



SYNOPSIS

House Bills and Joint Resolutions
2025 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 24, 2025
Schedule 10

PLEASE NOTE: February 7 – Bill introduction deadline.

All bills must be given to the Chief Clerk by 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 6.

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

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED JANUARY 24, 2025

HB 649 Delegate Szeliga, et al

FAMILY LAW – CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE – BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Requiring a child placement agency to provide a background report concerning a child to a foster parent before the foster parent may consent to the placement of the child with the foster parent; and requiring the report to indicate whether the child has had any interaction with a law enforcement agency, including any arrests, been charged with or found guilty of a crime, been a member of or associated with a criminal gang, or been suspended or expelled from school.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

FL, § 5-525.3 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

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 650 Delegate Pippy, et al**MARYLAND FAIR AND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROMISE FUND – ESTABLISHMENT (MARYLAND FAIR AND AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROMISE ACT)**

Establishing the Maryland Fair and Agricultural Education Promise Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to advance agricultural fairs and education in the State; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; requiring a \$1,450,000 of proceeds from the State lottery, before being allocated to the General Fund, to be allocated to the Fund; and repealing the requirement that a certain amount of annual proceeds from the State horse racing special fund be used to promote State agricultural fairs and education.

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

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

AG, §§ 10-2201 through 10-2203 - added and BR, SF, and SG, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 651 Delegate Pippy, et al**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – MEMBERSHIP – ALTERATIONS**

Increasing from five to seven the number of commissioners appointed to the Public Service Commission; establishing certain residency requirements for each commissioner; altering the manner in which the Chair of the Commission is appointed; and requiring the Commission to submit, on or before August 1, 2025, a slate of nominees to the Governor for the initial appointment of certain commissioners.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

PU, §§ 2-102 and 2-103 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 652 Delegate Pippy, et al**DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES – EMPLOYEES – PROHIBITED CONVICTIONS**

Prohibiting the Department of Juvenile Services from hiring or retaining an individual convicted of certain crimes.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HU, § 9-209.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 653 Delegate Szeliga, et al

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – TRANSFERS TO FEDERAL AUTHORITIES – UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS (PROTECTING MARYLANDERS FROM VIOLENT CRIME ACT OF 2025)

Requiring a certain State or local correctional facility, on request of the United States Department of Homeland Security, to transfer a certain undocumented immigrant to the United States Department of Homeland Security under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CS, § 9-309 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 654 Wicomico County Delegation

WICOMICO COUNTY – SUNDAY HUNTING TIME RESTRICTIONS – REPEAL

Repealing certain time restrictions that apply to the hunting of game birds and mammals on certain Sundays on private property and public land designated for Sunday hunting in Wicomico County.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 10-410(a) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 655 Wicomico County Delegation

WICOMICO COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT AND CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE

Establishing a temporary to-go event permit in Wicomico County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Wicomico County to issue a temporary to-go event permit to a holder of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license; establishing a Class C per diem municipal to-go beer, wine, and liquor license in the county; authorizing the Board to issue a Class C per diem municipal to-go beer, wine, and liquor license to a municipality in the county; requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, §§ 32-902(i), 32-1104, and 32-1314 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 656 Wicomico County Delegation**WICOMICO COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES – ATHLETIC AND EVENT FACILITY LICENSE**

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Wicomico County to issue a Class B (athletic and event facility) license to a certain facility under certain circumstances; authorizing the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption under certain circumstances; and prohibiting the Board from issuing the license before certain regulations take effect.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, §§ 32-1001 through 32-1001.3 - renumbered and § 32-1001 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 657 Delegate Pippy, et al**PUBLIC UTILITIES – ALTERNATIVES TO CONSTRUCTION OF NEW TRANSMISSION LINES**

Requiring the Public Service Commission to examine alternatives to the construction of a new transmission line if the use of an alternative will best maintain historical, environmental, or agricultural preservation areas, or will avoid any overlap with certain lots, parcels, or tracts of land.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-209 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 658 Delegate Ebersole**JUVENILE SERVICES EDUCATION BOARD – ALTERATIONS**

