



SYNOPSIS

House Bills and Joint Resolutions
2025 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 30, 2025
Schedule 13

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 30, 2025

HB 844 Delegate Otto, et al

SOMERSET COUNTY – SALARIES OF LOCAL OFFICIALS – INCREASE

Increasing the salaries of the Sheriff of Somerset County, the County Commissioners of Somerset County, the President of the County Commissioners of Somerset County, a member of the County Roads Board of Somerset County, and the President of the County Roads Board of Somerset County.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 2-333(b)(1) and PLL of Somerset Co, Art. 20, §§ 2-101(b) and 9-104(a) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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 845 Delegate Pena–Melnyk, et al**PUBLIC HEALTH – OVERDOSE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION SERVICES PROGRAM**

Authorizing a community–based organization, with the approval of the Maryland Department of Health, to establish an Overdose and Infectious Disease Prevention Services Program to provide a location for the consumption of preobtained drugs, provide sterile needles, administer first aid, and provide certain other services; authorizing a Program to bill the insurance carrier of an individual who uses the services; authorizing the Department to approve not more than six programs, preferably two in urban, two in rural, and two in suburban areas; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HG, §§ 24-2501 through 24-2506 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 846 Delegate R. Lewis, et al**TRANSPORTATION ACCESS AND REVENUE ACT**

Altering the definitions of “taxable price” and “taxable service” for the purposes of certain provisions of law governing the sales and use tax to impose the tax on certain transportation–related services; requiring the Comptroller to distribute revenue attributable to the sales and use tax on certain transportation–related services to the Transportation Trust Fund; and providing that revenue the Comptroller distributes may not be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account in the Transportation Trust Fund.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, §§ 2-1302.1 and 11-101(c-12), (l)(3), & (m)(12) and (13) - amended and § 11-101(c-12) and (m)(14) - added and TR, § 8-402 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Environment and Transportation

HB 847 Delegate McCaskill, et al**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER REGISTRY**

Requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to establish and maintain the Domestic Violence Offender Registry; requiring a certain person convicted three or more times of a certain domestically related crime to register with a certain county sheriff before the person is released, granted probation, granted a suspended sentence, or is not sentenced to a term of imprisonment; requiring the county sheriff to forward certain registration information to the Department; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, §§ 11-1201 through 11-1208 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 848 Delegate Pena–Melnyk, et al**HEALTH INSURANCE – ADVERSE DECISIONS – REPORTING AND EXAMINATIONS**

Requiring certain carriers, if the number of adverse decisions issued by carrier for a type of service has grown by more than 10% in the immediately preceding calendar year or 25% in the immediately preceding 3 calendar years, to provide certain information to the Maryland Insurance Commissioner; and authorizing the Commissioner to use certain adverse decision information as the basis of a certain examination.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

IN, § 15-10A-06 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 849 Delegates Lopez and Kaufman**MARYLAND COMMISSION TO STUDY THE DENTAL HYGIENIST SHORTAGE – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland Commission to Study the Dental Hygienist Shortage; providing that the purpose of the Commission is to support the State's efforts to improve the oral health of Marylanders by ensuring the stability and sustainability of the State's dental hygiene workforce; and requiring the Commission to submit an interim report by December 1, 2025, and a final report of its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2026, to the General Assembly, the Maryland Department of Health, and the Higher Education Commission.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 850 Delegate Williams, et al

PROCUREMENT – PUBLIC WORK CONTRACTS – DATA DASHBOARD
(MARYLAND PUBLIC WORKS AND APPRENTICESHIP
TRANSPARENCY ACT)

Requiring the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to develop and maintain a data dashboard that includes certain information relating to contractors, subcontractors, employees, and apprentices working under public work contracts; requiring each contractor who is contracted under a public work contract to provide certain information to the Commissioner; requiring the Commissioner to update the data dashboard on a certain basis and post the data dashboard on the Maryland Department of Labor website; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SF, § 17-206 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 851 Carroll County Delegation

CARROLL COUNTY – OFFICE OF PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS –
DENIAL OF COMMERCIAL PERMIT OR LICENSE FOR UNPAID
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

Prohibiting the Carroll County Office of Permits and Inspections from issuing or renewing a commercial license or permit in the county if the applicant has unpaid personal property taxes except under certain circumstances; and authorizing the Carroll County Office of Permits and Inspections to issue or renew a commercial license or permit if the applicant submits certain evidence that the applicant has paid any previously unpaid personal property taxes.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, § 12-906 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Ways and Means

