SYNOPSIS



House Bills and Joint Resolutions 2025 Maryland General Assembly Session

> January 29, 2025 Schedule 12

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 29, 2025

HB 762 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Higher Education Commission)

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION – HIGHER EDUCATION GOALS – REVISIONS

Repealing certain provisions of law establishing certain goals of the State regarding postsecondary degree or certificate attainment; and requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to set certain goals for the State for certain higher education policy areas.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ED, § 10-205 - amended Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 763 Delegate S. Johnson, et al

EDUCATION – SEXUAL ABUSE AND ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAM – HUMAN AND SEX TRAFFICKING

Requiring that a certain program on the awareness and prevention of sexual abuse and assault include, for students in grades 6 through 8, material promoting the awareness and prevention of human and sex trafficking.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-439 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 764 Delegate Ivey

PRINCE GEORGE'S GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – SUNSET REPEAL

Repealing the termination of certain provisions of law establishing the Prince George's Gateway Development Authority.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

Chapters 466 and 467 of the Acts of 2023, § 2 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 765 Delegate Ivey

HOSPITALS – MEDICAL DEBT COLLECTION – SALE OF PATIENT DEBT

Authorizing a hospital, under certain circumstances, to sell the medical debt of patients if the debt is sold to a governmental unit or an entity that is under contract with the unit for the purpose of canceling the debt; requiring that a hospital's financial policy require the hospital to dismiss actions pending against a patient for the collection of debt that was sold and prohibit the hospital from engaging in specified collection activities; requiring a purchaser of medical debt to notify the patient of certain information; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

HG, §§ 19-214.2(a), (b), (f), (m), and (n) and 19-219(a)(3) - amended and § 19-214.2(m) - added

HB 766 Delegate Otto, et al

WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION – MEMBERSHIP – ALTERATIONS

Requiring that the Wildlife Advisory Commission member appointed to represent the farming community be selected from a list of candidates provided by the Maryland Farm Bureau.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

NR, § 1-102(c) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 767 Delegate Terrasa, et al

REAL PROPERTY – LANDLORD AND TENANT – PROCEDURES FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENT, BREACH OF LEASE, AND TENANT HOLDING OVER (TENANT POSSESSIONS RECOVERY ACT)

Requiring a landlord to provide certain notice to a tenant when a court has issued a warrant of restitution for a failure of a tenant to pay rent, a breach of lease, or a tenant holding over under certain circumstances; establishing certain procedures and requirements for the execution of a warrant for repossession; providing for the disposition of certain personal property following the execution of a warrant of restitution; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, §§ 8-401(f), (g), and (h), 8-402(b), and 8-402.1 - amended and §§ 8-401(g) and 8-407 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 768 Delegate S. Johnson, et al

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

Requiring a certain organizing committee to make certain determinations and provide a certain report to the county commissioners or county council of a certain county regarding a proposed municipal incorporation; requiring the county commissioners or county council to approve a certain referendum request in a certain manner if a valid petition to incorporate an area as a municipality is presented by at least 40% of the registered voters who are residents of the area proposed to be incorporated; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, §§ 4-205 through 4-207 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 769 Delegate D. Jones, et al

REAL PROPERTY – RESIDENTIAL FORECLOSURES – MATERIALLY DELINQUENT MORTGAGES

Altering certain requirements for an order to docket or a complaint to foreclose a mortgage or deed of trust on residential property; requiring a secured party to provide certain loan—related correspondence in order to enforce a materially delinquent mortgage, subject to certain exceptions; and permitting a mortgagor to raise a defense of laches in an action to enforce a materially delinquent mortgage.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

RP, § 7-105.1(e)(1) - amended and § 7-105.19 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 770 Delegate Szeliga, et al

BALTIMORE COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – SALE OR DELIVERY FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION

Altering the scope of a certain provision prohibiting the retail delivery to a purchaser of alcoholic beverages in Baltimore County under certain circumstances; providing that certain authorization for the holders of certain licenses to sell alcoholic beverages for off—premises consumption in a certain manner applies only if the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore County has adopted certain regulations; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 13-1901 - amended and § 13-1904 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 771 Delegate Harrison

STUDENT HEALTH – PROGRAM FOR STUDENT DENTAL HEALTH – ESTABLISHED

Requiring, beginning in the 2027–2028 school year, each student enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school in the State to submit a certain certificate of dental health to their school on a certain schedule; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to establish a program for student dental health; and requiring the Department to develop a certificate of dental health for use in public schools.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ED, § 7-402.1 - added