Authorizing the Secretary of Higher Education and the State Superintendent of Schools to select a designee to serve on the Juvenile Services Education Board; altering the terms of membership for the Board; and altering certain requirements for meetings of the Board.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

HU, §§ 9-503 and 9-505 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary and Ways and Means

HB 659 Delegate Cullison**HEALTH INSURANCE – UTILIZATION REVIEW – EXEMPTION FOR PARTICIPATION IN VALUE–BASED CARE ARRANGEMENTS**

Prohibiting certain carriers from imposing a prior authorization, step therapy, or quantity limit requirement on eligible providers for health care services that are included in a two–sided incentive arrangement.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

IN, § 15-113(f) - amended and § 15-147 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 660 Delegate Terrasa, et al**ESTATES AND TRUSTS – REGISTER OF WILLS – ADMISSION OF COPY OF EXECUTED WILL**

Authorizing an interested person to file with the register of wills in a county, rather than the orphans' court, a petition for admission of a copy of an executed will in a probate proceeding; authorizing a register to accept a copy of an executed will for administrative probate without an order from the court; authorizing a register to require the filing of judicial probate; and applying the Act prospectively.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ET, §§ 5-802 and 5-804 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 661 Delegate Foley, et al**STATE PERSONNEL – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – FACULTY**

Providing collective bargaining rights to certain faculty at certain State institutions of higher education; establishing separate collective bargaining units for faculty and contingent, contractual, or temporary faculty; and authorizing the bargaining units to combine into a single bargaining unit.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SG, § 22-101(d) and SP, §§ 3-101 and 3-102(b)(9) and (12) and (d)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 662 Delegate Tomlinson, et al

PROCUREMENT – MASTER CONTRACTING – AUTHORIZATION

Increasing the number of units that are authorized to adopt the master contracting method of procurement.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SF, §§ 13-101, 13-113, and 13-114 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 663 Delegate Lopez, et al

CIVIL ACTIONS – SEXUAL DEEPFAKE REPRESENTATIONS AND REVENGE PORN

Authorizing a person to bring and maintain a civil action for defamation against another person who distributes a computer-generated visual representation that is indistinguishable from an actual visual representation of the person and falsely depicts the person with his or her intimate parts exposed or engaged in sexual activity; clarifying what constitutes a visual representation for a certain prohibition against distributing a certain visual representation in a certain manner; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 3-505 - added and CR, § 3-809 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 664 Delegate Terrasa

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – LICENSED DIRECT-ENTRY MIDWIVES – DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Clarifying that the State Board of Nursing may deny a license or grant a license, including a license subject to a reprimand, probation, or suspension, if an applicant for a license to practice direct-entry midwifery or a licensed direct-entry midwife violates a ground for discipline.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HO, § 8-6C-20(a) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 665 Delegate Woods, et al**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND HEALTH INSURANCE – ANNUAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WELLNESS VISITS – COVERAGE AND REIMBURSEMENT**

Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain health insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations, beginning on July 1, 2026, to provide coverage and certain reimbursement for annual behavioral health wellness visits; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

HG, §§ 15-102.3(m) and 15-103(a)(2)(xxv) and IN, § 15-861 - added and HG, § 15-103(a)(2)(xxiii) and (xxiv) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 666 Delegate Woods, et al**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND HEALTH INSURANCE – REQUIRED COVERAGE FOR CALCIUM SCORE TESTING**

Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations, and managed care organizations to provide coverage for calcium score testing for individuals who have at least three of the following risk factors: diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or a family history of premature coronary artery disease.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

HG, §§ 15-102.3(m) and 15-103(a)(2)(xxv) and IN, § 15-861 - added and HG, § 15-103(a)(2)(xxiii) and (xxiv) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 667 Delegate Woods, et al**STATE GOVERNMENT – LEGAL AND EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY – MARYLAND EMANCIPATION DAY**

