



SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2025 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 29, 2025
Schedule 16

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 25, 2025*

SB 615 **Senator Kagan**

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

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

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

Assigned to: 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 616 **Senator McKay****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; prohibiting a person from removing or attempting to remove pet remains from a cemetery; 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CR, §§ 10-401, 10-402(a) & (g), & 10-404 & CP, § 1-209 - amended, CR, § 10-402(h) - repealed, & CR, §§ 10-402(h), 10-402.1, & 10-627 - added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: Judicial Proceedings

SB 617 **Senator Gile****STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGISTS – LICENSING – EYELASH EXTENSIONS**

Authorizing the State Board of Cosmetology to issue a limited license to provide eyelash extension services; altering the definition of “provide esthetic services” to include providing eyelash extension services; and requiring an applicant for a limited license to provide eyelash extension services to be at least 17 years old and have successfully completed a 9th grade education or equivalent, received certain training, and passed a practical and written examination.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BOP, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 618 **Senator Smith****VEHICLE LAWS – LICENSES, IDENTIFICATION CARDS, AND MOPED OPERATOR’S PERMITS – NOTATION OF NONAPPARENT DISABILITY**

Requiring that an original and renewal application for a license, an identification card, or a moped operator’s permit allow an applicant to choose to indicate on the document the applicant’s nonapparent disability; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to ensure that the license, identification card, or moped operator’s permit of an applicant who indicates that the applicant has a nonapparent disability includes a certain notation; requiring the Administration to establish certain public outreach efforts; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 12-306 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 619 **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)****JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT – COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL DISABILITIES – TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT**

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

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

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

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 620 **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)****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: Judicial Proceedings

SB 621 **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judiciary)**

COURTROOM SECURITY – MINIMUM ADEQUATE SECURITY STANDARD

Establishing minimum adequate security standards for courtroom security at all courthouse facilities; requiring, beginning July 1, 2026, the presence of a certain number of security officers in every court room during certain proceedings; and requiring by July 1, 2028, in every court room, the presence of one court security officer for any proceeding, two court security officers for any proceeding involving an incarcerated individual, and one additional officer for every four or fewer courtrooms on each floor of a courthouse.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CJ, § 1-206 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 622 **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judiciary)**

COURTS – STATE REPORTER – PUBLICATION OF CASES

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 13-203 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 623 **Senator Bailey**

ST. MARY’S COUNTY – PUBLIC FACILITIES BOND

Authorizing and empowering the County Commissioners of St. Mary’s County to borrow not more than \$71,000,000 in order to finance the construction, improvement, or development of certain public facilities in St. Mary’s County, and to effect such borrowing by the issuance and sale at public or private sale of its general obligation bonds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 624 **Senator Lam****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 90 days for relocation of human remains under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

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

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings and Finance

SB 625 **Senator Folden****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: Judicial Proceedings

SB 626 **Senator Folden****FREDERICK COUNTY – SHERIFF – SALARY**

Altering the annual salary of the Sheriff of Frederick County to be equal to the salary of a Department of State Police lieutenant colonel, at the highest available step for a lieutenant colonel under the Department of State Police pay plan.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 2-324(b) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 627 **Senator Smith**

VEHICLE LAWS – BICYCLES – OPERATION AT INTERSECTIONS

Authorizing a person operating a bicycle that is approaching a stop sign at an intersection on a highway with two or fewer lanes for moving traffic to cautiously make a turn or proceed through the intersection without stopping if the person reduces the speed of the bicycle to a reasonable rate and yields the right-of-way to certain vehicles under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, §§ 21-707 and 21-1202 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 628 **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee, et al**

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 beginning 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: Judicial Proceedings

SB 629 **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)**

APPELLATE COURT OF MARYLAND – SESSIONS AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 1-403 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 630 **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)**

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES – SELECTION AND RETENTION ELECTIONS

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

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

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

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 631 **Senator M. Washington**

COMMISSION ON ABANDONED AND NEGLECTED MARYLAND CEMETERIES – ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Commission on Abandoned and Neglected Maryland Cemeteries within the Office of Cemetery Oversight to establish standard definitions for neglected and abandoned cemeteries, support the development of a statewide inventory of cemeteries and burial sites in the State, and develop recommendations relating to historical cemeteries concentrating on abandoned African American cemeteries; and requiring the Commission to submit an annual report by December 1 with its recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, §§ 5-1001 through 5-1005 - added and §§ 5-1001 and 5-1002 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 632 **Senator M. Washington****CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – COMPREHENSIVE REHABILITATIVE PRERELEASE SERVICES – FEMALE INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS (THE MONICA COOPER PRERELEASE ACT)**

Altering the required location and timeline for a certain prerelease facility for female incarcerated individuals; requiring the Commissioner of the Division of Correction to make certain services available to certain female incarcerated individuals; requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, by July 1, 2026, to implement certain comprehensive rehabilitative prerelease services; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CS, §§ 3-301 and 3-303 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings and Budget and Taxation

