



# SYNOPSIS

House Bills and Joint Resolutions  
2023 Maryland General Assembly Session

**February 6, 2023**  
**Schedule 15**

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**PLEASE NOTE:** February 10 – Bill introduction deadline.  
All bills must be given to the Chief Clerk by 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 9.  
As required by House Rule 32(b), bills introduced after this date will be referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

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## **HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

**HB 641** Delegate Wivell, et al

**INCOME TAX – PREGNANCY OPTIONS TAX CREDIT**

Allowing a credit against the State income tax for a certain amount of donations to certain eligible charitable organizations that operate as certain pregnancy resource centers; and requiring taxpayers to add a certain deduction back to federal adjusted gross income to determine Maryland adjusted gross income and Maryland modified income.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

TG, §§ 10-204(m), 10-305(d)(7), and 10-757 - added and § 10-305(d)(5) and (6) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**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

**HB 642 Delegate Grossman, et al****ELECTION LAW – RECOUNTS – PROCEDURES**

Requiring a petitioner for a recount to select the method for conducting the recount; limiting the methods from which the selection must be made to rescanning the ballots using certain vote tabulating equipment, a manual recount of voter-verifiable paper records, or any other recount method approved by the State Administrator; and requiring a local board of elections to preserve and store certain voter-verifiable paper records in a certain manner and count only voter-verifiable paper records in a manual recount.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

EL, § 12-108 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 643 Delegate Grossman, et al****ELECTION LAW – INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF CANDIDATES FOR A PRIMARY ELECTION**

Requiring the State Board of Elections to extend the filing deadline for a primary election if, at any time during the 48-hour period immediately preceding the filing deadline, the number of candidates for a political party is less than the number of nominations the party is allowed for the office; and requiring the State central committee of a political party to select candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor to fill vacancies in candidacy for a primary election under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

EL, §§ 5-303, 5-502, 5-504, and 5-902 - amended and § 5-303.1 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 644 Frederick County Delegation****FREDERICK COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES – GOLF SIMULATOR FACILITY**

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Frederick County to issue a Class B-GSF (golf simulator facility) license to a golf simulator facility under certain circumstances; authorizing the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption under certain circumstances; requiring the license holder to submit an annual gross sales report to the Board before a license may be renewed; and establishing an annual license fee of \$1,500.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

AB, § 20-1009 - renumbered and added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

**HB 645 Delegate Feldmark, et al****ELECTION LAW – ELECTRONIC BALLOT RETURN SYSTEM – STUDY AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

Requiring the Department of Legislative Services to complete a study on the creation of an electronic ballot return system on or before December 1, 2023; and requiring the State Board of Elections to issue a request for proposals for an electronic ballot return system on or before January 1, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 646 Delegate Charles, et al****STATE PROCUREMENT – MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES – PROCUREMENT FORECAST, EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE, AND OUTREACH (THE SMALL BUSINESS PROTECTION ACT OF MARYLAND)**

Requiring each unit to publish on the unit's website annually a certain procurement forecast listing certain known and anticipated procurements to be made by the unit in the upcoming fiscal year; requiring a unit determining eligibility for a merit increase or promotion for a procurement officer or other employee to consider certain efforts by the procurement officer or other employee responsible for procuring goods and services for the unit in meeting the unit's minority enterprise participation goals; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

SF, §§ 14-302(a)(16) and 14-302.1 and SG, § 9-304.1 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Appropriations

**HB 647 Delegate Wivell, et al****INCOME TAX – ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS**

Allowing an individual to itemize deductions to compute Maryland taxable income whether the individual itemizes deductions on the individual's federal income tax return; and providing that Maryland itemized deductions shall be determined in a certain manner for an individual who does not itemize deductions on the individual's federal income tax return.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

TG, §§ 10-217(a)(1) and 10-218 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 648 Delegate Hinebaugh****GARRETT COUNTY – TAX SALES – AUCTIONEER FEES**

Increasing, from \$8 to \$10, the auctioneer’s fee for the tax sale of property in Garrett County for each property sold.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

