



SYNOPSIS

House Bills and Joint Resolutions
2025 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 31, 2025
Schedule 14

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 31, 2025

HB 905 Delegate White Holland, et al

HOSPITALS – CLINICAL STAFFING COMMITTEES AND PLANS – ESTABLISHMENT (SAFE STAFFING ACT OF 2025)

Requiring certain hospitals licensed in the State to establish and maintain a clinical staffing committee and to implement a clinical staffing plan; requiring each clinical staffing committee to develop a clinical staffing plan; requiring by July 1 each year, each hospital, through the clinical staffing committee, to conduct a review of the clinical staffing plan for certain purposes; and requiring by January 1, 2026 each hospital to implement a clinical staffing plan and assign personnel in accordance with the plan.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, §§ 19-388 through 19-390 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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 906 Delegate Palakovich Carr**CAMPAIGN FINANCE – POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS –
DISCLOSURES ON SOLICITATIONS (STOP SCAM PACS ACT)**

Requiring certain political organizations to include certain disclaimers and statements on certain solicitations; authorizing the State Administrator of Elections to investigate a potential violation of the Act; and authorizing the State Board after the issuance of a public report of its findings to prohibit a person who violated the Act from making further solicitations for a certain period or impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EL, § 13-223 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 907 Delegate Roberson**PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – URBAN AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY –
ALTERATIONS**

Altering eligibility for a tax credit against the county or municipal corporation property tax imposed on certain urban agricultural property; and requiring a county or municipal corporation that grants the tax credit to provide notice of the termination of the credit at least 1 year in advance and the opportunity to be heard to the public before the county or municipal corporation may exercise its authority to terminate the credit.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

TP, § 9-253 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 908 Delegates Foley and Roberson**MONTGOMERY COUNTY AND PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY –
DISTRACTED DRIVING MONITORING SYSTEM PILOT PROGRAM**

Establishing a pilot program to authorize the use of distracted driving monitoring systems in Montgomery County and Prince George’s County to enforce certain prohibitions regarding the use of certain devices while operating a vehicle; and requiring that a county that authorizes a program of distracted driving monitoring systems under the Act to report on the effectiveness of the systems on or before December 1, 2027.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, §§ 4-401(13), 7-302(e)(1) through (3) and (4)(i), and 10-311 -amended and TR, § 21-1124.4 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 909 Delegate Stein**SEWAGE SLUDGE UTILIZATION PERMITS – PER– AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES – CONCENTRATION LIMITS**

Requiring certain sewage sludge utilization permits issued or renewed by the Department of the Environment to limit the concentration of certain per– and polyfluoroalkyl substances to 1 microgram per kilogram, the level established in certain health–based standards, or the level established by the Department under the Act; establishing requirements for the demonstration of compliance with the limits established under the Act; and authorizing the Department to establish certain additional limits by regulation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, § 9-231.1 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 910 Delegate Wolek, et al**PROPERTY TAX – EXEMPTION FOR BLIND INDIVIDUALS – ALTERATION**

Increasing the amount of a certain property tax exemption for dwelling houses owned by blind individuals or their surviving spouses from \$15,000 to \$40,000.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

TP, § 7-207 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 911 Delegate Guyton, et al**REAL PROPERTY – LANDLORD AND TENANT – FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES**

Authorizing a landlord to impose an increased security deposit if a tenant operates or plans to operate a family child care home on the leased premises; prohibiting a landlord of certain residential rental property from prohibiting or unreasonably limiting the operation of a family child care home on the property; providing that landlords of certain residential rental property are immune from civil liability for the acts or omissions of a tenant relating to the operation of a family child care home; applying the Act prospectively; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 8-203(b) - amended and § 8-220 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 912 Delegate Guyton, et al**INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – INSTRUCTOR TRAINING –
ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Requiring, beginning in the 2026–2027 academic year, certain institutions of higher education to provide instructors with certain training on institutional obligations toward students with disabilities under certain federal laws; and requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop a certain model training program.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 11-409 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 913 Delegate Wells (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)**BALTIMORE CITY – SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS – INTERSTATE
83**

Increasing from two to four the number of speed monitoring systems that may be placed on Interstate 83 in Baltimore City; and making permanent the authorization to place speed monitoring systems on Interstate 83 in Baltimore City.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

TR, § 21-809(b)(1)(vii)2. and Chapter 628 of the Acts of 2021, § 2 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 914 Delegates Vogel and Wolek**STATE EMPLOYEES – CANCER SCREENING – PAID LEAVE**

Providing that certain State employees are entitled to up to 4 hours of paid cancer screening leave in any 12–month period after obtaining approval from their appointing authorities.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SP, § 9-1110 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 915 Delegate Foley**MOTOR VEHICLES – OUT-OF-STATE DRIVERS – ENFORCEMENT
(OUT-OF-STATE DRIVER ACCOUNTABILITY ACT)**

Authorizing the Attorney General or certain State's Attorneys to bring a civil action for the payment of certain unpaid and overdue traffic citations against certain drivers or owners of certain motor vehicles who are residents of the District of Columbia or certain motor vehicles registered in the District of Columbia; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, §§ 8-1006 and 8-1007 - renumbered and §§ 8-1006 and 26-205 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 916 Delegate Amprey**CRIMINAL LAW – WEAPON CRIMES – TRANSPORTING FIREARM IN
CHECKED BAG ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

Prohibiting a person from transporting a firearm in a checked bag on public transportation in the State unless the firearm is disabled from discharging by an external safety lock; and defining "external safety lock" as a device attached to a firearm with a key or combination lock and designed to prevent a firearm from being discharged unless the device has been deactivated.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 4-112 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 917 Delegate Amprey**CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS – MARYLAND SECURITIES
ACT – FILING FEES**