Establishing November 1 as Maryland Emancipation Day and as a State legal holiday and State employee holiday; and repealing the requirement that the Governor declare a certain day as Maryland Emancipation Day.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

GP, § 1-111 - amended and § 7-420 - repealed and SP, § 9-201 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 668 Delegate M. Morgan, et al**VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM MEMORIAL DAY**

Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim November 7 as Victims of Communism Memorial Day; and directing the Department of Legislative Services to send a copy of the Act to the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

GP, § 7-421 - renumbered and added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 669 Delegate Williams**LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS – BODY–WORN CAMERAS – REQUIREMENTS**

Authorizing a recording of a body–worn camera worn by a law enforcement officer to be used as evidence in certain proceedings; requiring a custodian to deny inspection of a recording made with the use of a body–worn camera used by a law enforcement officer, subject to certain exceptions; establishing minimum requirements for a body–worn camera policy for a law enforcement agency and the model policy created by the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 10-926 and GP, § 4-315.1 - added and PS, § 3-511 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 670 Delegate Lopez, et al**CIVIL ACTIONS – UNSOLICITED OBSCENE MATERIAL**

Prohibiting a person from knowingly sending by electronic means to another person an image or video depicting obscene material that the sender knows or reasonably should know is unsolicited; authorizing a person to bring an action against a person who violates the Act; and exempting certain entities and individuals from the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, §§ 3-2601 through 3-2604 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 671 Delegate Stein**ENVIRONMENT – ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS – CLIMATE VULNERABLE AREAS**

Requiring, by January 1, 2026, a county water and sewerage plan to include a plan to minimize inundation risks to existing on-site sewage disposal systems and limit the installation of new on-site sewage disposal systems in climate vulnerable areas; prohibiting the installation of an on-site sewage disposal system in a climate vulnerable area to service a newly constructed building, and prohibiting the replacement of an on-site sewage disposal system in a climate vulnerable area, unless certain conditions are met; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, §§ 9-505(a)(18) and (19), 9-1108, and 9-1605.2(g) and (h)(1) and (2) - amended and § 9-505(a)(20) - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 672 Delegates Cullison and Palakovich Carr**SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PERSONNEL ASSESSMENT AND MARYLAND COUNCIL ON ADVANCEMENT OF SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS**

Requiring the State Department of Education and the Maryland Department of Health jointly to conduct an assessment of school health and wellness personnel each year; altering the membership of the Maryland Council on Advancement of School-Based Health Centers; and requiring the Department and the State Department of Education to annually report on the findings of the assessment beginning December 1, 2027.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 19-22A-06(a) - amended and §§ 24-2501 and 24-2502 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Ways and Means

HB 673 Delegate Terrasa, et al**CONDOMINIUMS AND HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS – GOVERNING DOCUMENTS – ELECTRIC VEHICLE RECHARGING EQUIPMENT**

Prohibiting provisions of the governing documents of a condominium or homeowners association from unreasonably restricting the governing body from installing or authorizing the installation of electric vehicle recharging equipment; establishing that the installation or authorization of electric vehicle charging equipment by a governing body is subject to the ordinary budgeting process of the condominium or homeowners association; applying the Act retroactively; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, §§ 11-111.6 and 11B-111.11 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 674 Delegate Kaufman, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – CONCEALMENT OF DEATH AND DISTURBING AND DISMEMBERING HUMAN REMAINS**

Prohibiting a person, with the intent to conceal the death of another, from failing to notify emergency medical services or law enforcement regarding the death, knowingly and willfully dismembering, destroying, removing, or otherwise obliterating by any means any portion of human remains, or burying or otherwise disposing of a dead body; prohibiting a person from aiding or abetting another in committing a violation of the Act; and establishing that a violation of the Act is a felony with a penalty of imprisonment not exceeding 10 years.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 10-405 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 675 Delegate Bartlett, et al**PUBLIC SAFETY – RAPE KIT TESTING GRANT FUND – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the purpose and use of the Rape Kit Testing Grant Fund; expanding the duties of the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy relating to the Fund; and prohibiting the use of the Fund for the Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Tracking System.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 4-401 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 676 Delegate Schmidt, et al**BOATING ACCIDENTS – DUTY TO REMAIN AT THE SCENE, RENDER ASSISTANCE, AND PROVIDE INFORMATION – PENALTIES**