TP, § 14-813(e)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 649 Delegate Wivell, et al****PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION – EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHED**

Establishing the Education Savings Account program in the State administered by the State Department of Education to provide State grants to the account of the parent of an eligible student to provide for the education of the eligible student; and allowing a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for deposits into an education savings account under the program.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

ED, §§ 9.12-101 through 9.12-106 and TG, § 10-208(cc) - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

**HB 650 Delegates S. Johnson and A. Johnson****HEALTH INSURANCE – REIMBURSEMENT AND USE OF SPECIFIC PHARMACIES AND DISPENSARIES – PROHIBITIONS**

Specifying that certain entities are not precluded from recommending, rather than requiring, a specialty drug be obtained through a certain pharmacy or dispensary; providing that certain entities may not prohibit a subscriber, member, or beneficiary from choosing to obtain a certain specialty drug from a pharmacy or dispensary that meets certain requirements; prohibiting certain entities from taking certain action against certain pharmacies or dispensaries; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

IN, §§ 15-847(d), 15-1611.1, and 15-1612 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 651 Delegate Grossman, et al****RENTERS' PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAM – EVALUATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT**

Requiring the State Department of Assessments and Taxation to evaluate, as compared to inflation, a certain income limitation on eligibility for and the calculation of a certain property tax credit under the renters' property tax relief program and to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2023, and every 5 years thereafter.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023

TP, § 9-102(k) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 652 Delegate Boyce****VEHICLE LAWS – SPECIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE REGISTRATION PLATE – MARYLAND HEROES**

Requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration, in consultation with the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, to design and issue a Maryland Heroes registration plate that features the images of Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to charge certain additional registration fees related to the issuance and renewal of the Maryland Heroes registration plate and to distribute the additional registration fees in a certain manner; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

TR, § 13-619.4 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 653 Delegate Buckel****ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE PILOT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland Technology Infrastructure Pilot Program in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to support and incentivize advanced industry infrastructure and resources that build on the existing strengths of the Western Maryland economy; establishing the Maryland Technology Infrastructure Authority; and establishing the Maryland Technology Infrastructure Fund to award financial assistance to public and private entities to support projects in Western Maryland.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

EC, §§ 10-4D-01 through 10-4D-10 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)172. - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)170. and 171. - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 654 Delegate Hinebaugh**

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES – CAPITAL PROJECTS – STATE SHARE ADJUSTMENT

Providing for a certain adjustment to the State share percentage for a community college capital project if the county's median household income is in the bottom quartile in the State and the State share percentage for a community college capital project is 50%.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

ED, § 11-105(j) - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

**HB 655 Delegate Clippinger**

## BALTIMORE CITY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICTS – LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTING PLAN REFERENCES

Updating certain provisions of law regarding Baltimore City alcoholic beverages districts to refer to the Legislative Districting Plan of 2022; and requiring the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to grant a certain exemption to certain persons under certain circumstances.

EMERGENCY BILL

AB, §§ 12-903(c)(1), 12-1308(a)(5), 12-1603(a), 12-1604(a), 12-1707(a), and 12-2007(b)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

**HB 656 Talbot County Delegation**

## TALBOT COUNTY – BOARD OF EDUCATION – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Altering the timing of the annual election of the officers of the Talbot County Board of Education to be at its last meeting at the end of each calendar year, or at the meeting in December each year.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

ED, § 3-12A-03 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 657 Delegates S. Johnson and A. Johnson****MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to provide Maryland Medical Assistance Program services for individuals under the Employed Individuals with Disabilities Program in accordance with certain requirements; prohibiting a certain individual from receiving EID Program services; prohibiting the consideration of certain assets in determining an individual's eligibility for certain programs; prohibiting the Department from limiting eligibility to receive services under the EID Program based on certain criteria; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

HG, § 15-138 - repealed and added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 658 Delegate Woods****GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE – ISSUANCE TO TRUSTEES OF A FUND – MULTIPLE EMPLOYERS**