Increasing, from \$100 to \$250, the fee that a person required to submit a filing in accordance with a certain exemption is required to pay; increasing, from \$100 to \$250, the fee that a person required to submit a notice of offer or sale of certain federal covered securities is required to pay; requiring a person required to submit a certain notice of offer or sale of certain federal covered securities to pay a \$300 fee for each amended filing; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CA, § 11-506 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 918 Delegate Clippinger

ESTATES AND TRUSTS – REGISTERS OF WILLS – SALARY

Providing that the maximum annual salary of a register of wills may not be more than the salary of a State employee at grade 26, step 20 of the State of Maryland Standard and Bargaining Salary Scale in effect on the day before the register begins a new term of office; and repealing as obsolete a certain minimum salary requirement for the register of wills for Baltimore City.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ET, § 2-205 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 919 Delegate Palakovich Carr

STATE TAX CREDITS, EXEMPTIONS, AND DEDUCTIONS – ALTERATIONS AND REPEAL

Altering the termination dates of the Job Creation Tax Credit, Opportunity Zone Enhancement Program, research and development tax credit, biotechnology investment incentive tax credit, security clearance administrative expense tax credit, and cybersecurity technology and service tax credit; providing for the termination of the One Maryland Economic Development Tax Credit Program on a certain date; altering eligibility for a certain tax credit for certain qualified vehicles; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

EC, TG, and TP, Various Sections - amended, added, and repealed and Chapters 515 and 516 of 2000, §§ 2 and 4, as amended - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 920 Delegate Spiegel, et al

INSTITUTIONS OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION – INSTITUTIONAL DEBT – REPORT

Requiring institutions of postsecondary education to submit a report on institutional debt to the Maryland Higher Education Commission by October 1 each year, beginning in 2026; authorizing the Commission to assess a civil penalty, up to \$10,000 per violation, against an institution for failure to submit a report or knowingly including inaccurate information in a report; and establishing certain notice and hearing procedures that the Commission must follow before assessing a civil penalty.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 11-212 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 921 Delegate J. Lewis**STATE EMPLOYEES – COLLEAGUE BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

Providing that, under certain circumstances, certain State employees are entitled to use up to 5 days of colleague bereavement leave with pay immediately following the death of a colleague who is employed by the same agency as the employee; and prohibiting certain State entities from requiring State employees entitled to use colleague bereavement leave under the Act to use any other paid leave available to the employee.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SP, § 9-1110 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 922 Delegate Ebersole**SPORTS WAGERING – INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF SPORTS WAGERING CONTENT – REQUIRED**

Requiring, rather than authorizing, certain sports wagering licensees and sports wagering operators that advertise in the State to contract with certain independent evaluators to evaluate and rate the sports wagering licensee's sports wagering content, sports wagering experts, sports wagering influencers, and content partners.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SG, § 9-1E-17(d) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 923 Delegate Ebersole, et al**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – MEMBERSHIP – EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATOR MEMBERS**

Altering the membership of the State Board of Education to include an educational support member who is actively working in a public school as a noncertificated, nonsupervisory public school employee and an administrator member that may be a principal, an assistant principal, or any other administrative level professional who is actively working in a public school; and providing for the qualifications, terms, powers, and elections of the new members.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 2-202 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 924 Delegate Wilson**FAMILY LAW – CHILD CUSTODY EVALUATORS – QUALIFICATIONS**

Specifying certain qualifications necessary for an individual to be appointed by a court as a custody evaluator.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

FL, § 9-109 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 925 Delegate Fisher**AMENDMENTS CONVENTION CALLED UNDER ARTICLE V OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION – DELEGATION TO THE CONVENTION**

Requiring the General Assembly to appoint a delegation to an amendments convention called under Article V of the U.S. Constitution and an advisory committee under certain circumstances and in accordance with certain requirements; providing for the membership of the delegation; providing for the qualifications, oath, compensation, and duties of a commissioner to the delegation; establishing the operations of the delegation and the advisory committee; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

SG, §§ 10-1801 through 10-1807 - added

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HB 926 Delegate Williams, et al**HEALTH CARE MALPRACTICE CLAIMS – HEALTH CARE PROVIDER – DEFINITION**

Altering the definition of “health care provider” to include employees, agents, or contractors of a hospital who are licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise authorized to render health care services in Maryland in provisions relating to health care malpractice claims.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 3-2A-01(f) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Judiciary

HB 927 Delegate Pena–Melnyk, et al

GENERAL ASSEMBLY – FISCAL NOTES – IMPACT OF REDUCTION IN HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Requiring that the fiscal note for a bill that reduces health and community support services funded by the Maryland Department of Health include a certain estimate, assessment, and evaluation of the financial impact as a result of the reduction of services.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SG, § 2-1505(e) - amended

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HB 928 Delegate Crosby

ESTATES AND TRUSTS – WILLS – MARRIED COUPLES AND REGISTERED DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS

Prohibiting a testator who is married or in a registered domestic partnership from signing a will in the presence of the testator’s spouse or registered domestic partner; prohibiting an individual who witnesses and signs a testator’s will from also witnessing and signing the will of the testator’s spouse or registered domestic partner; and applying the Act prospectively.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ET, § 4-102(b) - amended and § 4-102(g) - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 929 Delegate Simpson, et al

FAMILY LAW – PERMANENT PROTECTIVE ORDERS – CONSENT

Specifying that an individual may consent to the issuance of a permanent protective order against the individual.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

FL, 4-506(k) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 930 Delegate Lopez, et al**PUBLIC HEALTH ABORTION GRANT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Public Health Abortion Grant Program to provide grants to improve access to abortion care clinical services for individuals in the State; establishing the Public Health Abortion Grant Program Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to provide grants under the Program; and requiring that certain premium funds collected by health insurance carriers be used to provide certain coverage and to support improving access to abortion care clinical services under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