Requiring the operator of a vessel involved in a collision, accident, or other casualty to return to and remain at the scene until the operator has rendered certain assistance and provided certain information; establishing certain criminal penalties for the operator of a vessel involved in a collision, accident, or other casualty who does not return to and remain at the scene of the collision, accident, or other casualty or render certain assistance and provide certain information; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

NR, § 8-724 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 677 Delegate Toles, et al**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – OUT OF COURT STATEMENTS – VULNERABLE ADULT VICTIMS AND WITNESSES**

Authorizing the court to admit into evidence in certain criminal proceedings certain out of court statements made by a vulnerable adult victim or witness under certain circumstances and subject to certain requirements.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, § 11-305 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 678 Delegate Spiegel, et al**MARYLAND DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL LIBRARY – FUNDING AND BUDGET SUBMISSION**

Requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$450,000 to the Maryland Deaf Culture Digital Library; and requiring the Deaf Culture Digital Library to submit its annual operating budget to the State Library Agency on or before June 1 each year.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 23-109 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 679 Delegate Grammer**MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY – PATAPSCO RIVER TOLL BRIDGE – DESIGN**

Requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority to design and locate the entrances and exits to the new bridge over the Patapsco River to ensure that a vehicle that does not cross the bridge is not required to pay a toll.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 4-408 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 680 Delegate Grammer, et al**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS – VOTER REGISTRATION – LIST AND QUALIFICATIONS**

Requiring each municipality to require voter registration for its elections; and prohibiting an individual from becoming registered to vote in a municipal election if the individual is not a citizen of the United States.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EL, § 3-402 - amended and LG, § 4-108.6 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 681 Delegate Toles, et al**CHILD SUPPORT – DRIVER’S LICENSE SUSPENSION FOR ARREARAGES AND COURT ORDERS**

Altering the circumstances under which the Child Support Administration may notify the Motor Vehicle Administration of an individual’s child support arrearages for the purpose of suspending the individual’s driver’s license or privilege to drive; and requiring the court, after establishing a child support order, to send a copy of the guideline calculation and the order to the Child Support Administration.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

FL, §§ 10-119 and 12-202 and TR, § 16-203(b) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 682 Delegate Grammer, et al**PUBLIC SAFETY – PERSISTENT AERIAL SURVEILLANCE**

Prohibiting persistent aerial surveillance by a unit, an agency, or a political subdivision of the State to gather evidence or other information in a criminal investigation, subject to certain exceptions; and defining “persistent aerial surveillance” as the use of aircraft to record video or a concurrent series of images or pictures that when viewed in aggregate depict a person’s actions over time.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 3-534 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 683 Delegate Grammer, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – CRIMINAL OR DELINQUENT ACT OF A CHILD – LIABILITY OF A PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR CUSTODIAN**

Prohibiting the parent, guardian, or custodian of a child from intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or negligently acting or failing to act in a manner that results in the child committing a crime or delinquent act; requiring an individual convicted under the Act to participate in certain proceedings and programs and establishing the failure to do so as contempt of court; and requiring the court to order a parent, guardian, or custodian to pay certain court costs and restitution related to a child’s crime or delinquent act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, §§ 3-8A-28 and 3-8A-29 and CP, § 11-604 - amended and CR, § 1-403 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 684 Delegate Hinebaugh**STATE LAKES PROTECTION AND RESTORATION FUND – ALTERATION AND EXTENSION**

Altering the purpose and authorized uses of the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill for fiscal year 2027 a \$1,000,000 appropriation to the Fund; and extending to June 30, 2027, the termination date applicable to certain provisions relating to the purpose, use, and funding of the Fund.