HB 852 Delegate Vogel, et al

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS – OPIOID OVERDOSE–REVERSING MEDICATIONS – POLICY REQUIREMENTS (PROTECTING OUR KIDS FROM OVERDOSES ACT)

Requiring the State Board of Education, county boards of education, and institutions of higher education in the State to update certain drug addiction and prevention education programs to include information on the mitigating effects of naloxone or other opioid overdose–reversing medication, authorized possession for a student, a member of the school’s staff, or any lawfully present individual at the school or a school–sponsored event or activity, and immunity from liability.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 7-411, 7-426.5, and 11-1202 through 11-1204 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Appropriations

HB 853 Delegate Pasteur, et al

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – PETITION TO REDUCE SENTENCE (MARYLAND SECOND LOOK ACT)

Authorizing an individual to file a petition with the court to reduce the sentence if the individual has served at least 20 years of the term of confinement and at least 5 years have passed since the court decided any previous petition filed by the individual under the Act; authorizing a court, after a hearing, to reduce a sentence if the court finds that the individual is not a danger to the public; and providing a rebuttable presumption that a petitioner is not a danger to the public under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, § 8-501 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 854 Delegate Hornberger

HUNTER SAFETY EDUCATION – ISSUANCE OF IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to print an assigned permanent identification number in a certain manner for a person who completes the course of instruction in conservation and in competency and safety in the handling of firearms.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

NR, § 10-301.1(b) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 855 Delegate Hill**WORKGROUP ON ESTABLISHING A SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
BEST PRACTICES AND INNOVATION NETWORK – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the membership of the Workgroup on Establishing a Science and Technology Best Practices and Innovation Network; and extending the workgroup to June 30, 2027.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Chapter 448 of the Acts of 2024 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 856 Cecil County Delegation**HORSE RACING – DISTRIBUTION OF RACETRACK FACILITY
RENEWAL ACCOUNT FUNDS – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the distribution of certain funds available under the Racetrack Facility Renewal Account.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SG, § 9-1A-29(d) and (h) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 857 Delegate Hornberger, et al**NATURAL RESOURCES – PURSUING WOUNDED DEER AFTER
LEGAL HUNTING HOURS – AUTHORIZATION**

Authorizing a person who is authorized by the Department of Natural Resources to hunt deer and who wounds a deer during legal hunting hours to pursue and kill the deer after legal hunting hours using the means authorized for the applicable hunting season or permit.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 10-428 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 858 Delegate Hill, et al**MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Prohibiting, on and after January 1, 2031, a person from disposing of a mattress in a landfill, subject to certain exceptions; prohibiting, on and after January 1, 2031, a person from disposing of a mattress in an incinerator, subject to a certain exception; requiring certain producers of mattresses sold at retail in the State or a certain representative organization to submit a plan for the establishment of a Mattress Stewardship Program in the Department of the Environment for approval on or before July 1, 2027; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EN, Various Sections - added and amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters

HB 859 Delegate Solomon, et al**ACCESS TO HEALTH INSURANCE FOR CHILD CARE PROFESSIONALS – OUTREACH AND QUALIFYING NONPROFIT SATELLITE ORGANIZATIONS**

Requiring the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, to promote access to health insurance for child care professionals; and authorizing a child care provider that receives a certain amount of funding from a unit of State, local, or federal government to participate in the State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program as a satellite organization.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ED, § 2-107 - added and SP, § 2-512 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Ways and Means

HB 860 Delegate Buckel**PUBLIC NUISANCE – COMMON CARRIERS – DAMAGE TO PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE**

Prohibiting certain common carriers from damaging certain public infrastructure necessitating the closure of the infrastructure; establishing that a violation of the Act is a public nuisance; authorizing the State or a local government to bring a civil action against a common carrier for a violation under the Act; and providing that a common carrier that commits a violation is liable to the State or local government for civil penalties of \$1,000 per day for each day the public nuisance continues.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, §§ 3-2601 and 3-2602 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary and Economic Matters

HB 861 Delegate Stewart**TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES – ITEMIZED RECEIPTS AND OPERATOR DATA REPORTING**