IN, HG, and SF, Various Sections - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)204. and 205. - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 931 Delegate Stein**ENVIRONMENT – COVERED ELECTRONIC DEVICE RECYCLING PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT (ELECTRONICS RECYCLING HEALTH AND SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT)**

Establishing the Covered Electronic Device Recycling Program in the Department of the Environment; altering the contents and use of the State Recycling Trust Fund; establishing a separate covered electronic device recycling account and a separate covered electronic device manufacturer registration fee account within the Fund; altering certain provisions of law relating to registration fees for certain manufacturers of covered electronic devices; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, Various Sections - amended and §§ 9-1728.3 and 9-1728.4 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 932 Delegates Korman and Boyce**PUBLIC ETHICS – CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND BLIND TRUST – GOVERNOR**

Requiring the Governor to place certain interests into a certain certified blind trust or divest of certain interests within 6 months after taking the oath of office; requiring the Governor to enter into a nonparticipation agreement with the State Ethics Commission for any interests not included in a blind trust; requiring a certain business entity to report to the Ethics Commission any interest held in the business entity by the Governor or a restricted individual; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

GP, §§ 5-501(t), 5-301, 5-303, and 5-903 and SG, § 3-204 - amended and GP, § 5-501.1 and SF, § 5-17-503 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 933 Delegate Martinez**NURSING HOMES – DIRECT CARE WAGES AND BENEFITS AND COST REPORTS**

Requiring a nursing home to expend at least 75% of its total nursing and residential care revenue for direct care wages and benefits; and requiring nursing homes by September 1 each year, beginning in 2026, to submit a cost report with documentation of wage disbursement and other appropriate information to the Maryland Department of Health.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

HG, §§ 16-209 and 16-210 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 934 Delegate Lopez**CENTER FOR FIREARM VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION – RESOURCES, TOOLS, AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS**

Altering the powers of the Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention to include the creation of certain resources, tools, and educational materials related to firearms; and authorizing the Center to consult with State and local agencies and third-party organizations in carrying out those powers.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 13-5204 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 935 Delegate Roberts, et al**PUBLIC SCHOOLS – VENUE–SPECIFIC EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS
– HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAMES**

Altering the requirements of a venue–specific emergency action plan to include the on–site presence of a licensed athletic trainer or an ambulance at each high school football game.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-451 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 936 Delegate Shetty, et al**HEALTH INSURANCE – CANCELLATION AND NONRENEWAL OF
COVERAGE – REQUIRED NOTICE**

Requiring that a carrier provide the written notice of cancellation or nonrenewal of a small group market health benefit plan by certified mail, return receipt requested, and by electronic means and include information regarding additional health benefit coverage options in the notice.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

IN, § 15-1212(i) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 937 Delegates Young and Mireku–North**SALES AND USE TAX – FIREARMS, FIREARM ACCESSORIES, AND
AMMUNITION – RATE ALTERATION**

Increasing the sales and use tax rate for sales of firearms, firearm accessories, and ammunition from 6% to 12%.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 11-101(a-4) and (c-6) through (c-12) - renumbered and § 11-101(a-4), (c-6), and (c-7) and 11-104(l) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 938 Delegate Stein, et al

CONTINUING CARE PROVIDERS – GOVERNING BODIES – MEMBERSHIP

Requiring the appointment of an alternate subscriber member to the governing body of a continuing care provider; and providing for the duties of the alternate subscriber member.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HU, § 10-427 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 939 Delegate Pena–Melnyk, et al

MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR WOMEN – MARYLAND COLLABORATIVE TO ADVANCE IMPLEMENTATION OF COVERAGE OF OVER–THE–COUNTER BIRTH CONTROL

Requiring the Maryland Commission for Women to establish the Maryland Collaborative to Advance Implementation of Coverage of Over–the–Counter Birth Control to study access to over–the–counter birth control; and requiring the Collaborative to submit an interim report by January 1, 2026, and a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1, 2027.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 940 Delegate Kaufman, et al

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – PROBATION BEFORE JUDGMENT – DEFENDANTS DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM OR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Requiring a court to stay the entering of judgment, defer further proceedings, and place a defendant diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder or an intellectual disability on probation before judgment under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, § 6-220.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 941 Delegate Toles, et al

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE – LAND-GRANT INSTITUTION – FUNDING (LAND-GRANT EQUITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT)

Requiring, to address a certain funding disparity, that the Governor include at least \$5,000,000 to the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in the annual budget bill each fiscal year until a total amount of \$321,181,312 is appropriated; and authorizing the University of Maryland Eastern Shore to use funds made available by the Act for development of infrastructure and academic programs, investment in faculty, scholarships, and certain other institutional needs.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 15-140 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 942 Delegate Schindler

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – TAX INCREMENT FINANCING – NONCONTIGUOUS AREAS

Authorizing the designation of certain noncontiguous areas as development districts; and permitting the use of the Community Development Administration within the Department of Housing and Community Development to issue certain bonds.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EC, § 12-201(e) through (u) - renumbered, § 12-201(e) - added, and §§ 12-201(i), 12-202, 12-203(a)(1), and 12-204 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 943 Delegate Toles

CRIMINAL LAW – CRIMES OF MALICIOUS OR FRAUDULENT BURNING – PROHIBITIONS AND PENALTIES

Prohibiting a person from committing a certain crime of malicious or fraudulent burning that causes the death of or serious physical injury to a firefighter; and establishing that a person who violates the Act is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not to exceed 10 years.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 6-112 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 944 Delegate Toles**FAMILY LAW – CHILDREN IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE AND TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS**