Altering a certain provision of law authorizing the issuance of a policy of group health insurance to allow the issuance of a policy to the trustees of a fund adopted by two or more employers and to the trustees of a fund established by two or more employers regardless of whether the employers are in the same or related industry; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024

IN, § 15-302(d) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 659 Delegate Arentz, et al****CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE – PROHIBITION ON TRAILERS IN CONTRAFLOW LANES – STUDY**

Requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct a study on the implications and feasibility of prohibiting vehicles with a semitrailer, pole trailer, or trailer from using a contraflow lane on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge; and requiring the Department to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2023.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 660 Delegate Alston, et al****CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – EXPUNGEMENT – CONVICTIONS**

Authorizing a person to file a petition for expungement of a conviction of certain misdemeanor and felony convictions.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

CP, § 10-110 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 661 Delegate J. Lewis****WORKGROUP TO STUDY REENTRY**

Establishing the Workgroup to Study Reentry; requiring the Workgroup to examine the current role of State and local agencies in the reentry of formerly incarcerated individuals after completing their terms of confinement in State and local correctional facilities; and requiring the Workgroup to report its findings and recommendations regarding policy changes for improvement of reentry to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 662 Delegate Rogers, et al****REAL ESTATE BROKERS, SALESPERSONS, AND ASSOCIATE BROKERS – CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the requirements for the subject matter of continuing education courses for licensees issued an initial license by the Real Estate Commission.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

BOP, § 17-315(b) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

**HB 663 Delegate Cardin****POLICE DISCIPLINE – ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

Authorizing a police officer who is denied a certain right to apply to the circuit court at a certain time for an order that directs the law enforcement agency to show cause why the right should not be granted.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

PS, § 3-113.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 664 Delegate Williams, et al**

## CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – EXPUNGEMENT OF RECORDS – GOOD CAUSE

Authorizing a court to grant a petition for expungement of records relating to a certain conviction at any time on a showing of good cause.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

CP, § 10-110 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 665 Delegate Feldmark, et al**

## COMPTROLLER AND STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION – ENHANCING ACCESS TO PROPERTY TAX BENEFITS – REPORT

Requiring the Comptroller and the State Department of Assessments and Taxation to confer to identify ways the Comptroller could collaborate with the Department to enhance access to certain property tax benefits administered by the Department; and requiring the Comptroller and the Department to submit a joint report of their findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2023.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 666 Delegate Miller, et al**

## FAMILY LAW – FUNDAMENTAL PARENTAL RIGHTS

Establishing that a parent has the fundamental right to direct the upbringing, education, care, and welfare of the parent’s child; and prohibiting the State or a political subdivision from infringing on a parent’s fundamental right to direct the upbringing, education, care, and welfare of the parent’s child unless the State or political subdivision can demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence certain factors.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

FL, §§ 5-2B-01 through 5-2B-03 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 667 Delegate Grossman****CRIMINAL LAW – OVERDOSING IN PUBLIC – PROHIBITION**

Prohibiting a person from overdosing in certain public places or on a public conveyance; and authorizing a court to refer a person who overdoses in certain public places or on a public conveyance to drug court or substance abuse treatment rather than imposing a term of imprisonment not exceeding 60 days or a fine not exceeding \$500 or both.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

CR, § 10-201 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 668 Delegate Allen, et al****GAMING – PROBLEM GAMBLING FUND – TABLE GAME FEES AND DISTRIBUTION OF SPORTS WAGERING PROCEEDS**

Requiring, rather than authorizing, the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to establish a certain annual fee of \$500 for each table game to be distributed to the Problem Gambling Fund; and altering the distribution of the proceeds from sports wagering to provide 1% of the proceeds to the Fund.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

SG, §§ 9-1A-33(a)(2) and 9-1E-12 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 669 Delegate Holmes, et al****REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS – LICENSING – QUALIFICATIONS**

Altering the qualifications for a real estate appraisal license to include completion of certain criteria in the Practical Applications of Real Estate Appraisal program.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

BOP, § 16-302 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

**HB 670 Delegate S. Johnson, et al****HARFORD COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – STADIUM LICENSE ANNUAL FEE**