HB 772 Delegate Roberson

EDUCATION – CAREER COUNSELING PROGRAM FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS – ALTERATIONS

Directing county boards of education to provide certain funding to local workforce development boards to support the Career Counseling Program for Middle and High School Students; and altering a certain reporting requirement of local workforce development boards to be an ongoing annual report.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 5-213(c) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 773 Delegate Hartman, et al

PUBLIC MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS – STUDENT DISCIPLINE (RIGHT TO TEACH ACT OF 2025)

Authorizing a teacher in a public middle or high school in the State to take certain disciplinary actions in response to certain student behavior and to direct students to certain school officials; and prohibiting a county board of education from taking disciplinary action against a certain teacher for certain actions.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-306.1 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 774 Delegate Davis

HIGHER EDUCATION – HUNGER–FREE CAMPUS GRANT PROGRAM – ALTERATIONS

Requiring the Governor, beginning in fiscal year 2027, to include in the annual budget bill a \$225,000 appropriation for the Hunger–Free Campus Grant Program; requiring public institutions of higher education and regional higher education centers to include at least \$25,000 in cash or in–kind contributions as part of the matching requirement for the Program; requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to allocate at least \$25,000 and not more than \$150,000 to institutions and centers for certain activities; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 11-1704 through 11-1706 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 775 Delegate Otto, et al

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – DEATH OF INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL – NOTIFICATION

Requiring the Commissioner of Correction to notify certain elected representatives whenever an incarcerated individual dies in a Division of Correction facility; and requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to adopt certain regulations compliant with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CS, § 9-602.2 - added Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 776 Delegate Pena–Melnyk

MARYLAND MEDICAL PRACTICE ACT AND MARYLAND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS ACT – REVISIONS

Repealing obsolete and redundant language in, clarifying language in, and making language consistent across certain provisions of law governing the State Board of Physicians and the regulation of physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professionals; altering certain licensure requirements; altering the grounds for discipline for physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professionals; altering certain disciplinary procedures; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HO, Various Sections - amended, repealed, and added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 777 Delegate Grammer

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE - EXPUNGEMENT - EFFECT

Establishing that a person who has been granted an expungement shall be determined for all purposes not to have been arrested for, cited for, charged with, or convicted of the underlying offense.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, § 10-101.1 - added Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 778 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judiciary)

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES – SELECTION AND RETENTION ELECTIONS

Proposing amendments to the Maryland Constitution relating to the selection and tenure of circuit court judges; altering the method of filling vacancies in the office of a judge of a circuit court; providing for retention elections following an appointment to fill a vacancy in the office of a judge of a circuit court; providing for a transitional period during which the terms of certain amendments are to become effective; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Art. IV, §§ 3 and 5 - repealed and §§ 3A, 5A, and 11 - amended and Art. XVIII, § 6 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary and Ways and Means

HB 779 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Departmental – Public Safety and Correctional Services)

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – MEDICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE – ADMINISTRATION OF PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION TO AN INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL

Authorizing the establishment of a medication review committee within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services that convenes to determine whether to approve the administration of psychotropic medication to a certain incarcerated individual under certain circumstances; providing that psychotropic medication may not be administered to an incarcerated individual who refuses the medication except under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CS, § 9-618 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 780 Delegate Kerr

URBAN STATE HIGHWAYS – SPEED LIMITS – EXEMPTIONS

Authorizing the State Highway Administration to decrease the maximum speed limit by 5 miles per hour on certain urban State highways without an engineering and traffic investigation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 21-802 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 781 Delegate Roberts, et al

ELECTION LAW – POLLING PLACE PROCEDURES – VOTING BY ELDERLY VOTERS AND VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES (ACCESSIBLE AND EXPEDITED VOTING ACT OF MARYLAND)

Requiring the State Board of Elections to establish guidelines for the local boards of election to implement a process to accommodate and expedite voting for elderly voters and voters with disabilities at each early voting center and polling place; requiring the local boards to implement the guidelines and collect feedback on the process from elderly voters and voters with disabilities and make immediate adjustments to the process; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EL, §§ 10-206(f) and 10-310.1 - added and § 10-206(f) and (g) - amended Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 782 Delegate Atterbeary

STUDY ON DETECTING DEADLY WEAPONS IN PUBLIC MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

Requiring the State Department of Education to study how best to detect deadly weapons in public middle and high schools and how best to rapidly report the detection of weapons to a law enforcement agency.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 783 Delegate Pena–Melnyk, et al

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS - STRUCTURAL RACISM TRAINING

Requiring applicants for renewal of certain licenses and certain certificates issued by certain health occupation boards to attest that the applicant completed an implicit bias and structural racism training program, rather than an implicit bias training program, approved by the Cultural and Linguistic Health Care Professional Competency Program.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, §§ 20-1301, 20-1302, and 20-1306 and HO, § 1-225 - amended

HB 784 Delegate Clippinger, et al

BALTIMORE CITY – 46TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT – LICENSES

Requiring a memorandum of understanding between a certain licensee and a community association within a certain bounded area in the 46th alcoholic beverages district before the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City may issue a license in or transfer a license to the bounded area; extending to July 1, 2028, the expiration date for a certain Class B license for the purpose of transfer to the 3600 block of Boston Street in the 46th alcoholic beverages district; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

AB, § 12-1605(b)(5) and Chapters 1026 and 1027 of the Acts of 2024, § 2 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 785 Delegate Feldmark, et al

COMMON OWNERSHIP COMMUNITIES AND ZONING AUTHORITIES – OPERATION OF FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES – LIMITATIONS

Prohibiting a provision in certain documents of certain cooperative housing corporations from prohibiting or restricting the establishment or operation of certain family child care homes; prohibiting a provision in certain documents of certain cooperative housing corporations from limiting the number of children for which certain family child care homes provide family child care below the number authorized by the State Department of Education; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CA, § 5-6B-22.1 - added, LU, §§ 1-401 and 10-103 - amended and § 4-216 - added, and RP, §§ 11-111.1 and 11B-111.1 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 786 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judiciary)

APPELLATE COURT OF MARYLAND – SESSIONS AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Authorizing the Appellate Court of Maryland, in conjunction with the administrations of secondary and postsecondary educational institutions in the State, to hold sessions at certain secondary and postsecondary educational institutions in the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 1-403 - amended Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 787 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judiciary)

COURTS - STATE REPORTER - PUBLICATION OF CASES

Repealing a requirement that the State Reporter secure copyright for the State of published reports of opinions of the Supreme Court of Maryland and the Appellate Court of Maryland.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 13-203 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 788 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT – COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISABILITIES – TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT

Allowing the chair of the Commission on Judicial Disabilities to appoint a former member to temporarily fill a certain vacancy on the Commission; and allowing the Governor, upon certain request of the chair, to appoint a temporary substitute member or extend the term of an existing member of the Commission.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Art. IV, §§ 4A and 4B - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 789 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judiciary)

COURTROOM SECURITY – MINIMUM ADEQUATE SECURITY STANDARD

Establishing minimum adequate security standards for courtroom security at all courthouse facilities.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CJ, § 1-206 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 790 Delegate Atterbeary

PROPERTY TAX – PAYMENT PLANS – NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Requiring the State Tax Sale Ombudsman to include certain information concerning a certain State installment payment program for property taxes on the Ombudsman's website; requiring a collector of taxes to include certain information concerning a certain State or local installment payment program for property taxes in a separate insert included with each property tax bill; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TP, §§ 2-112(d) and 14-812(b) - amended and § 4-201.2 - added Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 791 Delegate Otto, et al

SOMERSET COUNTY – PROPERTY TAX – EMERGENCY SERVICES TAX

Authorizing the County Commissioners of Somerset County to impose an emergency services tax on all property subject to the county property tax to pay costs of emergency services; and prohibiting the county commissioners from initially imposing or subsequently increasing an emergency services tax until after a public hearing is held.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

PLL of Somerset Co, Art. 20, § 7-401 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 792 Delegate Griffith, et al

INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME

Increasing, from \$15,000 to \$20,000, the amount allowed as a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for retirement income attributable to an individual's employment as a public safety employee; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 10-207(mm) - amended

HB 793 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – University System of Maryland)

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND – ACADEMIC FACILITIES BONDING AUTHORITY

Approving certain projects for the acquisition, development, and improvement of certain academic facilities for the University System of Maryland; authorizing the issuance of bonds by the University System of Maryland in a total principal amount of \$25,000,000 for financing the projects; and providing that the bonds issued under the authority of the Act are not a debt or obligation of the State or any of its subdivisions.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025 Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 794 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Governor's Office of Community Initiatives)

MARYLAND COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS – INDIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE GRANT PROGRAM AND FUND