Repealing a provision that authorizes a local department of social services to ask the juvenile court to find that reasonable efforts to reunify a child with the child's parent or guardian are not required if the local department concludes that a parent or guardian has involuntarily lost parental rights to a sibling of the child; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, 3-812(b) and FL, 5-323(d) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 945 Delegate Wilkins**ELECTION LAW – GUBERNATORIAL PRIMARY ELECTION – DATE**

Altering, from the last Tuesday in June to the fourth Tuesday in June, the date for the primary election in the year of the gubernatorial election.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EL, § 8-201 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 946 Delegate Wilson**MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION – BREATHALYZER TECHNOLOGY – UNIFORM STANDARDS**

Requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to adopt regulations establishing uniform standards for breathalyzer technology in the State; and requiring all breathalyzers used in the State on or after October 1, 2026, to comply with the uniform standards.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 12-121 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 947 Delegate Toles, et al**LOCAL GOVERNMENT – CHARGES FOR PAPER CARRYOUT BAGS – LIMITATION**

Limiting the amount that retail establishments may charge for paper carryout bags under certain local laws to not more than 10 cents for each paper carryout bag.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, § 1-1321 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters

HB 948 Delegate Fair, et al**CITY OF FREDERICK, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, AND PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – NOISE ABATEMENT MONITORING SYSTEMS – AUTHORIZATION AND EXTENSION**

Authorizing the use of noise abatement monitoring systems in the City of Frederick to enforce certain motor vehicle noise requirements; and extending the termination date to June 30, 2027, for the use of noise abatement monitoring systems in Montgomery County and Prince George’s County.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TR, § 22-612 and Chapters 624 and 625 of the Acts of 2024, §§ 2 and 3 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 949 Calvert County Delegation**CALVERT COUNTY – PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES AGREEMENTS – QUALIFIED DATA CENTERS**

Authorizing the governing body of Calvert County to enter into a payment in lieu of county property taxes agreement with the owner of a qualified data center; and requiring the county supervisor of assessments to assess certain property of a qualified data center that is subject to a payment in lieu of taxes agreement on the request of the governing body of Calvert County.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

TP, § 7-522 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 950 Delegate Wilson**CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT – DISCLOSURE OF REPORTS AND RECORDS**

Expanding the circumstances under which a report or record concerning child abuse or neglect may be disclosed by the Department of Human Services to include the administrator of a certain child care center, the coach, team administrator, or manager of a youth sports program, and the administrator or other appropriate personnel of any organization that provides adult supervision or care and control of children.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HU, § 1-202(c) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 951 Delegate Griffith, et al**SCHOOL SYSTEMS – REPORTABLE OFFENSES – ALTERATIONS**

Including institutions and programs of higher education in which a student is enrolled as part of a dual enrollment program in the definition of “school system”; adding certain offenses to the list of offenses a law enforcement agency must report to certain school personnel under certain circumstances; requiring law enforcement agencies to notify the State’s Attorney if a student is a suspect in an investigation of certain offenses and if the student no longer is a suspect; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-303 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Judiciary

HB 952 Delegate Griffith, et al**JUVENILE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY – QUALIFYING OFFENSES AND ACCESS**

Authorizing a local superintendent or the superintendent’s designee to access the Juvenile Sex Offender Registry; and adding certain offenses to the list of offenses for which a person adjudicated delinquent is required to be included in the juvenile sex offender registry.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 3-8A-27(b)(1) and CP, § 11-704.1 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 953 Delegate Kaiser, et al**TAX SALES – HOMEOWNER PROTECTION PROGRAM – FUNDING AND ALTERATIONS**

Requiring each collector of taxes that maintains a website to include on the collector's website certain information and a certain link relating to the Homeowner Protection Program; altering the information the State Department of Assessments and Taxation is required to obtain and include in a certain annual report regarding tax sales; requiring the State Tax Sale Ombudsman to take certain actions to maximize enrollment in the Homeowner Protection Program; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TP, § 4-201.1(e) - added, § 14-885(e) - repealed, and Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 954 Delegate Grammer, et al**PUBLIC SAFETY – STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS – USE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT**

Providing that certain evidence obtained through the use of an unmanned aircraft is inadmissible in a criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding; prohibiting a unit of State government or a political subdivision of the State from deploying or operating an unmanned aircraft subject to certain exceptions; and prohibiting a unit of State government or a political subdivision of the State from using certain information acquired through the use of an unmanned aircraft.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 10-926 and PS, §§ 1-701 and 1-702 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 955 Delegate Wilson**FORGED DIGITAL LIKENESSES – DISTRIBUTION – PROHIBITION**

Providing that the distribution of a certain forged digital likeness to another constitutes a statement or communication for the purpose of an action for defamation; prohibiting a person from knowingly distributing a certain forged digital likeness under certain circumstances; and providing that a person who violates the Act is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a term of imprisonment of up to 3 years or a fine of up to \$1,000 or both.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 3-505 and CR, § 8-906 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 956 Delegate Wilson**CONSUMER PROTECTION – WORKGROUP ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IMPLEMENTATION**

Establishing the Workgroup on Artificial Intelligence Implementation; requiring the Workgroup to monitor and make recommendations related to the regulation of artificial intelligence, consumer protection, current private sector use of artificial intelligence, and enforcement authority for the Office of the Attorney General's Office of Consumer Protection; and requiring the Workgroup to make its recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly by July 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SF, § 3.5-807 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 957 Delegate Wilson**STATE PROCUREMENT – WORKER RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring certain contractors to ensure that a certain percentage of workers on certain projects are State residents and a certain percentage of work hours on the projects are performed by State residents; requiring the Department of Labor to enforce certain residency requirements; providing that a contractor that fails to meet certain requirements is liable for 0.125% of the total direct and indirect labor costs of the contract for each percentage point by which the contractor fails to meet the requirement; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SF, §§ 16-203 and 17-602 - amended and §§ 17-6B-01 through 17-6B-05 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Economic Matters