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

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

NR, § 8-205 and Chapter 698 of the Acts of 2018, § 3, as amended - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 685 Delegate Hinebaugh**GARRETT COUNTY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ACT OF 2025**

Requiring the Board of License Commissioners for Garrett County to adopt certain regulations; requiring a Board hearing for the issuance of certain festival licenses and altering certain notice requirements for the hearing; requiring certain festival license applicants to apply to the Board in a certain manner; clarifying the entities to which the Board may issue certain multiple day and multiple event licenses; and establishing the Class BC–resort beer, wine, and liquor license.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 21-1002.3 - added and Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 686 Delegate Solomon, et al**VICTIMS AND WITNESSES – U NONIMMIGRANT STATUS – CERTIFICATION OF VICTIM HELPFULNESS**

Altering the criteria for determining whether a certain victim or the victim’s parent, guardian, or next friend shall be considered to be helpful, to have been helpful, or likely to be helpful to the detection, investigation, or prosecution of certain criminal activity for a certain purpose; altering the time periods within which a certain certifying entity shall certify or decline a certain form under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, § 11-931 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 687 Delegate Grammer, et al**PUBLIC SAFETY – LAW ENFORCEMENT – QUOTAS (COMMUNITY–ORIENTED POLICING ACT)**

Altering a prohibition against using the number of arrests made, investigations conducted, citations issued, or warrants served or executed by a law enforcement officer as a criterion for the evaluation, compensation, discipline, promotion, demotion, dismissal, or transfer of the officer; and prohibiting law enforcement agencies from requiring, suggesting, requesting, or directing an officer to act for the purpose of increasing the number of investigations, warrants served or executed, or citations or arrests delivered.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 3-504(b) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 688 Delegate Solomon**EDUCATION – HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION**

Requiring each public high school student, beginning in the 2026–2027 school year, to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the U.S. Department of Education, the Maryland State Financial Aid Application (MSFAA) to the Maryland Higher Education Commission, or a certain financial information form to a county board of education as a requirement for graduation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ED, § 7-205.1(m) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 689 Delegate Atterbary**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – USE OF REIMBURSEMENT FUNDS BY SCHOOLS**

Requiring elementary schools, secondary schools, and county school systems to use certain funds received for services provided under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program or the Maryland Children’s Health Insurance Program to provide additional positions for providers, paid internships for students seeking to become providers, stipends for providers that are designed to address problems in provider recruitment and retention, and stipends for providers working in low–performing schools that are designed to address retention.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ED, § 5-244 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 690 Delegate J. Long**OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY**

Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim August 31 as Overdose Awareness Day.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

GP, §§ 7-416 through 7-421 - renumbered and § 7-416 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 691 Delegate Patterson, et al**TAX RELIEF AND PENSIONS EQUALITY FOR SERVICE MEMBERS ACT**

Establishing rules of interpretation related to the uniformed services; altering the rule of interpretation for “veteran”; and altering the application of certain provisions of law governing personnel, pensions, and taxation to apply to all uniformed services, rather than only the armed forces.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

GP, LG, SP, TG, and TP, Various Sections - added and amended

Assigned to: Appropriations and Ways and Means

HB 692 Delegate Harris, et al**MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY – VIDEO TOLL FACILITIES – STUDY ON IMAGE CAPTURE OF LICENSE PLATES**

Requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority to conduct a study on the feasibility of capturing the image of only the rear license plate of a vehicle at video toll facilities in the State; and requiring the Authority to report its findings and recommendation to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 693 Delegate Fraser–Hidalgo**COMMERCIAL FINANCING – SMALL BUSINESS TRUTH IN LENDING ACT**

Regulating commercial financing transactions, including by establishing requirements related to certain disclosures, calculations of annual percentage rates, terms of repayments, and other related items, and the extension of specific offers.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

