



SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2025 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 22, 2025
Schedule 11

PLEASE NOTE: February 3 – Bill introduction deadline.

All bills should be given to the Secretary of the Senate's office by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, February 3.

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

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED *January 21, 2025*

SB 435 **Senators Waldstreicher and Jackson**

INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS – TITLE VI COORDINATORS (REMOVE DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION ACT)

Requiring the governing board of each institution of higher education in the State and local school systems to designate a Title VI Coordinator to ensure compliance with Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and authorizing a person alleging discrimination under certain provisions of law to file a complaint with a Title VI Coordinator of a local school system, as applicable.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 11-409 and 26-706 - added and § 26-705(a) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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

SB 436 **Senator Waldstreicher**

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR – STUDY ON BUILDING CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR SINGLE-STAIRCASE BUILDINGS

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to study building code requirements for single-staircase buildings in the State and other States and analyze best practices when drafting building code requirements; requiring the Department to make legislative and regulatory recommendations for the purpose of increasing the affordable housing supply by reducing barriers to multifamily housing development; and requiring the Department to report to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly by December 1, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 437 **Senator Lam**

HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS – PAYMENTS TO NONPARTICIPATING PROVIDERS – REIMBURSEMENT RATE

Altering the reimbursement rate at which health maintenance organizations are required to pay certain nonparticipating health care providers for services.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 19-710.1 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 438 **Senator Lam**

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

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

EMERGENCY BILL

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

Assigned to: Finance

SB 439 Senator Lam (By Request – Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee)**HIGHER EDUCATION – HIGH IMPACT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the definition of “high impact economic development activity” to exclude cost savings related to the reduction in the number of University System of Maryland employees; requiring the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland to report certain information relating to high impact economic development activities; making a high impact economic development activity subject to State procurement law; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 12-104.1 and 12-113(c) - amended

Assigned to: Finance and Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 440 Senator Lam**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL – ESTABLISHMENT**

Requiring the Anne Arundel County Council to establish an Office of the Inspector General in the county; requiring the County Council to establish certain ordinances and include a projected budget for the Office of the Inspector General in the county’s annual operating budget proposal; and establishing an Office of the Inspector General Advisory Board to select and appoint and, under certain circumstances, remove the Inspector General.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, § 9-114 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 441 Senator Sydnor**REAL PROPERTY – NEW HOME SALES – ENTRY OF FINAL SALE PRICE IN MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE**

Requiring a developer, builder, broker, or real estate agent to enter the final sale price of a new home into a multiple listing service or similarly accessible database.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 10-804 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 442 **Senator Sydnor****REAL PROPERTY – LANDLORD AND TENANT – PROCEDURES FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENT, BREACH OF LEASE, AND TENANT HOLDING OVER (TENANT POSSESSIONS RECOVERY ACT)**

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

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

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 443 **Senator Smith****TRAFFICKING REGULATED FIREARMS – FELONY CLASSIFICATION**

Reclassifying the prohibition against transporting a regulated firearm into the State for the purpose of unlawfully selling or trafficking the firearm as a felony; and establishing a penalty on conviction of imprisonment of up to 10 years or a fine of up to \$25,000 or both.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 5-140 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 444 **Senator Smith****PUBLIC SAFETY – GUN BUYBACK PROGRAMS – DESTRUCTION OF FIREARMS**

Requiring a person or an entity operating a gun buyback program to destroy a firearm, including all components and parts attached to the firearm, that is traded in at a certain gun buyback program; authorizing a certain person or entity to contract with a law enforcement agency, an organization, or a business to destroy certain firearms; and requiring the Secretary of State Police to revoke a certain person's dealer's license if the person violates the provisions of the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 5-114(b) - amended and §§ 5-901 and 5-902 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 445 **Senator McCray**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES – FEDERAL COMMODITY
SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM – ADMINISTRATION