HB 958 Delegate Stein, et al**RAILROADS – SAFETY REQUIREMENTS (MARYLAND RAILWAY SAFETY ACT OF 2025)**

Establishing requirements and prohibitions related to the operation of railroads in the State, including provisions related to the size of the crew, blocking of railroad and highway grade crossings, the length of trains operating on a main or branch line, wayside detectors, and investigations by railroad labor union representatives; and requiring the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to establish and maintain a reporting system regarding the transportation of hazardous materials and waste by rail in the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LE, §§ 5.5-110(e), (f), and (g), 5.5-110.1, 5.5-111.1, and 5.5-113.1 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 959 Delegate Mireku–North**SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST INTERSTATE LICENSURE COMPACT**

Entering into the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact for the purpose of authorizing licensed school psychologists who hold multistate licenses to provide school psychological services in member states; establishing requirements for multistate licensure; establishing the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact Commission; providing for the withdrawal from the Compact; and providing the Act is contingent on the enactment of substantially similar legislation in seven other states.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

ED, §§ 25-401 and 25-402 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 960 Delegate A. Johnson, et al**INVESTOR–OWNED ELECTRIC, GAS, AND GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANIES – COST RECOVERY – LIMITATIONS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS (RATEPAYER FREEDOM ACT)**

Prohibiting an investor–owned electric company, gas company, or combination gas and electric company from recovering through rates certain costs, including certain costs associated with lobbying and political activities; and requiring certain public service companies to include in the annual report to the Public Service Commission certain costs related to certain activities.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, §§ 4-504 and 6-211 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 961 Delegate Embry, et al

COMMISSIONED PUBLIC ART – ARTIST RIGHTS

Prohibiting an entity from including in a contract for certain State public art a provision requiring artists to waive copyright protections or certain rights; and prohibiting enforcement of a certain waiver in an existing contract.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SF, § 13-228 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 962 Delegate Pena–Melnyk

PUBLIC HEALTH – PEDIATRIC HOSPITAL OVERSTAY PATIENTS

Specifying that the scope of the Maryland Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Registry and Referral System includes both private and State inpatient and outpatient mental health and substance use services; requiring the Maryland Department of Health, in coordination with the Department of Human Services, to ensure pediatric hospital overstay patients are placed in the least restrictive setting possible; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HG, § 7.5-802(a) and (d) and SG, § 9-2801 - amended and HG, §§ 19-388 through 19-390 and SG § 9-2806 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Appropriations

HB 963 Montgomery County DelegationMONTGOMERY COUNTY – HIGHWAYS – MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS
MC 1–25

Authorizing a local authority in Montgomery County to decrease the maximum speed limit on a highway without performing an engineering and traffic investigation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 21-803(a)(4) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 964 **Montgomery County Delegation****MONTGOMERY COUNTY – TASK FORCE ON THE DISPLACEMENT OF RESIDENTS OF EMORY GROVE MC 5–25**

Establishing the Task Force on the Displacement of Residents of Emory Grove to study how urban renewal caused the displacement of residents from the Emory Grove community and make recommendations on potential remedies to those who were displaced by urban renewal; requiring the Task Force to submit an interim report by December 15, 2025, and a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Montgomery County Council, the Montgomery County Executive, the Montgomery County Delegation, and the General Assembly by December 15, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 965 **Delegate Guyton, et al****TRANSPORTATION – LOCALLY OPERATED TRANSIT SYSTEM GRANT PROGRAM – EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS**

Requiring, beginning in fiscal year 2027, the Department of Transportation to establish a method to determine funding under the Locally Operated Transit System Grant Program that will result in a fair and equitable distribution of Program funds for each county; requiring the Department to develop criteria for the distribution of Program funds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TR, § 4-322(d) - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 966 **Delegate Cardin****COURTS – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EVIDENCE CLINIC PILOT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing an Artificial Intelligence Evidence Clinic Pilot Program within the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide expertise in artificial intelligence to the circuit courts and the District Court in the form of expert testimony on the authenticity of electronic evidence that a court determines may have been created or altered using artificial intelligence; and authorizing the Governor, for fiscal years 2027 and 2028, to include an appropriation of \$250,000 in the annual budget bill for the Program.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CJ, § 13-101.2 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 967 Delegate Otto, et al**SOMERSET COUNTY CODE OF PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS – 2025 EDITION
– LEGALIZATION**

Legalizing the 2025 Edition of the Somerset County Code of Public Local Laws and any supplement to the extent to which that code or supplement contains laws enacted by the General Assembly.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 968 Delegate A. Johnson**BUSINESS REGULATION – LICENSING – DEFINITION OF STORAGE
WAREHOUSE**

Altering, with respect to business licensing requirements in the State, the definition of “storage warehouse” to exclude a self-service storage facility.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, § 17-1201 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 969 Delegate A. Johnson**PROPERTY TAX – VALUATION OF OPERATING PROPERTY OF
RURAL BROADBAND SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Requiring the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, subject to certain limitations, to use a certain method when determining the value of the operating property of a provider of rural broadband service; authorizing the Department to use a certain replacement cost approach only if the value determined is less than the value determined using a certain income approach; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

TP, § 8-109 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 970 Delegate Woods, et al**HEALTH INSURANCE – INSULIN – PROHIBITION ON STEP THERAPY OR FAIL–FIRST PROTOCOLS**

Prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from imposing a step therapy or fail–first protocol for insulin or certain other similar medication that is being used to treat an insured’s or enrollee’s diabetes.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