FI, §§ 12-1201 through 12-1214 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 694 Delegate Kaufman, et al**PUBLIC SCHOOLS – INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES – MAIN ENTRANCE ACCESSIBILITY AND EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Requiring each county board of education, by September 1, 2025, and each September 1 thereafter, to publish on its website and report to the General Assembly on the number of main entrances to public school buildings in the county that are not accessible for individuals with disabilities and not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act; requiring each local school system to send a copy of the local school system's emergency plan to the State Department of Education; requiring a certain report to the General Assembly; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-136 - added and § 7-435 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 695 Delegate M. Morgan, et al**REPAIR THE TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND ACT**

Repealing a requirement that certain motor fuel tax rates be adjusted in future years based on growth in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers; prohibiting the State or a local jurisdiction from imposing or levying a vehicle-miles-traveled tax or certain other similar fees, tolls, or taxes; requiring that the Maryland Transit Administration achieve a certain farebox recovery requirement for certain transit services; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

TG, § 9-305 and TR, §§ 7-208(b-1) and 7-506(a)(1) - amended and TG, § 9-401 and TR, § 22-107 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Environment and Transportation

HB 696 Delegate Woods, et al**STATE BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, TASK FORCES, AND WORKGROUPS – ELIMINATION OF CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF DIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS**

Eliminating citizenship requirements for boards and commissions; and requiring that members of boards, committees, commissions, task forces, and workgroups reflect the full diversity of the State to the extent practicable.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BOP, BR, CS, CR, EC, EN, FL, GP, HG, HO, LE, NR, PS, SG, and TR, Various Sections - amended and SG, § 10-1702 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 697 Delegate Woods, et al**HEALTH INSURANCE – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, ADVERSE DECISIONS, AND GRIEVANCES – REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring a health insurance carrier to submit quarterly reports to the Maryland Insurance Commissioner on certain information related to the carrier’s use of artificial intelligence or automated decision-making systems; and altering the information related to adverse decisions and grievances carriers are required to report to the Commissioner.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

IN, § 15-147 - added and § 15-10A-06 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 698 Delegate Allen, et al**LOCAL GOVERNMENT – DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES, SURCHARGES, AND EXCISE TAXES – REPORTING**

Requiring county governments to make a certain report by July 1 each year to the Governor and General Assembly on the amount and use of county development impact fees, surcharges, and excise taxes.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, § 20-125 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 699 Delegate Allen, et al**GENERAL PROVISIONS – VETERANS BENEFITS – HONORABLE DISCHARGE**

Defining “honorable discharge” with respect to any State program of benefits, rights, or privileges applicable to a veteran to include certain discharges based on an incident or incidents relating to a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury made by an individual licensed to provide health care services at a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs facility or an experience of sexual trauma disclosed to a certain individual at a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs facility.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

GP, § 1-109.1 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 700 Delegate Allen, et al**GAMING – PROBLEM GAMBLING – PREVALENCE STUDY AND FUND REVENUE**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to conduct certain prevalence studies concerning problem and pathological mobile gambling, with an initial study to be completed on or before July 1, 2030; requiring the Secretary of Health, on or before November 1 each year, beginning in 2026, to submit a report to the General Assembly on how the funds in the Problem Gambling Fund have been expended on treatment and prevention programs; and altering the distribution of certain fantasy competition and sports wagering proceeds.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HG, § 19-804 and SG, §§ 9-1D-04 and 9-1E-12(b) - amended and SG, § 9-1A-33(b)(7) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 701 Delegate Foley, et al**GASOLINE-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS – PURCHASE, USE, AND SALE – PROHIBITIONS (CLEAN AIR QUIET COMMUNITIES ACT)**

Prohibiting the State from purchasing gasoline-powered leaf blowers beginning July 1, 2025; establishing a certain process to phase out on or before a certain date the use by the State of gasoline-powered leaf blowers; requiring a person that sells or offers for sale a gasoline-powered leaf blower in the State to provide certain notice to the purchaser or potential purchaser; prohibiting the sale of gasoline-powered leaf blowers beginning on January 1, 2027; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EN, §§ 3-601 through 3-605 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Health and Government Operations