Reducing the annual fee for a stadium beer, wine, and liquor license in Harford County from \$10,000 to \$4,000.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

AB, § 22-1006 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

**HB 671 Delegate Hinebaugh**

## GARRETT COUNTY – BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – MEETINGS

Requiring the Board of County Commissioners for Garrett County to meet at least twice a month; and authorizing the Board to hold public meetings in person or over video broadcast.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

PLL of Garrett Co, Art. 12, § 30.03 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 672 Delegate Toles**

## FAMILY LAW – MARRIAGE CEREMONY – DESIGNATION OF DEPUTY CLERK

Transferring, from the county administrative judge of the circuit court for the county to the clerk of the circuit court for the county, the authority to designate a deputy clerk to perform a marriage ceremony.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

FL, § 2-406(a) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 673 Delegate Edelson, et al**

## MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION – FARE PRICE REQUIREMENTS – ALTERATIONS

Repealing certain requirements that the Maryland Transit Administration increase fares for certain transit services according to the Consumer Price Index; and repealing certain provisions prohibiting the Administration from increasing fares under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

TR, §§ 7-208(b-1) and 7-506(a)(1) - amended and § 7-208(b-2) - repealed

Assigned to: Appropriations and Environment and Transportation

**HB 674 Delegate Watson****MARYLAND HISTORIC TRUST – HISTORIC PRESERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM AND FUND – ESTABLISHED**

Establishing the Historic Preservation Partnership Program in the Maryland Historic Trust to implement and encourage the preservation of historic properties in partnership with a qualified cooperating nonprofit organization; establishing the Historic Preservation Partnership Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring certain funds to be transferred by the Trust to the qualified cooperating nonprofit organization by October 1 each year; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

SF, § 5A-327 - repealed and added

Assigned to: Appropriations

**HB 675 Delegate Hutchinson, et al****COMMISSION TO STUDY TRAUMA CENTER FUNDING IN MARYLAND**

Establishing the Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland to study the adequacy of trauma center funding across the State for operating, capital, and workforce costs; and requiring the Commission to reports its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2023.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023

Assigned to: Appropriations

**HB 676 Delegate Wivell, et al****CEMETERIES – PET REMAINS – DUTY OF PERPETUAL CARE**

Providing that a certain registered cemeterian, registered crematory operator, or permit holder who sells or offers to sell to the public certain services for pet remains owes a duty of perpetual care for the cemetery in which certain pet remains are interred in accordance with certain provisions of law.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

BR, § 5-101(o) through (u) - amended and § 5-804 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 677 Delegate Clippinger, et al****PRIDE OF BALTIMORE II – APPROPRIATIONS – INCREASE AND EXTENSION**

Increasing from \$500,000 to \$600,000 the appropriation from the Transportation Trust Fund in certain fiscal years that the Governor is required to include in the annual State budget for the operation of the replica sailing vessel known as the Pride of Baltimore II; and extending the fiscal years to include 2024 through 2028 to which the mandated appropriation applies.

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

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023

TR, § 2-801 and Chapter 854 of the Acts of 2018, § 2 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

**HB 678 Delegate Sample–Hughes, et al****SALES AND USE TAX – ELECTRICITY FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES**

Exempting from the sales and use tax the sale of electricity used for agricultural purposes such as raising livestock or poultry, preparing, irrigating, or tending the soil, or planting, maintaining, or transporting seeds or crops.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

TG, § 11-201(a) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 679 Frederick County Delegation****FREDERICK COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES – DISPLAY OF LICENSE**

Requiring in Frederick County a license holder to frame and conspicuously display an alcoholic beverages license on the licensed premises.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

AB, § 20-1901 - amended and § 20-1904 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

**HB 680** Delegate Toles, et al**INCOME TAX – STUDENT LOAN DEBT RELIEF TAX CREDIT – ALTERATIONS**

Increasing the total amount of credits against the State income tax that the Maryland Higher Education Commission may approve in a taxable year for certain individuals with certain student loan debt amounts; requiring the Commission to reserve a certain amount of the tax credits that the Commission is authorized to approve for certain graduates; extending, from 2 years to 5 years, the period of time that an individual who claims the credit has to prove that they used the credit to repay the individual's student loan debt; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

TG, § 10-740 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 681** Delegate Ebersole**RECOVERY RESIDENCE GRANT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Recovery Residence Grant Program within the Maryland Department of Health to award competitive grants to recovery residences to support operations, services, and programs; requiring the Department to establish certain procedures; requiring the annual budget bill to include \$500,000 for the Program beginning in fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter; and requiring the Department to submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly about the Program's grant recipients by December 1, 2024.