SB 633 **Senator Kagan****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 finding 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: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 634 **Senator Lewis Young, et al****HUNTING – NONLEAD AMMUNITION, FOX CHASING, AND DEER MANAGEMENT**

Altering the definition of “hunt” to no longer exclude the sport of fox chasing; establishing the Deer Management Assistance Program in the Department of Natural Resources; requiring the Department to require, through a certain phasing-out process, the use of nonlead ammunition on or before July 1, 2029; and establishing certain exemptions and requirements for any person who participates in the sport of fox chasing.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, §§ 10-101(k) and 10-408 - amended and §§ 10-214 and 10-410(q) - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 635 **Senators Lewis Young and Rosapepe****WILDLIFE – PROTECTIONS AND HIGHWAY CROSSINGS**

Establishing the Maryland Connectivity Coalition to foster collaboration among State and federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and other stakeholders for the purpose of protecting endangered wildlife from habitat fragmentation; requiring the State Highway Administration to have final decision-making authority regarding decisions related to placement, funding, or design of wildlife crossings; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to develop a website for accepting donations for certain purposes; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 10-2A-06.2 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)206. - added and LU, §§ 1-408 and 3-104 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)204. and 205. - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 636 **Senator Folden****FREDERICK COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – TASTING PERMITS**

Altering in Frederick County the beer and wine consumption permit to be the beer and wine tasting permit and the beer, wine, and liquor consumption permit to be the beer, wine, and liquor tasting permit; and altering the amounts of certain alcoholic beverages an individual may taste under the permits.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, §§ 20-1102.1 and 20-1102.2 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 637 **Senators Hershey and Bailey****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 JULY 1, 2025

EN, § 16-101(i) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 638 **Senator McKay**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES – SAVAGE RIVER LODGE
– HOTEL RENTAL SURCHARGE

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to assess and collect an 8% hotel rental surcharge on rental units at the Savage River Lodge and remit the proceeds to the Comptroller for distribution to Garrett County; and requiring Garrett County to use and distribute the proceeds from the surcharge in a certain manner.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 5-1014 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 639 **Senator McKay**GARRETT COUNTY – BIDS AND CONTRACTS – ADVERTISEMENT
EXCEPTIONS

Providing that, in Garrett County, a certain requirement to advertise for bids does not apply to a certain contract for goods or services procured on an as-needed basis over time or for certain vehicles.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PLL of Garrett Co, Art. 12, § 30.21(A) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 640 **Senator Gallion**PUBLIC UTILITIES – SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING STATIONS –
EMINENT DOMAIN

Prohibiting a person constructing a solar energy generating station from exercising a right of condemnation in connection with that construction.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-207(b)(2) - amended and §§ 7-207.1(h), 7-207.2(e), and 7-208(k) - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 641 Senator Gallion

HEALTH INSURANCE – REQUIRED COVERAGE – HEARING AIDS

Altering the circumstances under which certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations are required to provide coverage for medically appropriate and necessary hearing aids for minors and adults to require coverage if the hearing aid is prescribed, fitted, and dispensed by a licensed hearing aid dispenser.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

IN, §§ 15-838 and 15-838.1 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 642 Senator Gallion, et al

COURTS – PROHIBITED LIABILITY AGREEMENTS – INDOOR TRAMPOLINE PARKS

Altering a provision of law that makes unenforceable a provision of a contract or agreement limiting liability for injury caused by negligence or other wrongful acts to apply the unenforceability only to contracts or agreements relating to the use of an indoor trampoline park rather than the use of a recreational facility.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CJ, § 5-401.2 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 643 Senator Gallion, et al

PUBLIC UTILITIES – ENERGY GENERATION

Stating the authority to construct, permit, and operate in the State an energy generating system that produces energy from natural gas; stating the General Assembly's support for the development of additional nuclear energy in the State; and stating that the General Assembly encourages PJM Interconnection, LLC to provide an expedited interconnection process for new thermal generation resources in the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-218 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 644 **Senator Jennings, et al****PUBLIC SCHOOLS – SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS – FIREARMS REQUIRED**

Requiring a Baltimore City school police officer and a school resource officer to carry a firearm while present on the premises of the school to which the officer is assigned.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 4-318(d)(3)(i) and 7-1508 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 645 **Senator Kagan****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: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 646 **Senator Muse****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: Finance

SB 647 Senator Muse**ELECTION LAW – INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS – VOTER HOTLINE AND VOTING ELIGIBILITY (VOTING RIGHTS FOR ALL ACT)**

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EL, § 3-106 - added, §§ 3-102 and 3-504(a) - amended, and § 16-202 - repealed
Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 648 Senators Muse and Charles**CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – MEDICAL PAROLE – LIFE IMPRISONMENT**

Repealing provisions relating to gubernatorial approval of a decision of the Maryland Parole Commission to grant medical parole to an incarcerated individual serving a sentence of life imprisonment.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CS, § 7-309 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 649 Senator Muse, et al**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – EXPUNGEMENT – NO FINDING AND CASE TERMINATED WITHOUT FINDING**