HB 702 Delegate Kaufman, et al**COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS – PUBLICATION REQUIREMENT**

Requiring each county board of education to publish on its website a certain list of special education service delivery models provided for parentally-placed private school students; and defining “parentally-placed private school student” as a child with a disability enrolled by the parent or guardian of the child in a private elementary or secondary school or facility, including a religious school or facility.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 8-419 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 703 Delegate Kaufman, et al**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – DIAGNOSIS OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY OR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY – EVIDENCE**

Providing that certain evidence of certain diagnoses is admissible in a criminal proceeding if the evidence tends to show that the defendant, at the time of the alleged offense, did or did not have the mental state required for the offense charged and is otherwise admissible; and requiring a judge or a District Court commissioner to consider any diagnosis for the defendant of a certain developmental disability or intellectual disability when making a pretrial release determination.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 10-926 and CP, § 5-216 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 704 Delegate Wivell, et al**HIGHER EDUCATION – MARYLAND GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS**

Expanding eligibility under the Maryland Graduate and Professional Scholarship Program to include certain students attending the Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 18-2601 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 705 Delegate Valderrama**REAL PROPERTY – SHORT-TERM RENTALS**

Prohibiting the governing body of a county or municipality from enacting a local law or ordinance prohibiting the offering of residential property as a short-term rental by an operator solely because the operator is a lessee or sublessee.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 14-126.1 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 706 Delegate Grammer**INTERCEPTED COMMUNICATIONS – STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS AND PENALTIES**

Altering the statute of limitations applicable to a certain offense relating to the prohibition against intercepting and disclosing any wire, oral, or electronic communications and reclassifying the offense as a misdemeanor instead of a felony; and providing that certain provisions may not be construed to limit the amount of restitution that may be ordered for a certain violation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 5-106(jj) - added and § 10-402(b) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 707 Delegate Wilkins, et al**VEHICLE LAWS – LICENSES, IDENTIFICATION CARDS, AND MOPED OPERATOR’S PERMITS – NOTATION OF NONAPPARENT DISABILITY (ERIC’S ID LAW)**

Requiring that an original and renewal application for a license, an identification card, or a moped operator’s permit allow an applicant to choose to indicate on the document the applicant’s nonapparent disability; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to ensure that a certain license, identification card, or moped operator’s permit include a notation of a nonapparent disability; and requiring the immediate implementation of training for law enforcement concerning interactions with persons with nonapparent disabilities.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 12-306 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 708 Delegate Wilkins**EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT – INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT QUALIFYING CHILDREN – ELIGIBILITY**

Expanding eligibility for the Maryland earned income tax credit for individuals without qualifying children by altering the income thresholds at which the credit phases out; providing that, after the 2024 tax year, the income threshold and phase-out amounts are adjusted annually for inflation; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 10-704 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 709 Delegate Wilkins, et al

LANDLORD AND TENANT – RESIDENTIAL LEASES AND HOLDOVER TENANCIES – LOCAL GOOD CAUSE TERMINATION (GOOD CAUSE EVICTION)

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, §§ 8-208(c) and 8-402(c)(2) - amended and §§ 8-402(e) and 8-402.3 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 710 Delegate Wilkins

ELECTION LAW – INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS – VOTER HOTLINE AND VOTING ELIGIBILITY (VOTING RIGHTS FOR ALL ACT)

Requiring the State Board of Elections to provide a certain voter hotline for incarcerated individuals; and altering the circumstances under which an individual is not qualified to be a registered voter for the purpose of allowing individuals convicted of a felony and serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment for the conviction to register to vote.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EL, § 3-106 - added, §§ 3-102 and 3-504(a) - amended, and § 16-202 - repealed

Assigned to: Ways and Means