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

HG, § 19-2505 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 682 Delegate Valentine, et al****PUBLIC SAFETY – LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES – POSITIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK**

Adding positive community feedback to the list of records that are not considered personnel records for certain purposes; requiring the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to develop a process for citizens to submit certain feedback; requiring each law enforcement agency to adopt the uniform citizen positive community feedback process; and requiring a law enforcement agency to maintain a certain record that is subject to public inspection.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

GP, §§ 4-311(c) and 4-351(a) - amended and PS, §§ 3-207(m) and 3-519.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 683 Delegate T. Morgan, et al****NATURAL RESOURCES – APPRENTICE HUNTING LICENSE – ALTERATIONS**

Authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to issue an apprentice hunting license to a person under the age of 17 years who has previously been issued an apprentice hunting license under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

NR, § 10-301(g) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 684 Delegate Wilkins****LANDLORD AND TENANT – RESIDENTIAL LEASES AND HOLDOVER TENANCIES – LOCAL JUST CAUSE TERMINATION PROVISIONS**

Authorizing a county to adopt by local law or ordinance provisions prohibiting a landlord of residential property from failing to renew a lease or from terminating a holdover tenancy without just cause; and establishing certain requirements for a local law or ordinance adopted in accordance with the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

RP, § 8-402(c)(2) - amended and § 8-402.3 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 685 Delegate Buckel, et al****MEDICAL CANNABIS – EMPLOYEES IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS  
CARING FOR QUALIFYING PATIENTS – EXEMPTION**

Exempting, from certain restrictions on the number of patients qualifying for the use of medical cannabis who may be served by a caregiver, employees of certain health care providers or facilities designated to care for qualifying patients under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

HG, §§ 13-3301(c) and 13-3304(g)(6) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 686 Delegate Queen****FINANCIAL REGULATION – MODERNIZING LICENSING OF NON-  
DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS AND ELIMINATION OF BRANCH  
LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

Eliminating requirements for collection agencies and certain non-depository financial institutions to maintain separate licenses for branch locations and authorizing them to conduct business at multiple licensed locations under a single license; and altering certain other requirements and provisions governing the licensing and regulation of collection agencies and certain non-depository financial institutions, including applications, assessments, and bond requirements.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

BR, FI, and SF, Various Sections - amended, added, and repealed and CL, § 14-1216(d) and (e) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

**HB 687 Delegate Cardin****ESTATES AND TRUSTS – TRUSTS – DECANTING (MARYLAND  
TRUST DECANTING ACT)**

Establishing rules governing the exercise of the decanting power to distribute the property of a first trust to one or more second trusts or to modify the terms of a first trust.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

ET, §§ 14-601 through 14-625 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 688 Delegates S. Johnson and A. Johnson**

MUNICIPAL INCORPORATION – COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OR COUNTY COUNCIL – REQUIRED APPROVAL OF REFERENDUM REQUEST

Requiring the county commissioners or county council to approve a certain referendum request if a valid petition to incorporate an area as a municipality is presented by not less than 40% of the registered voters who are residents of the area proposed to be incorporated.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

LG, § 4-207 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 689 Delegate Buckel, et al**

PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH (P-TECH) SCHOOL PROGRAM – HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS

Requiring that each memorandum of understanding establishing a school in the Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) School Program ensures that each P-TECH student receives a high school diploma immediately following completion of high school graduation requirements.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

ED, §§ 7-1802(b) and 7-1804 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HB 690 Delegate Edelson**