Requiring a transportation network company to provide an operator and a passenger an itemized digital receipt that contains certain information as soon as practicable after the operator provides transportation network services to the passenger; requiring a transportation network company to report, on or before February 1 each year, certain information to the Public Service Commission; and requiring the Commission, by March 1 each year, to submit the compiled information to certain committees of the General Assembly.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, §§ 10-403.2 and 10-409 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 862 Delegate Solomon, et al**CHILD CARE AFFORDABILITY COMMISSION – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Child Care Affordability Commission to study and make recommendations regarding obstacles and barriers to child care affordability in the State; requiring the Commission to consider certain economic measures to support working families; and requiring the Commission to submit an interim report by January 1, 2026, and a final report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 863 Delegate D. Jones**LIBRARIES – STATE POLICY – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the State standards for libraries and the State policy for local school systems operating school library media programs to clarify that programming offered by a library or library media program is among the library services that must be made available to all persons a library serves.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 4-142(a) and 23-102.1(b) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 864 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference), et al

ST. MARY’S COUNTY – JUDGESHIPS – CIRCUIT COURTS

Altering the number of resident judges of the circuit courts by adding one additional judgeship in St. Mary’s County.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 1-503 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 865 Delegate D. Jones

CATASTROPHIC EVENT ACCOUNT – TRANSFER OF FUNDS – STATE DISASTER RECOVERY FUND

Authorizing the transfer of funds from the Catastrophic Event Account to the State Disaster Recovery Fund if the balance of the Fund has been depleted due to use or transfer or the estimated costs for providing adequate disaster relief for a natural disaster or catastrophic situation are in excess of the Fund’s balance; and altering the number of days the Legislative Policy Committee has to review and make comments before the Governor may transfer certain funds from the Account through budget amendment.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

PS, § 14-110.5(f) and SF, § 7-324 - amended.

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 866 Frederick County Delegation

FREDERICK COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – CLASS C (THEATER) BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE

Establishing a Class C (theater) beer, wine, and liquor license in Frederick County; authorizing the manager of the theater or any other official designated by the theater to sign the application for the license; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Frederick County to issue the license for use by certain theaters; authorizing the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption, subject to certain limitations; establishing an annual license fee of \$150; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

AB, § 20-1014.1 - renumbered and added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 867 Delegate CullisonSTATE BOARD OF PHYSICIANS – NATUROPATHIC DOCTORS –
PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY AND ADMINISTRATION OF
MEDICATION

Repealing the Naturopathic Doctors Formulary Council within the Board of Physicians; altering the drugs that may be administered by a naturopathic doctor; and altering the methods by which a naturopathic doctor may administer medication.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HO, §§ 14-5F-01 and 14-5F-14 - amended and § 14-5F-04.1 - repealed

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 868 Delegate Rosenberg, et alESTATES AND TRUSTS – INTERPRETATION OF WILLS – EVIDENCE
OF INTENT (GRANNY’S LAW)

Authorizing, under certain circumstances, a personal representative to petition the orphans’ court to interpret a decedent’s will in accordance with the decedent’s intent as demonstrated by certain extrinsic evidence; establishing a certain rebuttable presumption as to a decedent’s intent; authorizing the personal representative to require a certain legatee to demonstrate the use of a legacy under the decedent’s will; requiring the court to interpret a will in a certain manner if certain language is included in the will; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ET, § 7-402 - amended and HG, § 1-102 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 869 Delegate Pena–Melnyk, et al

PRESERVE TELEHEALTH ACCESS ACT OF 2025

Repealing the limitation on the period during which the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations are required to provide reimbursement for certain health care services provided through telehealth on a certain basis and at a certain rate; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

HG, § 15-141.2(a)(7) and (g) and IN, § 15-139(a) and (d) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 870 Delegate Rosenberg**TOBACCO PRODUCT MANUFACTURERS – ESCROW ACT – ALTERATIONS**

Requiring, beginning in 2026 and each year thereafter, a certain tobacco product manufacturer to pay a certain equity fee instead of depositing certain funds in a certain escrow account; authorizing a certain tobacco product manufacturer to contest the amount of the equity fee paid under certain circumstances; requiring a certain tobacco product manufacturer to make a certain certification to the Attorney General each year; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, §§ 16-401, 16-403, 16-501, 16-503, 16-504, and 16-506(e) - amended and § 16-404 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 871 Delegate Bagnall, et al**HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION – COMMUNITY BENEFITS – COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER WORKFORCE PROGRAM**

Altering the definition of “community benefit” to include a community health worker workforce program which is intended to provide services to patients of a nonprofit hospital and to improve health outcomes; authorizing a nonprofit hospital and a community-based organization to establish through a memorandum of understanding a community health worker workforce program; requiring a partnership that establishes a community health worker workforce program to provide health insurance to certain individuals under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 19-303(a) - amended and § 19-303.1 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 872 Delegate Stewart**RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY – TENANTS’ RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL**