Establishing the Indian Heritage and Culture Grant Program and Fund to preserve Indian tribal history and culture; establishing the Indian Heritage and Culture Grant Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund and requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; authorizing the Governor to include in the annual operating budget an appropriation of \$500,000 to the Fund; and requiring the Trust and the Commission to report annually on the financial status and activities of the Program and the Fund for the prior fiscal year.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SF, \S 6-226(a)(2)(ii)204. and 205. - amended and \S 6-226(a)(2)(ii)206. - added and SG, \S 9.5-308.1 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 795 Delegate Spiegel, et al

FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM – EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION AND AWARENESS MATERIALS

Establishing requirements related to the certification of employment by public service employers under the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, including requirements regarding determinations of whether employees are full—time; and requiring the Student Loan Ombudsman in the Office of the Commissioner of Financial Regulation to develop and disseminate information to increase awareness of and participation in the Program.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

FI, § 2-104.1(e) - amended and LE, §§ 3-1801 through 3-1805 - added Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 796 Delegate J. Long, et al

REAL PROPERTY – FILING FEE FOR RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE – INCREASE

Increasing the filing fee required to accompany an order to docket or a complaint to foreclose a mortgage or deed of trust on residential property from \$300 to \$600.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 7-105.1(e) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 797 Delegates Buckel and Wilkins

SPORTS WAGERING – LICENSES AND APPLICATION OF MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Requiring the Sports Wagering Application Review Commission, subject to certain limitations, to accept and consider applications for sports wagering facility licenses and mobile sports wagering licenses submitted before January 1, 2027; and altering the termination date, from 2024 to July 1, 2026, of certain provisions of law requiring the application of the Minority Business Enterprise Program to the sports wagering industry.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SG, §§ 9-1E-07(b) and 9-1E-15(h)(4) - amended

HB 798 Delegate Lehman, et al

OPIOID RESTITUTION FUND - INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD

Requiring the Maryland Office of Overdose Response, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health, to develop and maintain an interactive dashboard on Opioid Restitution Fund spending to share prescription opioid—related settlement information with the public; requiring counties and municipalities receiving settlement funding to provide certain information to the Department to include on the dashboard in a certain manner; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 7.5-1001 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 799 Delegates Vogel and Buckel

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – MARYLAND INNOVATION INITIATIVE UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP EXTENSION PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Maryland Innovation Initiative University Partnership Extension Program to expand opportunities for technology validation, entrepreneurial development, and industry engagement at eligible universities; establishing eligibility criteria for project proposals to receive funding under the Program; requiring the Governor to include an appropriation of \$500,000 in the annual budget bill for fiscal years 2027 and 2028 for the Program; and altering the purpose and contents of the Maryland Innovation Initiative Fund. This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EC, § 10-457(b) and (d) - amended and § 10-461 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 800 Delegate Griffith, et al

INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR MILITARY RETIREMENT INCOME – INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE AGE OF 55

Increasing, from \$12,500 to \$20,000, the amount of a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for military retirement income for individuals who are under the age of 55 years; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 10-207(q) - amended

HB 801 Delegate Spiegel, et al

MARYLAND FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT CENTER NETWORK PILOT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Maryland Financial Empowerment Center Network Pilot Program within the Office of the Comptroller to establish a statewide network of financial empowerment centers in different regions of the State; requiring each Center to provide one—on—one financial counseling and coaching services free of charge; and requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill for fiscal years 2027 and 2028 an appropriation to the Comptroller sufficient to cover the costs of the Pilot Program.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TG, §§ 1-501 through 1-505 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 802 Delegate R. Lewis, et al

STATE DESIGNATIONS – STATE CARNIVOROUS PLANT – PURPLE PITCHERPLANT

Designating the Purple Pitcherplant as the State carnivorous plant.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

GP, §§ 7-302 through 7-310 - renumbered and § 7-302 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 803 Delegate Pippy, et al

CRIMINAL LAW – REVENGE PORN – COMPUTER–GENERATED VISUAL REPRESENTATION

Prohibiting a person from knowingly distributing a computer—generated visual representation of another including a photograph, a film, a video, a digital image, or a picture, whether made or produced by electronic, mechanical, or other means.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 3-809 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 804 Delegate Wu, et al

MULTIFAMILY DWELLINGS - SMOKING POLICIES

Requiring the governing body of a common ownership community to develop a smoking policy that applies to all common areas of the property if the property subject to the control of the governing body is a multifamily dwelling.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 14-134 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 805 Delegate Solomon, et al