MARYLAND AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM CORPORATION – BOARD OF DIRECTORS – MEMBERSHIP

Altering the membership of the Board of Directors of the Maryland African American Museum Corporation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

SG, § 9-2603(b) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 691 Delegate Stewart****LANDLORD AND TENANT – FAILURE TO REPAIR SERIOUS AND DANGEROUS DEFECTS – TENANT REMEDIES (TENANT SAFETY ACT)**

Establishing that a landlord that offers a dwelling for rent is deemed to warrant the dwelling fit for human habitation; authorizing a single tenant or tenants' organization to seek remedies on behalf of a group of tenants for a landlord's failure to repair serious and dangerous defects on the leased premises; authorizing a tenant, a group of tenants, or a tenants' organization to bring a civil action for money damages if a landlord fails to repair certain defects within 90 days of the court finding the conditions complained of exist; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

RP, §§ 8-211 and 8-211.1 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 692 Delegate Crosby****PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY – LOCAL PERMITS**

Requiring a county or a municipal corporation to process any local permit required under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by the Public Service Commission for generating stations, transmission lines, and qualified generator lead lines.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

PU, §§ 7-207(h) and 7-208(j) - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

**HB 693 Delegate Kipke****STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY – BOARD MEMBERSHIP AND DELEGATED PHARMACY ACTS**

Altering the membership of the State Board of Pharmacy to include a registered pharmacy technician; authorizing a licensed pharmacist, under certain circumstances, to delegate pharmacy acts to be performed at a remote location to a registered pharmacy technician and a registered pharmacy intern; repealing the prohibition on a registered pharmacy technician administering influenza vaccines; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

HO, §§ 12-101(g), 12-202(a) and (b), 12-6B-06, and 12-802 - amended and § 12-307(e) - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 694 Delegate Boafu, et al****LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – WORKERS’ COMPENSATION – LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER–CLINICAL**

Authorizing a licensed certified social worker–clinical to register as a rehabilitation practitioner and perform specified services for workers’ compensation purposes; requiring a licensed certified social worker–clinical to be certified by the State Board of Social Work Examiners to qualify for registration; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

LE, §§ 9-6A-01(d), 9-6A-04(c), 9-6A-09, and 9-721(c) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

**HB 695 Delegates Sample–Hughes and Adams****RURAL MARYLAND PROSPERITY INVESTMENT FUND – REVISIONS AND SUNSET REPEAL (RURAL COMMUNITIES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2023)**

Altering certain allocations of disbursements from the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund; authorizing the allocation of grants from the Fund for certain business and workforce development activities; requiring the Executive Committee of the Executive Board for the Rural Maryland Council to agree to a reallocation of funds between grant categories before the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Board may reallocate the funds; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

SF, § 2-207 and Chapter 621 of the Acts of 2006, § 2, as amended - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 696 Delegate Addison****NATURAL RESOURCES – BLACK BASS CONSERVATION FUND – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Black Bass Conservation Fund in the Department of Natural Resources to further black bass management; requiring the Department to administer the Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; and requiring the Department to establish a process through which an individual who purchases a certain license online to make a voluntary donation to the Black Bass Conservation Fund.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

NR, § 1-403 - amended and § 4-209.1 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 697 Delegate Alston, et al****DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES – ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER CARDS – THEFT AND RESTORATION OF BENEFITS**

Requiring a local department of social services to maintain a secure Electronic Benefits Transfer card system, monitor Electronic Benefits Transfer card activity in a certain manner, provide certain notification to certain households, include a certain microchip in Electronic Benefits Transfer cards, and implement certain settings on Electronic Benefits Transfer cards; requiring local departments of social services to restore certain benefits lost due to theft; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

HU, § 5-609 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

**HB 698 Delegate Szeliga, et al****JUVENILE LAW – JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION – AGE OF CHILD**

Altering the age, from 13 years old to 11 years old, at which a certain child is subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

CJ, § 3-8A-03 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 699 Delegate M. Morgan, et al****STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT – PROOF OF VACCINATION FOR EMPLOYEES AND APPLICANTS FOR EMPLOYMENT – PROHIBITION (VACCINATION BY CHOICE ACT)**