Clarifying the circumstances under which liability for the failure to comply with certain requirements relating to a tenant’s right of first refusal to purchase residential property is restricted to the owner of the property and does not attach to the property.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 8-119(h)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 873 Delegate Rosenberg**JUVENILE LAW – JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION – THEFT OF A MOTOR VEHICLE**

Altering the jurisdiction of the juvenile court over a child of at least 13 years of age alleged to have committed a certain offense.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 3-8A-03(a) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 874 Delegate Acevero, et al**PROPERTY TAX – SPECIAL USE ASSESSMENT OF COUNTRY CLUBS AND GOLF COURSES – REPEAL**

Repealing a special use assessment for property tax purposes for certain country clubs and golf courses and related provisions of law; repealing a certain subclass of real property for land of a country club or golf course; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

TP, § 8-101(b) - amended and §§ 8-212 through 8-218 - repealed

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 875 Delegate Acevero, et al**COMMISSION ON HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS IN EDUCATION**

Establishing the Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education to make recommendations to the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education to further the discovery, interpretation, and learning of the history, culture, and civics of the United States and Maryland and provide equitable learning outcomes consistent with certain provisions of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-136 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 876 Delegate Rosenberg**ACCESS TO COUNSEL IN EVICTIONS – SPECIAL FUND – ALTERATION**

Altering the contents of the Access to Counsel in Evictions Special Fund to include money received by the Antitrust Division in the Office of the Attorney General from a final settlement, an agreement, or a judgment relating to a certain violation of the Maryland Antitrust Act, excluding restitution and certain costs the Attorney General is entitled to recover.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, § 11-209(a)(4) and RP, § 8-909(e) - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations and Judiciary

HB 877 Delegate Amprey**PRISON EDUCATION DELIVERY REFORM COMMISSION – REPORTING AND SUNSET EXTENSION**

Extending the time for submission of the interim report and final report of the Prison Education Delivery Reform Commission by 3 years; and extending the termination date for the Commission by 3 years.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Chapters 945 and 946 of the Acts of 2024, §§ 1(g) and 2 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 878 Delegate Hill, et al**DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT – WATER RESOURCES – PROTECTION OF VERNAL POOLS (VERNAL POOL WETLANDS PROTECTION ACT OF 2025)**

Requiring the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations to protect and preserve vernal pools.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, § 5-205 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 879 Delegate Smith, et al**TASK FORCE TO IMPROVE ATTENDANCE AND REDUCE CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM IN SCHOOLS**

Establishing the Task Force to Improve Attendance and Reduce Chronic Absenteeism in Schools for the purpose of studying and making recommendations on practices to identify, prevent, and eliminate chronic absenteeism by students from schools in the State; and requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 880 Delegates Smith and J. Lewis**CANNABIS – PROHIBITION ON OUTDOOR ADVERTISING – REPEAL**

Repealing a certain prohibition on certain outdoor advertising for cannabis licensees, products, or services.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

AB, § 36-903 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 881 Delegate Shetty, et al**FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BENEFITS – CHILD SUPPORT**

Requiring that all child support received in a month pass through to a family seeking assistance under the Family Investment Program and prohibiting the consideration of child support in computing the amount of assistance received; and prohibiting a local department of social services from considering any child support collected when computing the amount of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits to provide.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HU, §§ 5-310(a) and 5-501 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 882 Delegate Valderrama**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY – NATURAL RESOURCES – SUNDAY DEER HUNTING AND ARCHERY HUNTING SAFETY ZONES**

Authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer bow hunting season in Prince George's County; and adding Prince George's County to the list of counties in which the safety zone for archery hunters extends a distance of 50 yards from a dwelling house, residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, §§ 10-410(a) and (g)(3)(i) and 10-906(b)(3)(i) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 883 Delegate Wims**CRIMINAL LAW – MOTOR VEHICLE OR VESSEL – CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE**

Prohibiting a person from driving, operating, or controlling a motor vehicle or vessel in a criminally negligent manner; and providing that driving, operating, or controlling a motor vehicle or vessel in a negligent manner does not constitute a violation of the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 3-212.1 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 884 Delegate Vogel**PUBLIC HEALTH – SALE OF DIET PILLS TO MINORS – PROHIBITION**

Establishing prohibitions and requirements regarding the sale of diet pills to individuals under the age of 18 years.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 21-259.4 - added and § 21-1215 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 885 Delegate Hornberger, et al**PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY – INVESTIGATION RECORDS RELATING TO UNFOUNDED AND EXONERATED COMPLAINTS**