Requiring the Family Investment Administration in the Department of Human Services to be the central coordinating and directing agency of the federal Commodity Supplemental Food Program using certain funds and resources; and repealing the requirement that the Secretary of Aging administer the Program.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HU, §§ 5-205(a) and 10-204(a) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 446 **Senator Beidle**CONDOMINIUMS – PROPERTY INSURANCE DEDUCTIBLES – UNIT
OWNER RESPONSIBILITY

Increasing, from \$10,000 to \$25,000, the maximum amount of the council of unit owners' property insurance deductible for which a unit owner is responsible if the cause of damage to or destruction of any portion of the condominium originates from the unit owner's unit.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 11-114(g) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 447 **Senator Lam**

HOSPITALS – EMERGENCY MEDICAL CONDITIONS – PROCEDURES

Requiring a hospital to conduct screening on an individual presenting at an emergency department of the hospital to determine whether the individual has an emergency medical condition; establishing requirements and prohibitions related to the treatment and transfer of an individual who has an emergency medical condition; prohibiting a hospital from taking adverse action against a provider for not transferring a patient who is not stabilized; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 19-342.1 - added and § 20-214(b) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 448 **Senator Lam****MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – SELF-DIRECTED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES – PILOT PROGRAM**

Establishing the Self-Directed Mental Health Services Pilot Program in the Maryland Department of Health to facilitate access to clinically appropriate, person-centered, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed self-directed services in the most integrated setting appropriate for certain recipients of services under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; requiring the Governor in fiscal years 2027 through 2029 to include \$300,000 in the annual budget bill for the Pilot Program; and requiring a certain report.

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, §§ 15-1201 through 15-1207 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 449 **Senator Folden****FREDERICK AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES – BOW HUNTING – OPENLY CARRYING HANDGUNS**

Prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from prohibiting certain licensed bow hunters from openly carrying a handgun under certain circumstances in Frederick County and Washington County during deer hunting season.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 10-408 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 450 **Frederick County Senators****FREDERICK COUNTY – GAMING – ACCEPTANCE OF CREDIT AS PAYMENT**

Authorizing certain fire, rescue, and ambulance organizations conducting certain gaming events in Frederick County to accept credit from a person as payment to play a gaming device at the gaming event.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CR, § 12-108 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 451 **Senator King****ADULT EDUCATION – HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA BY EXAMINATION
– REQUIREMENTS AND STUDY**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to allow an individual to take all components of the General Educational Development Test in the language of their choice; and requiring the Department to study the feasibility and cost of offering the examination in additional languages and to report its findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LE, § 11-808(c) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 452 **Senator King****CHILD CARE AFFORDABILITY COMMISSION – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Child Care Affordability Commission to study and make recommendations regarding child care affordability in the State; 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: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 453 **Senator King****STATE CONTRACTS – PROHIBITED PROVISIONS**

Clarifying a prohibition on including in State contracts provisions pertaining to limitations of liability for damage to real or tangible personal property; and clarifying a prohibition on including in State contracts provisions limiting the recovery of costs related to the use of replacement contractors under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SF, § 2-901 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 454 **Senator McKay, et al**DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES – EMPLOYEES –
PROHIBITED CONVICTIONS

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HU, § 9-209.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 455 **Senator McKay**SECURITY GUARD AGENCIES – SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS –
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT

Authorizing a certain security guard agency to apply for the appointment of special police officers in order to protect property owned or leased by the security guard agency's clients.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 3-303 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 456 **Senator McKay**DENTAL SERVICES – QUALIFICATION FOR MARYLAND DENT–
CARE PROGRAM AND STUDY ON USE OF DENTAL ONLINE
CREDENTIALING

Altering the eligibility criteria for Higher Education Loan Assistance Grants under the Maryland Dent–Care Program to include part–time employment; and requiring the Maryland Insurance Administration to submit a report, by December 1, 2025, to certain committees of the General Assembly on the use of online credentialing systems by dental insurance carriers.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 18-2404, 18-2405, and 18-2406 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Finance

SB 457 **Senator Jackson (Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions)**STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – TRANSFERS
BETWEEN SYSTEMS – WORKGROUP

Requiring the State Retirement and Pension System to convene a workgroup to study transfers of member service between State and local retirement and pension systems; and requiring the Agency to submit a report of the workgroup’s findings and recommendations, including any need for legislative initiatives, to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 458 **Senator Gile**

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – STRUCTURAL RACISM TRAINING

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

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

Assigned to: Finance

SB 459 **Senator Gile**EDUCATION AND HEALTH – EMERGENCY USE EPINEPHRINE –
ALTERATIONS

Altering the defined term “auto–injectable epinephrine” to be “emergency use epinephrine” and to include certain drug delivery devices and products; and altering the name of the Emergency Use Auto–Injectable Epinephrine Program to be the Emergency Use Epinephrine Program.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

ED, HG, and HO, Various Sections - amended, added, and repealed

Assigned to: Finance and Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 460 **Senator Gile**

SALES AND USE TAX – CUT FLOWERS – EXEMPTION

Providing an exemption from the sales and use tax for the sale of cut flowers.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 11-201(b) - amended and § 11-201(c) - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 461 **Senator M. Washington****ENVIRONMENT – MARYLAND WATER QUALITY REVOLVING LOAN FUND – RENAMING AND ALTERATIONS**

Renaming the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund to be the Maryland Water Quality Improvement Revolving Loan Fund; altering the conditions under which the Maryland Water Quality Improvement Revolving Loan Fund may be used to include supporting certain projects; and requiring the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration to prioritize certain communities and to use a certain scoring system when creating a certain intended use plan.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EN, Various Sections - amended and § 9-1605(d)(17) - added and SF, §§ 5-7B-01(c)(1)(iv) and 6-226(a)(2)(ii)47. - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Budget and Taxation

SB 462 **Senator M. Washington****STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – MEMBERSHIP – EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL**

Increasing the membership of the State Board of Education from 13 to 14 to include an early childhood development professional as a member; requiring the early childhood development professional to have extensive experience in the operations of a child care business, and early childhood curriculum and development; and requiring the Governor to appoint the early childhood development member, with the advice and consent of the Senate, from a list of three qualified individuals submitted from the Office of Child Care Advisory Council.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 2-202 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 463 Senator King**REAL PROPERTY – CONDOMINIUMS – RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPERTY INSURANCE DEDUCTIBLES**

Increasing, from \$10,000 to \$20,000, the maximum amount of the council of unit owners' property insurance deductible for which a unit owner is responsible; and applying the Act to all policies of property and casualty insurance issued, delivered, or renewed in the State to a condominium council of unit owners.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 11-114(g) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 464 Senator King**REAL PROPERTY – CONDOMINIUMS – ASSESSMENTS**

Authorizing the board of directors of a condominium to increase the amount of the assessment levied each year for common expenses other than reserves by not more than 5% notwithstanding provisions of the declaration, articles of incorporation, or bylaws requiring approval by the council of unit owners.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 11-110(b)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 465 The President (By Request – Office of the Attorney General)**HEALTH CARE FACILITIES – NURSING HOMES AND ASSISTED LIVING PROGRAMS – VIDEO RECORDINGS**

Requiring nursing homes and assisted living programs to install, operate, and maintain video surveillance equipment in the common areas of the facilities to detect the abuse, neglect, or exploitation of residents; and requiring nursing homes and assisted living programs to make available, on request, certain recorded video data to law enforcement and State personnel that is necessary in the course of performing their official duties.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, §§ 19-1410.4 and 19-1815 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 466 The President (By Request – Office of the Attorney General)**VULNERABLE AND SENIOR ADULTS – THEFT OF PROPERTY BY CAREGIVER, FAMILY MEMBER, OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER – PROHIBITION**

Prohibiting a caregiver, family member, or household member from knowingly and willfully obtaining the property of an individual the caregiver, family member, or household member knows or reasonably should know is a vulnerable or senior adult with the intent to deprive the vulnerable or senior adult of the property; making a violation of the Act an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice that is subject to enforcement and penalties under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, CA, CS, CJ, CR, CP, and ET, Various Sections - amended and CR, § 7-104.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings and Education, Energy, and the Environment