Prohibiting the State and the political subdivisions in the State from requiring an applicant for employment or an employee to provide proof of vaccination against COVID–19 as a condition for employment.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

LG, § 1-207 and SP, § 2-312 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 700 Talbot County Delegation**

TALBOT COUNTY – SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS – INTERSECTION OF MARYLAND ROUTE 333 (OXFORD ROAD) AND BONFIELD AVENUE

Authorizing the placement and use of a speed monitoring system at the intersection of Maryland Route 333 (Oxford Road) and Bonfield Avenue in Talbot County, subject to placement and signage requirements; requiring the fines collected by the Town of Oxford as a result of the speed monitoring system to be used to assist in covering the cost of roadway and pedestrian safety improvements in and around the intersection; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

CJ, § 7-302(e)(4) and TR, § 21-809(b)(1)(vi) through (viii) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

**HB 701 Delegate Kipke**

MARYLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH RESOURCES COMMISSION – COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES

Authorizing the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission, in consultation with the Secretary of Health, to set the compensation of certain Commission employees; and requiring the Secretary of Budget and Management, in consultation with the Secretary of Health, to determine the positions for which the Commission may set compensation.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

HG, § 19-2106 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

**HB 702 Delegate Kerr**

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES – NURSING HOMES – ACQUISITIONS AND LICENSURE

Requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission to provide certain information regarding the acquisition of a nursing home to the Office of Health Care Quality; and requiring the Secretary of Health to consider the information before taking action regarding licensure to operate a nursing home.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

HG, §§ 19-115 and 19-1401.2 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 703 Delegate Kerr****PUBLIC HEALTH – PARKINSON’S DISEASE REGISTRY – ESTABLISHED**

Establishing a Parkinson’s Disease Registry in the Maryland Department of Health; requiring the Department to collect data on the incidence of Parkinson’s disease in the State and related epidemiological data; authorizing the Department to share certain information in the Registry with certain entities under certain conditions; providing for the confidentiality of information collected; and requiring the Department to maintain a record of individuals granted access to confidential information in the Registry.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

HG, §§ 18-1201 and 18-1203 - amended, § 18-204 - repealed, and §§ 18-1202 and 18-1204 through 18-1210 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 704 Delegate Queen****FIREARMS – TRACKING TECHNOLOGY**

Prohibiting a person from engaging in a certain bulk firearm transfer unless each firearm that is part of the transfer contains a certain embedded tracker; requiring a seller or other transferor who engages in a bulk firearm transfer to transmit to the Secretary of State Police certain information; providing that a violation of the Act is a civil offense and subject to a fine of up to \$2500; and requiring the Secretary to establish a certain database to store information about each bulk firearm transfer in the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023

PS, §§ 5-901 through 5-903 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

**HB 705 Delegate A. Jones, et al****DECLARATION OF RIGHTS – RIGHT TO REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM**

Establishing that every person, as a central component of an individual’s rights to liberty and equality, has the fundamental right to reproductive freedom; and prohibiting the State from, directly or indirectly, denying, burdening, or abridging the right unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT**

Maryland Constitution, Declaration of Rights, Art. 48 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

**HB 706** Delegate A. Jones**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES –  
BUSINESS FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Establishing the Business Facade Improvement Program in the Department of Commerce to assist qualified businesses located in sustainable communities with improving the outside appearance of the qualified businesses' buildings or facilities; requiring the Department to develop an application process for counties seeking to participate in the Program; and requiring the Governor, in fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter, to include \$5,000,000 in the annual budget bill for the Program.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

EC, §§ 5-2301 through 5-2303 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 6, 2023****HJ 1** Delegate Boyce**ENVIRONMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS**

Reaffirming the principle enshrined in the Maryland Environmental Policy Act that every person has the fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment; and requiring the State to rededicate itself, its agencies, and all concerned stakeholders to furthering the development, implementation, and enforcement of certain environmental laws, practices, and policies for the benefit of both current and future generations.

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations