECLARANT VOTES**

Altering the method of determining the date on which a declarant has a certain number of votes when voting on a homeowners association matter from the date on which all lots that may be part of the development have been subdivided and recorded in a certain manner to the date on which any lot that may be part of the development has been subdivided and recorded in a certain manner.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

RP, § 11B-111.7 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 544 **Senator Young**STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR – WARRANTS OF RESTITUTION
AND WRITS OF POSSESSION – DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING

Requiring the State Court Administrator to collect, maintain, provide certain access to, and, on or before July 1, 2021, and quarterly thereafter, make and publish on a website accessible to the public a report on certain information related to certain warrants of restitution and writs of possession.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021

CJ, § 13-101(d)(10) and (11) - amended and § 13-101(d)(11) - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 545 **Senator Young**PHARMACISTS – ADMINISTRATION OF SELF-ADMINISTERED
MEDICATIONS AND MAINTENANCE INJECTABLE MEDICATIONS

Authorizing a pharmacist who meets the requirements of certain regulations to administer a maintenance injectable medication to a patient under certain circumstances; requiring the State Board of Pharmacy, on or before September 1, 2021, and in consultation with the State Board of Physicians and the State Board of Nursing, to adopt certain regulations for pharmacists requiring pharmacists to complete a certain training program in order to administer a maintenance injectable medication; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

HG, § 15-148(c) and HO, §§ 12-101(x)(1)(viii) and 12-509 - amended and IN, § 15-716 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Finance

SB 546 **Senator Young**

PUBLIC SAFETY – RESIDENTIAL ELEVATORS – INSPECTIONS

Establishing that, beginning January 1, 2021, a certain elevator installed in a certain residential dwelling is subject to provisions of law requiring certain inspections; requiring certain inspections at certain times; exempting a certain elevator from a certain requirement; and requiring the installation of a life screen barrier by a certified elevator contractor.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

PS, § 12-804 - amended and § 12-804.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 547 **Senator Young**

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES – HOSPITALS AND RELATED INSTITUTIONS – DISCRIMINATION PROTECTIONS

Altering the actions with regard to which hospitals and related institutions are prohibited from discriminating against individuals on certain grounds to include the treatment or procedure sought by the individual under certain circumstances; altering the characteristics of an individual on the basis of which hospitals and related institutions are prohibited from discriminating against the individual in certain actions; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

HG, § 19-355 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 548 **Senator Young, et al**

TRANSPORTATION – I-270 COMMUTER BUS ROUTE STUDY

Requiring the Department of Transportation to study and make recommendations on the feasibility of establishing a point-to-point commuter bus route that serves certain population centers along the I-270 corridor and provides service to and from job centers in Northern Virginia; requiring the Department, in conducting the study, to consult with certain governments, stakeholders, and entities and to make certain recommendations to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly by December 1, 2021; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

SB 549 **Senator Young, et al**

EDUCATION – PUBLIC SCHOOLS – SEIZURE ACTION PLANS (BRYNLEIGH ACT)

Requiring a county board of education and authorizing a nonpublic school, beginning in the 2021–2022 school year, to require at least two school employees to be trained in recognizing the signs and symptoms of a seizure, administering first aid for a seizure, and administering or assisting with the administration of seizure medication and performing manual vagus nerve stimulation; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

ED, § 7-446 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 550 **Senator Waldstreicher, et al**

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CIVIL JURY TRIALS

Increasing the amount in controversy in civil proceedings in which the right to a jury trial may be limited by legislation from more than \$15,000 to more than \$30,000; and submitting the amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Declaration of Rights, Art. 5 and 23 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 551 **Senator Waldstreicher, et al**

COURTS – CIVIL JURY TRIALS – AMOUNT IN CONTROVERSY

Increasing from \$15,000 to \$30,000 the maximum amount in controversy in a civil action in which a party may not demand a jury trial; providing for the construction and application of the Act; and making the Act contingent on the passage and ratification of a certain constitutional amendment.

CONTINGENT

CJ, § 4-402(e)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 552 **Senator King**

VIDEO LOTTERY OPERATION LICENSE – RENEWAL

Providing for a 10–year term for the renewal of a video lottery operation license; requiring a licensee to provide notice of intent to apply for renewal of the license 2 years before the expiration of a license; requiring the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to renew a certain license unless the Commission finds that the licensee is no longer qualified; requiring the Commission, before denying an application, to provide a licensee an opportunity for a hearing; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

SG, § 9-1A-13 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 553 **Senator King, et al**

UNIVERSITIES AT SHADY GROVE REGIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

Establishing the Universities at Shady Grove Regional Higher Education Center to provide students access to established, cutting edge, and high-demand academic programs of degree-granting institutions; requiring the academic programs at the Center to be upper division undergraduate and graduate level programs; and providing that funding for the Center shall be as provided in the State budget.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

ED, § 12-101(b)(3) - amended and § 12-119 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 554 **Senator Lam, et al**

CRIMES – MITIGATION – SEX, GENDER IDENTITY, OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Establishing that the discovery or perception of, or belief about, another person's sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation, whether or not accurate, does not constitute legally adequate provocation to mitigate a killing from the crime of murder to manslaughter or an assault from the crime of assault in the first degree to assault in the second degree or another lesser crime.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

CR, §§ 2-207 and 3-209 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 555 **Senator Cassilly**

CONSUMER PROTECTION – UNIT PRICING – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Applying certain unit price disclosure requirements to the sale of alcoholic beverages.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020

CL, § 14-102 - amended

Assigned to: Finance and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 556 **Senator Beidle****INSURANCE – PRODUCT AND SERVICE OFFERINGS**

Providing that certain provisions of law do not prohibit insurers, nonprofit health service plans, or health maintenance organizations from offering products or services at no charge or at a discounted price to educate a person regarding, or to monitor, control, or prevent, risk of loss to certain persons; authorizing an insurer, a nonprofit health service plan, or a health maintenance organization to include an offer or provision of products or services in a certain contract or rate filing; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

IN, §§ 27-209 and 27-212 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 557 **Senator Salling, et al****MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY – VEHICLE NOT USING BRIDGE – NO TOLL PAYMENT REQUIRED**

Prohibiting the Maryland Transportation Authority from charging a toll at a toll plaza adjacent to a bridge that is a transportation facilities project for a vehicle that does not traverse the bridge; and requiring the Authority to direct, by physical traffic management measures, vehicles that do not traverse the bridge into a toll-free lane through the toll plaza or construct a lane bypassing the toll plaza for use by vehicles that do not traverse the bridge.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020

TR, § 4-312(c) - amended

Assigned to: Finance