Requiring that all investigation records relating to a complaint of misconduct by a police officer be removed from the police officer's personnel record 3 years after an administrative charging committee or a trial board issues a finding that the complaint is unfounded or exonerated.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 3-112 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 886 Delegate Forbes (Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions)**STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – DEFERRED VESTED FORMER MEMBERS – RETURN TO SERVICE**

Establishing that an individual who, after earning service credit sufficient for a vested allowance in the Employees' Pension System, the State Police Retirement System, the Correctional Officers' Retirement System, or the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System, separates from service, and subsequently returns to service in a position in the same system under certain circumstances, is subject to the same requirements to which certain members of the same system are subject.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SP, §§ 23-215.3, 24-207.1, 25-205.1, and 26-206.1 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 887 Delegate Valderrama, et al**ACCOUNTANTS – RECIPROCAL LICENSES – QUALIFICATIONS**

Altering the qualifications for an individual licensed as a certified public accountant in another state to practice certified public accountancy in the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BOP, § 2-321 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 888 Delegate Fair, et alEDUCATION – INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATION –
QUALIFICATIONS

Altering the qualifications for an initial teacher certificate to include passing a portfolio-based assessment of a nationally accredited teacher preparation program.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 6-126(a)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 889 Delegate Jacobs, et al

FISHERIES – STRIPED BASS OR ROCKFISH – JUVENILE SURVEY

Expanding the scope of the annual young-of-the-year juvenile survey of striped bass or rockfish by requiring the Department of Natural Resources to conduct the survey at sampling sites in the central region of the Maryland waters of the Chesapeake Bay in addition to sampling sites in the northern and southern regions of the Maryland waters of the Chesapeake Bay; and establishing certain requirements for the central region sampling sites.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

NR, § 4-746 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 890 Delegates Bouchat and HornbergerELECTION LAW – PRIMARY ELECTIONS – CHANGE OF POLITICAL
PARTY AFFILIATION

Authorizing a voter to change the voter's political party affiliation at an early voting center or precinct polling place during a primary election and vote the ballot for the voter's new political party affiliation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EL, § 3-303 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 891 Delegates Vogel and Foley**INCOME TAX – LOCAL NEWSROOM TAX CREDIT**

Allowing certain local newsrooms to claim a credit against the State income tax for wages paid during the taxable year to each full-time local newsroom employees, subject to certain limitations; prohibiting a local newsroom from claiming the tax credit for more than 5 taxable years for any individual local newsroom employee; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 10-758 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 892 Delegate Jacobs, et al**NATURAL RESOURCES – CANADA GEESE – BAG LIMITS**

Requiring, during the migratory Canada goose (Atlantic population) hunting season, the bag limit for all Canada geese in the State, including geese found in the Atlantic Flyway Resident Population Hunt Zone and the Atlantic Population Hunt Zone, to conform to the bag limit for Atlantic population Canada geese adopted annually by the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 10-409 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 893 Delegate Jacobs, et al**TIDAL FISH LICENSES – OYSTER AUTHORIZATIONS – ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES**

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to suspend for 2 years for a first violation and up to 10 years for two or more violations, rather than revoke, a person's oyster authorization for knowingly committing certain violations; requiring the reinstatement of a person's entitlement to engage in the oyster fishery under certain circumstances; altering a certain offense related to the use of prohibited gear; and repealing the 90-day time period within which a certain administrative hearing must be held.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 4-1210 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 894 Delegate Jacobs, et al**ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES – INCIDENTAL TAKING
– BATS**

Authorizing the Secretary of Natural Resources to issue an incidental taking permit for the Indiana bat, the northern long-eared bat, and the tricolor bat if an applicant submits a certain conservation plan and the Secretary makes certain findings.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

NR, § 10-2A-05 - amended and § 10-2A-05.3 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 895 Delegate Rogers**EMPLOYMENT AND INSURANCE 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 the regulation of business, economic development, insurance, and labor and employment to apply to all uniformed services, rather than only the armed forces.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BOP, BR, CL, EC, FI, GP, IN, LE, SF, and SG, Various Sections - added, amended, and repealed

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 896 Delegate Stewart**HUMAN RELATIONS – DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING – INCOME–
BASED HOUSING SUBSIDIES**

Providing that a certain landlord may not refuse to rent to a prospective tenant who pays rent with the assistance of an income-based housing subsidy under certain circumstances; providing that a certain landlord may collect financial information from a prospective tenant under certain circumstances; and providing that violation of the Act is a discriminatory housing practice and is subject to enforcement by the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SG, §§ 20-701(c) and 20-1020(e) - amended and § 20-705.1 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 897 Delegate Moon**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANSION – PLANS AND PROGRAMS**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Maryland Energy Administration, to make certain estimations and determinations regarding electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging infrastructure; requiring the Department, in consultation with the Maryland Energy Administration, to develop plans and implement programs to increase the electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the State; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 2-114 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 898 Delegates Smith and Wells**TRANSPORTATION – VEHICLE EXCISE TAX – RENTAL VEHICLES**

Repealing an exemption for certain rental vehicles from the vehicle excise tax; and imposing a vehicle excise tax on 3.5% of the fair market value of a rental vehicle.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TR, §§ 13-809(c) and 13-810(a)(24) and (26) - amended and § 13-810(a)(25) - repealed

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 899 Delegates Wolek and Solomon**GENERAL PROVISIONS – COMMEMORATIVE MONTHS – MUSLIM AMERICAN HERITAGE AND JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTHS**

Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim January as Muslim American Heritage Month and May as Jewish American Heritage Month; and requiring the proclamations to urge certain organizations to observe the months with certain programs and activities.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

GP, §§ 7-501 through 7-507 - renumbered and §§ 7-501 and 7-507 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 900 Delegate Wilson**ELECTRICITY – DATA CENTERS – RATE SCHEDULE AND REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring each electric company in the State to submit to the Public Service Commission for approval a specific rate schedule for certain data center customers with certain required provisions, including minimum durations, financial responsibilities, and fees.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CA, § 5-637(b) - amended and PU, § 4-212 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 901 Delegate Wells (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)**BALTIMORE CITY – HIGHWAY USER REVENUES CAPITAL GRANTS – CALCULATION**

Increasing from 9.5% to 12.2%, beginning in fiscal year 2028, the percentage used to calculate a capital grant based on highway user revenues that is required to be appropriated to Baltimore City.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TR, § 8-403(b)(5) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 902 Delegate Lehman, et al**ENVIRONMENT – COAL COMBUSTION BY-PRODUCTS – FEES, COORDINATING COMMITTEE, AND REGULATIONS**

Providing that a certain base fee established by the Department of the Environment that is paid by a certain generator of coal combustion by-products is not less than \$2.30 per ton; altering the factors that the Department is required to consider in establishing the fee; establishing the Statewide Coal Combustion By-Products Coordinating Committee to share information, monitoring results, and certain remedial actions with respect to certain coal combustion by-product sites; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, § 9-283 - amended and § 9-291 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Environment and Transportation

HB 903 Delegate Buckel, et al**COURTS – GLOBAL WARMING AND CLIMATE CHANGE – PROHIBITED ACTIONS (RATEPAYER PROTECTION ACT OF 2025)**

Prohibiting the State or a local government, or an agency of the State or a local government, from filing an action for monetary damages or alleged economic damages against a business for the adverse effects of global warming or climate change in the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 5-428 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 904 Delegate Moon**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING – STUDY ON SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT SITES**

Requiring the Department of Planning, in consultation with the Maryland Energy Administration, to conduct a study to identify and evaluate land owned by the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services for the siting of new solar energy projects; and requiring the Department to report its findings and recommendations on or before October 1, 2027.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED JANUARY 30, 2025**HJ 5 Delegate Fair, et al****ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION – CURRICULUM – IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY**

Acknowledging the importance of teaching a culturally diverse curriculum in elementary and secondary schools in the State; providing that curricula taught in elementary and secondary schools should include the history of communities that have experienced discrimination; and affirming the State of Maryland's commitment to a complete education.

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE BILLS REASSIGNED JANUARY 29, 2025**HB 526 Delegate Miller, et al****PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION – DEFINITION AND NOTIFICATION OF REPORTABLE OFFENSE – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the definition of “reportable offense” to remove the requirement that the offense occurred off school premises and did not occur at an event sponsored by the school; and requiring the Department of Juvenile Services to report to the local superintendent of schools and school principal for certain decisions made during a certain inquiry of a juvenile offender for certain offenses.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-303 - amended

Reassigned to: Ways and Means and Judiciary

HB 620 Delegate Atterbeary**PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION – REPORTABLE OFFENSE – ALTERATION**

Altering the definition of a reportable offense to include only references to offenses defined as crimes of violence in relation to reporting arrests of students attending public and nonpublic schools in the State.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-303 - amended

Reassigned to: Ways and Means and 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

Reassigned to: Judiciary