IN, § 15-142(e) - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 971 Delegate Pruski**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CROWNSVILLE HOSPITAL MEMORIAL PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Establishing the Anne Arundel County Crownsville Hospital Memorial Park Advisory Committee to provide advice on the planning of the Park; requiring the Advisory Committee to make recommendations to ensure that the Park focuses on mental and physical health and well–being, is equitable in providing access to the property, is truthful about the history of Crownsville Hospital, and preserves the natural beauty of the site; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, §§ 33-101 and 33-102 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 972 Delegate A. Johnson**REAL ESTATE COMMISSION – CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS – ALTERATIONS**

Altering certain requirements for continuing education required for the renewal of a license for real estate brokers, associate real estate brokers, and real estate salespersons, including the number of clock hours, course topics, course instructors, and course application fees.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BOP, § 17-315 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 973 Delegate Boafo, et al

MARYLAND BUILDING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS – FOSSIL FUEL USE, ENERGY CONSERVATION, AND ELECTRIC– AND SOLAR–READY STANDARDS (BETTER BUILDINGS ACT OF 2025)

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to adopt, by October 1, 2025, and as part of the Maryland Building Performance Standards, energy conservation requirements, an electric– and solar–ready standard for certain buildings, and a requirement that new buildings and significant improvements meet all laundry, water, and space heating demands of the building without the use of fossil fuels.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 12-503 - amended and § 12-503.1 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 974 Delegate Shetty, et al

HEALTH INSURANCE – PREVENTIVE SERVICES – ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

Requiring the Insurance Commissioner to enforce certain provisions of law related to preventive services consistent with federal rules and guidance in effect on December 31, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

IN, § 15-1A-10 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 975 Delegate Arentz, et al

QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY – CIRCUIT COURT JUDGESHIPS

Increasing to two the number of resident judges of the Circuit Court for Queen Anne’s County.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CJ, § 1-503 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 976 Delegate Arentz, et al**STATE AND PRIVATE WETLANDS – NONWATER–DEPENDENT PROJECT – DEFINITION**

Establishing that a vessel registered under Title 8, Subtitle 7 of the Natural Resources Article is not a nonwater–dependent project for the purpose of certain provisions of law regarding construction on State or private wetlands, regardless of how the vessel is used or operated.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, § 16-101(i) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 977 Delegate Crosby**CRIMINAL LAW – MANSLAUGHTER BY VEHICLE OR VESSEL – INCREASED PENALTIES (JAMARI’S LAW)**

Increasing the maximum period of imprisonment for a first conviction for manslaughter by vehicle or vessel from 10 years to 20 years and for a second or subsequent conviction, or having been previously convicted for certain other crimes, from 15 years to 30 years.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 2-209 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 978 Delegate Stein, et al**BALTIMORE COUNTY – SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS – INTERSTATE 695 AND INTERSTATE 83**

Authorizing the State Highway Administration to place and use not more than four speed monitoring systems on Interstate 695 and three systems on Interstate 83 in Baltimore County, subject to notice requirements; requiring that fines collected in Baltimore County as a result of violations enforced by speed monitoring systems on Interstate 695 and Interstate 83 be used to assist in covering the cost of roadway and safety improvements on Interstate 695 and Interstate 83 in Baltimore County; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

CJ, §§ 7-302(e)(3) and 10-311(b) - amended and TR, § 21-811 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 979 Delegate A. Johnson, et al**MARYLAND SELF-SERVICE STORAGE ACT – SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY IN SATISFACTION OF LIEN – NOTICE REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring a certain operator of a certain self-service storage facility to notify at least 10 days prior to conducting a sale of an occupant's personal property stored in certain leased space at the self-service storage facility of the time, place, and terms of the sale by hand delivery, verified mail, or electronic mail at the occupant's last known address.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CL, § 18-504(b) and (d) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 980 Delegate Crosby**HIGHER EDUCATION – EDWARD T. AND MARY A. CONROY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – ELIGIBILITY**

Expanding the eligibility for the Edward T. and Mary A. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program to include a son, daughter, or stepchild or surviving spouse of a member of the armed forces who is or was eligible for the Chapter 35 Dependent Education Assistance benefit; and authorizing certain methods for verifying eligibility of these individuals for the Edward T. and Mary A. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 18-601(d)(2) and (f)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 981 Delegate Ebersole, et al**STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – EVALUATION ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Requiring the State Department of Education to conduct an evaluation on the use and potential use of artificial intelligence in public schools; requiring that the evaluation consist of a survey of local school systems and a review of available systems that use artificial intelligence to assist with student learning; requiring the Department of Information Technology to assist the State Department of Education in performing its review; and requiring the Department to issue a final report on the results of the evaluation by December 15, 2026.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 982 Delegate Schmidt, et al**GUN THEFT FELONY ACT OF 2025**

Classifying the theft of a firearm as a felony; establishing a penalty for a first conviction for theft of a firearm of imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or both; and establishing a penalty for subsequent convictions of imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine not exceeding \$2,500 or both.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 7-104 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 983 Delegates Mireku-North and Wilkins**ELECTION LAW – LOCAL BOARDS OF ELECTIONS – LANGUAGE-RELATED ASSISTANCE**

Requiring the State Board of Elections to determine whether there is a significant and substantial need for language-related assistance in certain languages by a local board of elections during an election based on certain criteria; requiring local boards to provide certain language-related assistance and materials in voting and elections to certain voters in certain languages; and requiring local boards to make reasonable efforts to recruit election judges who are fluent in certain languages.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EL, §§ 15.5-101 through 15.5-106 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 984 Delegate Crosby**PUBLIC UTILITIES – ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES – RATE PROCEEDINGS**

Applying to electric cooperatives certain provisions of law related to rate proceedings held by the Public Service Commission to determine whether additional revenues are required to allow certain public service companies to earn the existing fair rate of return authorized in a previous base rate proceeding.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 4-207 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 985 Delegate Young, et al**POLICE DISCIPLINE – ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGING COMMITTEES
– ADDITIONAL CHARGING COMMITTEE**

Authorizing the local governing body of a county to authorize the use of a second administrative charging committee if the local governing body determines that one administrative charging committee is insufficient to serve the countywide law enforcement agencies and local law enforcement agencies within the county.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 3-104 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 986 Delegate Ebersole, et al**PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION – NEW TEACHERS –
RETENTION PROGRAM**

Requiring each county board of education to establish a new teacher retention program to provide support to new teachers to ensure that new teachers continue to be motivated and retain their passion to teach; and altering the content required to be included in certain teacher support and retention guidelines developed by the State Board of Education.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 4-147 - added and § 6-119 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 987 Delegate Mangione, et al**BALTIMORE COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – DISTANCE
FROM PLACE OF WORSHIP RESTRICTION – EXCEPTION**

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore County to issue a beer, wine, and liquor license to an establishment that has a certain zoning classification and is within 300 feet of a place of worship under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 13-1601 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 988 **Montgomery County Delegation****MONTGOMERY COUNTY – SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS – MARYLAND ROUTE 200 (INTERCOUNTY CONNECTOR) MC 10–25**

Authorizing the placement and use by the Maryland Transportation Authority of speed monitoring systems on Maryland Route 200 (Intercounty Connector) in Montgomery County; requiring the District Court to remit to the Authority any civil penalties collected by the District Court resulting from a citation issued using a speed monitoring system operated by the Authority; and requiring the State Highway Administration to provide the Authority with access to certain systems and contacts.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 7-302(e)(1) through (3) and TR, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 989 **Delegate Jacobs, et al****ON–FARM HOME PROCESSING LICENSE – REVENUE LIMIT – PROHIBITION**

Prohibiting the Maryland Department of Health from limiting the amount of revenue the holder of an on–farm home processing license may derive from food processed under the license.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HG, § 21-309.3 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 990 **Delegate Watson****MUNICIPAL APPOINTEES AND EMPLOYEES – FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT – REQUIRED EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE**

Requiring that an individual appointed or employed by a municipality in a role with certain financial oversight responsibilities satisfy certain educational requirements and have a certain amount of experience; requiring a municipality to establish certain continuing education requirements for certain individuals appointed or employed by the municipality; and requiring the Legislative Auditor to include in a certain annual report information on municipal compliance with the Act.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

LG, § 4-112 - added and § 16-307(a) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 991 Delegate Harris**STATE PROCUREMENT – MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM – EXTENSION AND REPORTS**

Altering the termination date for certain provisions of law governing the Minority Business Enterprise Program and its application to offshore wind projects and video lottery terminals; and altering the date by which certain reports, studies, and guidelines must be submitted.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

PU, § 7-704.1(j)(4), SF, § 14-309, SG, § 9-1A-10(c), and Various Chapters of the Acts of Various Years, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 992 Delegate Korman**BUSINESS REGULATION – MARYLAND FRANCHISE REGISTRATION AND DISCLOSURE LAW – ALTERATIONS (FRANCHISE REFORM ACT)**

Altering the period of time within which the Securities Commissioner in the Office of the Attorney General may exercise a power under certain provisions of law governing the sale of franchises; requiring the Securities Commissioner to require that a certain franchise registration exemption be indexed to inflation or deflation based on a certain index; altering the period of time within which an action for liability under a certain provision of law pertaining to franchise offers for sale must be brought; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, §§ 14-210, 14-214, 14-227, and 14-233 - amended and §§ 14-219.1 and 14-233 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 993 Delegate Conaway**EDUCATION – PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOLS – COURSE ON CONSEQUENCES OF A FELONY MURDER CONVICTION**

Requiring the State Board of Education to develop curriculum standards and county boards of education to develop and implement a curriculum, beginning in the 2026–2027 school year, for a course on the consequences of a conviction for felony murder for public middle school students in the State.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-213 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Judiciary

HB 994 Delegate Conaway**BALTIMORE CITY – PUBLIC MIDDLE SCHOOLS – COURSE ON CONSEQUENCES OF A FELONY MURDER CONVICTION**

Requiring the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners to develop and implement, beginning in the 2026–2027 school year, a course on the consequences of a conviction for felony murder for middle school students in Baltimore City public schools.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-213 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Judiciary

HB 995 Delegate Pena–Melnyk**WORKGROUP TO STUDY THE RISE IN ADVERSE DECISIONS IN THE STATE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Workgroup to Study the Rise in Adverse Decisions in the State Health Care System and make recommendations to improve State reporting on adverse decisions; and requiring the Workgroup to report its findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly by December 1, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 996 Delegate Bhandari**PUBLIC HEALTH – PHENIBUT CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT**

Requiring a retailer that prepares, distributes, sells, or exposes for sale a phenibut product to disclose the factual basis on which any representations regarding the phenibut product are made; establishing prohibitions related to the preparation, distribution, and sale of phenibut products, including prohibitions related to the sale of phenibut to individuals under the age of 21 years and the marketing of phenibut to minors; establishing certain penalties for violations of the Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, §§ 21-2F-01 through 21-2F-04 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 997 Delegate Spiegel, et al**ADMISSIONS AND AMUSEMENT TAX – FOOD AND BEVERAGES**

Authorizing a county or a municipal corporation to impose the admissions and amusement tax on certain gross receipts derived from the sale of food or beverages for consumption on the premises; prohibiting the imposition of the admissions and amusement tax on certain sales of food or beverages; establishing a maximum tax rate of 3% that a county or a municipal corporation may set on the sale of food or beverages; and providing that a certain combined maximum tax rate does not include a tax rate on the sale of food or beverages.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, §§ 4-101, 4-102(b) and (c), 4-103(b), and 4-105(b) - amended and § 4-105(a-2) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 998 Calvert County Delegation**CALVERT COUNTY – PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – TOBACCO BARN**