CRIMINAL LAW – MAIL AND PACKAGE THEFT

Altering the prohibition against taking and breaking open a letter; providing that a person may not knowingly and intentionally open mail addressed to another without permission of the person or an authorized designee; providing certain penalties for violations of the Act; prohibiting the theft of mail under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from possessing an arrow key under certain circumstances; and providing for concurrent jurisdiction in the District Court and circuit court to try a violation of the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, §§ 4-301 and 4-302 - amended and CR, § 3-905 - repealed and §§ 3-905 and 3-905.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 806 Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Office of the Attorney General)

PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT – FRIVOLOUS, VEXATIOUS, OR ABUSIVE REQUESTS – REMEDIES

Authorizing the custodian of a record to file a certain complaint relating to a Public Information Act request or pattern of requests with the Public Information Act Compliance Board or circuit court; authorizing the Compliance Board to issue a certain order or dismiss a complaint under certain circumstances; authorizing a complainant to appeal a certain decision of the Compliance Board; and authorizing the circuit court to issue a certain order under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

GP, §§ 4-1A-04(b), 4-1A-10, and 4-362(a), (b), (c), and (g) - amended and 4-1A-05(c) - added

HB 807 Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Information Technology)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – MODERNIZING DATA GOVERNANCE – OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE DATA AND COUNCIL FOR OPEN DATA ADVANCEMENT

Establishing the position and responsibilities of the State Chief Data Officer; establishing the Office of Enterprise Data in the Department of Information Technology and the responsibilities of the Office; requiring each unit of State government to appoint an Agency Data Officer; renaming the Council on Open Data to be the Council for Open Data Advancement; and altering the membership, member terms, and responsibilities of the Council.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SF, § 3.5-319 - added and SG, §§ 10-1501, 10-1503, and 10-1504 - amended Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 808 Howard County Delegation

COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION – LEASE REQUIREMENTS AND GOVERNING DOCUMENTS HO. CO. 14–25

Requiring a written lease for certain residential or commercial real property in Howard County to include information on the annual charge assessed by the Columbia Association and a description of certain rights and privileges under certain circumstances; requiring a landlord to provide a tenant with a copy of certain covenants and governing documents under certain circumstances; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 8-121 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 809 Delegate Griffith, et al

OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT PROVIDERS – MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CHILDREN – EXEMPTION

Requiring the Department of Human Services to adopt regulations setting the maximum number of children that may be placed with an out-of-home placement provider; and establishing an exemption from the limitation on the number of children that may be placed with an out-of-home placement provider under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

FL, § 5-525.3 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 810 Delegate Grammer, et al

PUBLIC SAFETY - LETHALITY ASSESSMENT PROTOCOL

Requiring each law enforcement agency to adopt a policy requiring the use of a lethality assessment protocol; and defining "lethality assessment protocol" as a multiprong validated tool intended for use by law enforcement officers investigating domestically related crime, which uses evidence—based questions to assess certain risk to an individual, and includes offering local resources to an individual in danger of death or injury from an intimate partner.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, § 11-1011 - added Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 811 Delegate Terrasa, et al

COUNTIES – CONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS AND CROSSWALKS – SAFE ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Requiring a county board of education each year to prepare and post to the county's website a report that identifies pathways that public school students may use to travel to school using only safe alternative routes under certain circumstances; requiring the governing body of a county each year to review a certain report and construct any sidewalks and crosswalks necessary to create safe alternative routes for public school students under certain circumstances; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-801(e) and LG, § 12-506.1 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Ways and Means

HB 812 Delegate Guzzone, et al

ELECTRONIC HEALTH NETWORKS AND ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD VENDORS OF NURSING HOMES – RELEASE OF RECORDS – ENFORCEMENT

Authorizing the Office of the Attorney General to enforce and certain persons to bring a certain civil action regarding a certain provision of law authorizing a nursing home that contracts with or uses an electronic health network or electronic medical record vendor to direct the network or vendor to release electronic medical records or electronic health care transactions to a business associate of the nursing home.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 4-302.6 - amended

HB 813 Delegates S. Johnson and A. Johnson

PHARMACY BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION – MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND PHARMACY BENEFITS MANAGERS

Altering the reimbursement levels for drug products that the Maryland Medical Assistance Program is required to establish and that pharmacy benefits managers that contract with a pharmacy on behalf of a managed care organization are required to reimburse the pharmacy; and altering the definition of "purchaser" for purposes of certain provisions of law regulating pharmacy benefits managers to include certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations.

EMERGENCY BILL

HG, § 15-118(b) and IN, § 15-1601(s) - amended and HG, § 15-118(f) and IN, § 15-1632 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 814 Delegate Taylor

DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES – REPORT ON YOUTH SERVICE BUREAUS

Requiring the Department of Juvenile Services to submit an annual report to certain committees of the General Assembly by October 1 detailing efforts by the Department to promote predelinquent programs, including youth service bureaus, efforts by the Department to collaborate with and provide technical assistance to local governments regarding the establishment of youth service bureaus, and an assessment of the programs and activities of the bureaus and any other efforts to prevent youth offenses.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HU, § 9-224 - added Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 815 Delegate Stein

INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – PUBLIC SAFETY VOLUNTEERS

Increasing, from \$7,000 to \$10,000, the amount of a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for an individual who is a qualifying public safety volunteer for a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 10-208(i-1) - amended

HB 816 Delegate Feldmark, et al

ELECTION LAW – PETITIONS AND BALLOT QUESTIONS – CONTENTS, PLAIN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT, AND PROCEDURES

Altering the information that is required to be included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and with a question on the ballot; requiring that a certain summary included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and a certain statement about a question on the ballot be written in plain language; altering the deadline by which ballot questions must be prepared and certified; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EL, §§ 6-103(b), 6-201(c) and (d), 7-103(b) and (c), and 7-105 - amended and § 7-103(e) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 817 Delegates Palakovich Carr and Stewart

RESIDENTIAL LEASES – USE OF ALGORITHMIC DEVICE BY LANDLORD TO DETERMINE RENT – PROHIBITION

Prohibiting a landlord from using certain algorithmic devices to determine the amount of rent to charge a residential tenant; making a violation of the Act an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act; and applying the Act prospectively.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, § 13-301(14)(xlii) - amended and CL, § 13-301(14)(xliv) and RP § 8-220 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 818 Delegate Ruff, et al

AWARD OF ATTORNEY'S FEES AND EXPENSES – VIOLATION OF MARYLAND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT

Authorizing a court to award to a prevailing plaintiff reasonable attorney's fees and expenses in certain actions seeking to remedy a violation of a Maryland constitutional right; authorizing a court to award reasonable attorney's fees and expenses to a prevailing defendant under certain circumstances; and establishing that certain limits on attorney's fees under the Maryland Tort Claims Act do not apply to a certain award of attorney's fees and expenses.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, §§ 3-2601 and 3-2602 - added and SG, § 12-109 - amended Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 819 Delegate Guzzone, et al

PROCUREMENT – EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN PREFERENCE – PILOT

Establishing a price preference program for certain procurements by the Maryland Stadium Authority, the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Baltimore City Community College; establishing a certain price preference for bids and proposals by an entity that utilizes an employee stock ownership plan; and requiring contractors to provide certain information to a unit regarding the use of an employee stock ownership plan.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SF, § 11-203(c) and (e)(5) - amended and §§ 14-801 through 14-806 - added Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 820 Delegate Hill, et al

HEALTH INSURANCE – UTILIZATION REVIEW – USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Requiring that certain carriers, pharmacy benefits managers, and private review agents ensure that artificial intelligence, algorithm, or other software tools are used in a certain manner when used for conducting utilization review.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

IN, § 15-10A-06 - amended and § 15-10B-05.1 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 821 Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Office of the Attorney General)

PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT - DENIALS - PENDING LITIGATION

Establishing that a custodian may deny inspection of records pertaining to pending or reasonably anticipated litigation to which the State or an officer or employee of the State is or may be a party.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

GP, § 4-357 - added

HB 822 Delegate Hill, et al

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS – RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, RELIGIOUS TESTS, AND OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS

Altering and removing references requiring a belief in God from certain provisions relating to religious freedom, religious tests, and oaths and affirmations.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Declaration of Rights, Arts. 36 and 37 - amended and Art. 39 - repealed

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 823 Delegate Wu, et al

GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – TRAINING DATA TRANSPARENCY

Requiring a developer of a generative artificial intelligence system, on or before January 1, 2026, and before the developer releases or substantially modifies a certain generative artificial intelligence system, to publish on the developer's website documentation detailing the data used to train the generative artificial intelligence system.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SF, § 3.5-801 - amended and § 3.5-807 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 824 Delegate Stewart

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE INSURANCE PROGRAM – COVERED INDIVIDUALS – ALTERNATIVELY QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS

Altering the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program to provide benefits, beginning July 1, 2027, to alternatively qualified individuals who care for or bond with a child under certain circumstances; altering the date that the Secretary of Labor is required to begin conducting certain cost analyses of the Program; and requiring that an employer allow an alternatively qualified individual who is receiving benefits under the Program to take certain unpaid leave from employment.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

LE, §§ 8.3-101, 8.3-302, 8.3-601(c), 8.3-701(a), 8.3-702, 8.3-703(a), and 8.3-705 - amended and § 8.3-703.1 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 825 Delegate Pena–Melnyk

MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS RETIREMENT SAVINGS BOARD – MEMBERSHIP – ALTERATION

Adding the Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee, as a member to the Maryland Small Business Retirement Savings Board.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LE, § 12-201(b) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 826 Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs)

STATE GOVERNMENT – INTERDEPARTMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SMALL, MINORITY, AND WOMEN BUSINESS AFFAIRS – REPEAL

Repealing the Interdepartmental Advisory Committee on Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs within the Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SG, § 9-301 - amended and § 9-303.1 - repealed

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 827 Delegate Clippinger, et al

SOLAR ENERGY – DISTRIBUTED GENERATION CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY, GROUND–MOUNTED SOLAR, AND SMALL SOLAR SITING WORKGROUP

Establishing a distributed generation certificate of public convenience and necessity to authorize the construction and operation of a certain distributed solar energy generating system; requiring the Power Plant Research Program, by July 1, 2026, to develop and submit to the Public Service Commission proposed siting and design requirements and licensing conditions; prohibiting a county from enacting certain zoning laws or adopting certain regulations regarding certain ground–mounted solar systems and facilities; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 3-306(a)(1) and PU, §§ 7-207(b)(1)(i) and (ii) and 7-207.1(c)(1) - amended and PU, § 7-207.4 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 828 Delegate Kipke

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES – RIGHTS OF COMPREHENSIVE AND EXTENDED CARE FACILITY RESIDENTS – HOSPICE COMFORT CARE

Providing for an exception to the prohibition on a comprehensive care facility and an extended care facility using physical and chemical restraints on certain residents for sedatives, anti–anxiety medication, bed rails, and geri chairs ordered or authorized by a prescriber for patients receiving hospice care.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 19-343(b) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 829 Delegate Charkoudian

PUBLIC UTILITIES – TRANSMISSION LINES – ADVANCED TRANSMISSION TECHNOLOGIES

Altering the definition of "qualified generator lead line" for purposes of provisions of law regarding certificates of public convenience and necessity; requiring an applicant for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of an overhead transmission line to include certain analyses; requiring the Public Service Commission to consider certain alternatives before taking final action on a certain application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-207(a), (b), and (f) - amended and § 7-207.4 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 830 Delegate D. Jones, et al

HEALTH INSURANCE – GENETIC TESTING AND CANCER IMAGING – REOUIRED COVERAGE AND PROHIBITED COST–SHARING

Requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for genetic testing for certain individuals who may have an increased risk of developing cancer and follow—up evidence—based cancer imaging for individuals with an increased risk of developing cancer; and prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from imposing a copayment, coinsurance, or deductible requirement on the coverage.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

IN, § 15-861 - added

HB 831 Carroll County Delegation

CARROLL COUNTY – PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS – CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK

Repealing certain limitations on the prospective employees or volunteers of Carroll County for whom the Department of Human Resources of Carroll County may request a criminal history records check.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, § 10-232(b) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 832 Carroll County Delegation

CARROLL COUNTY - NATURAL RESOURCES - SUNDAY HUNTING

Authorizing a person to hunt in Carroll County on each Sunday of the game bird and game mammal seasons.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 10-410(a) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 833 Carroll County Delegation

CARROLL COUNTY - PUBLIC FACILITIES BOND

Authorizing and empowering the County Commissioners of Carroll County to borrow not more than \$36,900,000 in order to finance the construction, improvement, or development of certain public facilities in Carroll County and to effect such borrowing by the issuance and sale at public or private sale of its general obligation bonds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 834 Delegate Terrasa, et al

AGRICULTURE – CONFINEMENT OF EGG–LAYING HENS IN COMMERCIAL EGG PRODUCTION – PROHIBITIONS

Prohibiting a certain farm owner or operator from knowingly confining egg—laying hens in an enclosure that is not a cage—free housing system and does not meet certain space requirements, subject to certain exceptions, on and after January 1, 2030; and prohibiting a business owner or operator or a farm owner or operator from selling shell eggs or egg products without a certain certification of compliance on and after January 1, 2030.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

AG, §§ 3-1101 through 3-1108 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 835 Charles County Delegation

CHARLES COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – BASEBALL STADIUM LICENSE – ALTERATIONS

Altering the areas in which beer, wine, and liquor may be sold and consumed under a Class B—Stadium (baseball stadium) beer, wine, and liquor license in Charles County to exclude any parking areas; and altering the types of containers in which beer, wine, and liquor may be served.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 18-1001 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 836 Delegate Davis

COUNTY POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARDS – INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS OF POLICE MISCONDUCT

Authorizing the local governing body of a county to authorize, by local law, the county's police accountability board to exercise investigatory and subpoena powers; and authorizing a police accountability board to conduct an investigation of police misconduct concurrently with a law enforcement agency investigating the complaint.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 3-102(e) - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 837 Delegate Mireku–North, et al

TASK FORCE TO STUDY FORCED INFANT SEPARATION FROM INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

Establishing the Task Force to Study Forced Infant Separation From Incarcerated Individuals to study and make recommendations regarding methods to reduce forced infant separation in the State and facilitate bonds between postpartum incarcerated individuals and their children; and requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 838 Delegate Cullison

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – LICENSED DIRECT–ENTRY MIDWIVES – REVISIONS

Altering the scope of practice of licensed direct—entry midwives; providing that the practice of direct—entry midwifery is independent and not does not require oversight by another health care practitioner; repealing the requirement that licensed direct—entry midwives report certain information to the Direct—Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee; altering the disciplinary actions that may be taken against a licensed direct—entry midwife or an applicant for a license; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

HO, §§ 8-6C-01(n), 8-6C-02, 8-6C-03, 8-6C-04(a) and (b)(2)(x), 8-6C-08, 8-6C-10, 8-6C-20(a), and 8-6C-26 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 839 Delegate Roberson

ELECTION LAW – PROVISIONAL BALLOTS – NONPARTISAN BOARD OF EDUCATION CONTESTS

Providing that a voter is qualified to vote a provisional ballot if the provisional ballot was cast because the voter claimed a different political party affiliation from the political party affiliation on record for the voter and the voter made a selection in a nonpartisan board of education contest; and requiring a local board of canvassers to count only the votes cast in a nonpartisan board of education contest for those provisional ballots.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EL, § 11-303(d) and (e) - amended

HB 840 Delegate McCaskill, et al

PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS – PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS – PLAN REQUIREMENTS (PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENT SUPPORT ACT)

Requiring certain public senior higher education institutions to adopt a plan regarding pregnant and parenting students to include referral to on—campus or off—campus services to assist regarding the availability of or eligibility for certain government assistance programs and any other programs, scholarships, or subsidies that may be available for pregnant and parenting students; and requiring each public senior higher education institution to post the plan on the institution's website on or before August 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 15-140 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 841 Charles County Delegation

GAMING – CHARLES COUNTY GAMING PERMIT REVIEW BOARD – REPEAL

Repealing the Charles County Gaming Permit Review Board; and transferring certain powers and duties concerning gaming activities in Charles County from the board to the County Attorney for Charles County.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, Various Sections - repealed, renumbered, added, and amended Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 842 Delegate Hornberger, et al

CONSUMER PROTECTION – RIGHT TO REPAIR – FARM EQUIPMENT

Requiring a farm equipment manufacturer to make available certain documentation, updates, or information to an independent repair provider or owner of farm equipment to allow for the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of the farm equipment; prohibiting a farm equipment manufacturer from knowingly misrepresenting or withholding farm equipment part numbers from a customer for a certain purpose; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, $\ 13-301(14)(xlii)\ -$ amended and $\ 13-301(14)(xliv)\$ and $\ 14-5001\$ through $\ 14-5005\ -$ added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 843 Delegate Hornberger, et al

CONSUMER PROTECTION - MOTOR VEHICLES - RIGHT TO REPAIR

Requiring a manufacturer of certain motor vehicles to provide certain information and tools related to the diagnosis, service, and repair of motor vehicles to certain owners and independent repair facilities under certain circumstances; requiring a manufacturer that sells motor vehicles with telematics systems to install an open data platform in certain motor vehicles; requiring the Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General to develop a certain document relating to telematics systems and certain consumer rights; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, § 13-301(14)(xlii) - amended and §§ 13-301(14)(xliv) and 14-5001 through 14-5009 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HOUSE BILL REASSIGNED JANUARY 28, 2025

HB 631 Delegate Guyton, et al

EMINENT DOMAIN – AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION EASEMENTS – PROHIBITED TAKING

Prohibiting the State or any of its instrumentalities or political subdivisions from taking certain property that is subject to a perpetual agricultural or conservation easement.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 12-101 - amended

Reassigned to: Economic Matters