Authorizing the expungement of a charge under a certain provision of law if the charge was not disposed of by an unequivocal conviction, but was instead disposed of by the court with a no finding designation or included in a case that was designated by the court as having been terminated without finding.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, § 10-110(j) - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 650 **Senator Muse, 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 all registration information to the Department; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

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

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 651 **Senators Muse and Lam****LANDLORD AND TENANT – RESIDENTIAL LEASES AND HOLDOVER TENANCIES – LOCAL GOOD CAUSE TERMINATION (GOOD CAUSE EVICTION)**

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

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

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 652 **Senator Jennings****LOCAL GOVERNMENT – LOCAL PERSONNEL – LEAVE WITH PAY**

Establishing that an employee of a governmental unit of a county or a municipality in the State may be entitled to disaster service leave with pay under certain circumstances; authorizing certain governmental units to waive certain requirements for disaster service leave; and authorizing a governmental unit of a county or a municipality to provide leave with pay under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, §§ 1-207 and 1-208 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 653 **Senator McCray**PROCUREMENT – EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
PREFERENCE – PILOT

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SF, § 11-203(c) and (e)(5) - amended and §§ 14-801 through 14-806 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 654 **Senator Rosapepe**WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION – RAW WATER
PIPELINE PROJECT – AUDIT

Requiring the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission to retain and consult with an independent third-party auditor to conduct an audit of a certain raw water pipeline project; and requiring the auditor to consult with the Office of Legislative Audits in conducting the audit.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 655 **Senator Hester**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 the 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: Judicial Proceedings

SB 656 **Senator Sydnor, et al****BALTIMORE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION – ALTERATIONS OF ELECTED MEMBER DISTRICTS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF REDISTRICTING PROCESS**

Requiring certain members of the Baltimore County Board of Education to be elected from certain districts in certain elections; and establishing the process for how the Baltimore County school board districts are reapportioned after each decennial census of the United States.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 3-2B-01 - amended and § 3-2B-11 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 657 **Senator Ready, et al****EMINENT DOMAIN – JUST COMPENSATION – FEES AND COSTS**

Establishing that damages to be awarded for the taking of land in a condemnation proceeding include, in addition to the fair market value of the land taken, any legal, expert, or other fees or costs of the action incurred by a defendant.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 12-104 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 658 **Senator Ready****LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – NONCOMPETE AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROVISIONS**

Altering the noncompete and conflict of interest provisions in employment contracts or similar documents that are null and void as being against public policy.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LE, § 3-716 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 659 **Senator Ready, et al**CONSUMER PROTECTION – ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS –
REGULATIONS (ELDER FRAUD PREVENTION ACT OF 2025)

Requiring the Commissioner of Financial Regulation to adopt consumer protection regulations for domestic electronic funds transfers that apply to financial institutions in the State and are consistent with the federal Electronic Fund Transfer Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, § 4A-508 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 660 **Senator Ready**FAMILY LAW – CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES – AGREEMENT
BETWEEN PARENTS

Establishing a presumption that the application of the child support guidelines would be unjust or inappropriate if the parents mutually assert that the separation or property settlement agreement is in the best interest of the child.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

FL, § 12-202(a) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 661 **Senator Ready, et al**REAL PROPERTY – CONDEMNATION – COMPENSATION FOR FARM
AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY (PROTECT MARYLAND FARM
LANDS ACT)

Requiring the fair market value of certain agricultural property taken in a condemnation proceeding to be valued at 350% of the highest appraisal value of the property; and applying the Act retroactively to condemnation proceedings initiated on or after January 1, 2024.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 12-105 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 662 **Senator Ferguson****BALTIMORE CITY – 46TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT – LICENSES**

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

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

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

Assigned to: Finance

SB 663 **The President (By Request – Office of the Comptroller)****EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT – NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY – ALTERATION**

Altering the method by which the Comptroller must provide notice of the maximum income eligibility for the earned income tax credit for the calendar year to all employers in the State to include an electronic means of notification.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 10-913 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 664 **The President (By Request – Office of the Comptroller)****BUSINESS REGULATION – MISCELLANEOUS STATE BUSINESS LICENSES – ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES**

Authorizing the Comptroller to issue citations to enforce certain provisions of law concerning business licenses; requiring each application for a certain business license to designate an individual to serve as the license representative for the purpose of being subject to certain penalties; and establishing that the penalties for violating certain provisions of law apply to certain persons.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, §§ 17-202(d), 17-302(f), and 17-2106 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 665 The President (By Request – Office of the Comptroller)

**MARYLAND UNIFORM DISPOSITION OF ABANDONED PROPERTY
ACT – REVISIONS**

Making certain virtual currency subject to the abandoned property laws in the State; establishing certain provisions to determine certain information about certain apparent owners of abandoned property; altering and establishing certain provisions pertaining to the presumption of abandonment for certain types of property; establishing certain procedures to establish the death of a certain insured or certain annuitant; altering the procedures for filing a claim with the Comptroller to reclaim abandoned property; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Finance