Authorizing the governing body of Calvert County to grant a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on certain real property that was formerly used solely as a tobacco barn.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

TP, § 9-306(i) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 999 Delegate R. Lewis**OPIOID–ASSOCIATED DISEASE PREVENTION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM DATA – SUBMISSION TO LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to submit the data reported to the Department by an Opioid–Associated Disease Prevention and Outreach Program to the local health department for each county in which the Program operates.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 24-907 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 1000 Delegate Simmons, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – HUMAN REMAINS, PET REMAINS, AND CEMETERIES – PROHIBITIONS**

Altering the definition of “permanent cemetery” to include a cemetery owned by a family or religious organization; prohibiting a person from tampering with human remains interred in a cemetery; altering certain penalties relating to prohibitions against removal of human remains from a burial site; prohibiting a person from damaging, desecrating, mutilating, storing, tampering with, trafficking, or transporting human remains; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, §§ 10-401, 10-402(a) & (g), & 10-404 & CP, § 1-209 - amended, CR, § 10-402(h) - repealed, & CR, §§ 10-402(h), 10-402.1, & 10-627 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary and Health and Government Operations

HB 1001 Delegate Hartman, et al**STATE DESIGNATIONS – STATE COCKTAIL – ORIGINAL MARYLAND ORANGE CRUSH**

Designating the original Maryland orange crush as the State cocktail.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

GP, §§ 7-313 through 7-319 - renumbered and § 7-313 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 1002 Delegate Hornberger, et al**CONSUMER AND DISPLAY FIREWORKS – REGULATION AND TAX**

Authorizing the sale and possession of certain consumer fireworks, subject to certain requirements and restrictions; altering certain provisions to establish that certain provisions authorizing the State Fire Marshal to issue a certain permit relating to fireworks apply only to certain display fireworks; authorizing a county to opt out of certain provisions regulating the sale and possession of consumer fireworks; establishing a certain sales and use tax for certain fireworks; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, Various Sections - added and amended and TG, §§ 2-1302.5 and 11-104(l) - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1003 Delegates Simmons and Young**RELOCATION OF HUMAN REMAINS – AUTHORIZATION PROCESS**

Requiring a person seeking to relocate human remains from a burial site to apply for approval for relocation with the Office of Cemetery Oversight before seeking authorization from a State’s Attorney; establishing requirements and procedures for an application for authorization to relocate human remains; requiring the Office of Cemetery Oversight to delay authorization for relocation of human remains under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 10-402 - amended and § 10-402.1 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 1004 Delegate Martinez**PUBLIC HEALTH – ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIAS – INFORMATION ON PREVALENCE AND TREATMENT**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health, in partnership with certain entities, to incorporate information regarding treatments approved by the Food and Drug Administration for Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias and to increase understanding and awareness of treatment of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias into relevant public health outreach programs administered by the Department; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 18-110 - amended and § 18-111 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 1005 Delegate Fisher, et al**INCOME TAX – TIPS OR GRATUITIES – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION (NO INCOME TAXES ON TIPS ACT)**

Providing a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for compensation received in the form of a tip or gratuity for the performance of certain work in a food service facility, business licensed for on-sale consumption of alcoholic beverages, or hotel, for providing passenger-for-hire services, or for providing taxicab services; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 10-207(qq) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1006 Delegate Wilkins, et al

IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT – SENSITIVE LOCATIONS – GUIDELINES AND POLICIES (PROTECTING SENSITIVE LOCATIONS ACT)

Requiring the Attorney General to develop guidelines relating to immigration enforcement at sensitive locations; and requiring State agencies that operate at sensitive locations to adopt certain policies or provide notice of a decision not to adopt certain policies.

EMERGENCY BILL

SG, § 6-111 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1007 Delegate Wells

GENETIC TESTING – PROHIBITION ON DISABILITY, LIFE, AND LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE (GENETIC TESTING PROTECTION ACT)

Prohibiting insurance carriers that offer life insurance, long-term care insurance, and disability insurance policies or contracts from taking certain action regarding coverage based on whether an applicant or a policy or contract holder has requested or undergone genetic testing or the results of the genetic testing.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

IN, § 27-909.1 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 1008 Delegate Buckel, et al

VEHICLE-MILES-TRAVELED TAX AND ASSOCIATED MANDATED DEVICES – PROHIBITION (TRANSPORTATION FREEDOM ACT OF 2025)

Prohibiting the State or a local jurisdiction from imposing or levying a vehicle-miles-traveled tax or certain other similar fees, tolls, or taxes; prohibiting the State or a local jurisdiction from requiring the installation of a device in or on a privately owned vehicle to facilitate the reporting of vehicle miles traveled; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TG, § 9-401 and TR, § 22-107 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Environment and Transportation

HB 1009 Delegate Wells

BALTIMORE CITY – ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT – AMOUNT OF FINES AND PENALTIES

Increasing from \$1,000 to \$10,000 the maximum amount that Baltimore City is authorized to establish for civil and criminal fines and penalties for violating certain ordinances, rules, or regulations.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

The Charter of Baltimore City, Art. II, § (48) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED JANUARY 31, 2025**HJ 6 Delegate Williams, et al**

USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Stating that the General Assembly joins certain other state legislative bodies, counties, and municipalities in passing a Back from the Brink resolution on reducing the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons; urging members of the State's Congressional Delegation to cosponsor a certain federal resolution related to the use of nuclear weapons; and urging the U.S. President and the U.S. Senate to endorse the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations