



SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2025 Maryland General Assembly Session

February 3, 2025
Schedule 19

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED *January 28, 2025*

SB 787 **Senator Jennings**

COOPERATIVE HOUSING CORPORATIONS AND CONDOMINIUMS – FUNDING OF RESERVE ACCOUNTS AND TIMING OF RESERVE STUDIES

Establishing that a reserve study conducted for a cooperative housing corporation or condominium must identify only certain components with a repair or replacement cost that exceeds \$10,000; establishing an exception to the requirement to conduct a reserve study for certain cooperative housing corporations and condominiums; altering the timing for an updated reserve study from at least 5 to at least 10 years under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CA, § 5-6B-26.1 and RP, §§ 11-109.2(c) and 11-109.4 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 788 **Senator M. Washington**

BALTIMORE CITY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – 43RD ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT – CLASS B–D–7 LICENSES

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to issue additional B–D–7 beer, wine, and liquor licenses in certain areas of the 43rd alcoholic beverages district of Baltimore City if the license applicant meets certain criteria.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 12-1603 (c)(17) and (18) - amended and § 12-1603(c)(19) through (21) - added

Assigned to: Finance

Department of Legislative Services

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SB 789 **Senator M. Washington****HIGHER EDUCATION – HUNGER–FREE CAMPUS GRANT PROGRAM
– ALTERATIONS**

Requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to designate certain private institutions of higher education as hunger–free campuses; prohibiting a 4–year or 2–year private institution of higher education or a regional higher education center operated by a private nonprofit institution of higher education from being eligible to receive grant funding under the Hunger–Free Campus Grant Program; and beginning in fiscal year 2027, requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$250,000 for the Program. This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 11-1701 and 11-1703 through 11-1706 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 790 **Senator Augustine****MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – WORKGROUP TO
IMPLEMENT EARLY AND PERIODIC SCREENING, DIAGNOSTIC,
AND TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to convene a workgroup to implement Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment requirements; requiring the workgroup to create a plan to implement the recommendations in a certain Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services State Health Official letter; and requiring the Department to report the findings and recommendations of the workgroup to the General Assembly by December 1, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

SB 791 **Senator Carozza, et al****PUBLIC SCHOOLS – CAREER LADDER – TEACHER CLASSROOM
TEACHING TIME**

Altering certain requirements of the career ladder for educators to increase the required percentage of working time a certain teacher must spend teaching in the classroom from 60 to 80%.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 6-1003(a) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 792 **Senator Mautz****STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS – EXPANDED FUNCTION
DENTAL ASSISTANTS – EDUCATION AND REINSTATEMENT**

Authorizing the State Board of Dental Examiners to approve a certain course of study for expanded function dental assistant certification; requiring that a course of study for initial dental assistant certification include an option for an online course of study when appropriate; requiring the Board to reinstate an expired expanded function dental assistant certification only under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HO, § 4-302.1 - amended and § 4-311.1 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 793 **Senator Mautz****PUBLIC HEALTH – OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSAL DRUGS**

Requiring a licensed health care provider, when issuing a standing order for an opioid overdose reversal drug, to allow an individual to choose any formulation of any opioid overdose reversal drug approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration; and prohibiting certain private and public entities that prescribe and dispense opioid overdose reversal drugs from being required to keep in stock and dispense all opioid overdose reversal drugs approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 13-3106 - amended and § 13-3110 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 794 **Senator Mautz****MARYLAND HOME IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION – RESIDENTIAL
SOLAR POWER SYSTEM INSTALLATION – CONTRACTOR LICENSE
REQUIRED**

Requiring a person to have a contractor license to install residential solar power system equipment.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, § 8-101 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 795 **Senator Mautz**

STATE PROCUREMENT PREFERENCES – BLIND INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES OF MARYLAND – PACKAGING AND REPACKAGING

Requiring a State or State aided or controlled entity to require a prime contractor to procure certain janitorial products packaged or repackaged by Blind Industries and Services of Maryland.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SF, § 14-103(c) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 796 **Senator Mautz**

DORCHESTER COUNTY – SUNDAY HUNTING – REPEAL OF TIME RESTRICTION

Repealing the time restrictions that apply to Sunday hunting in Dorchester County.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 10-410(a)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 797 **Senator Mautz**

DORCHESTER COUNTY – COUNTY PROPERTY LEASES – NOTICE EXEMPTIONS

Exempting a lease of county property for a term of 5 years or less made by Dorchester County from certain notice requirements.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, § 10-312(f) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 798 Wicomico County Senators**WICOMICO COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT AND CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE**

Establishing a temporary to-go event permit in Wicomico County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Wicomico County to issue a temporary to-go event permit to a holder of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license; establishing a Class C per diem municipal to-go beer, wine, and liquor license in the county; authorizing the Board to issue a Class C per diem municipal to-go beer, wine, and liquor license to a municipality in the county; requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, §§ 32-902(i), 32-1104, and 32-1314 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 799 Wicomico County Senators**WICOMICO COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES – ATHLETIC AND EVENT FACILITY LICENSE**

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Wicomico County to issue a Class B (athletic and event facility) license to a certain facility under certain circumstances; authorizing the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption under certain circumstances; and prohibiting the Board from issuing the license before certain regulations take effect.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, §§ 32-1001 through 32-1001.3 - renumbered and § 32-1001 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 800 Dorchester County Senators**DORCHESTER COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – ARTS BEER AND WINE LICENSE**

Establishing in Dorchester County an arts beer and wine license that authorizes the holder to sell or serve beer and wine for on-premises consumption; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Dorchester County to issue the license to a nonprofit or for-profit retail business that engages in the display and sale of original artwork in an arts and entertainment district; and providing an annual license fee of \$250.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 19-1001 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 801 **Dorchester County Senators****DORCHESTER COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – ISSUANCE OF LICENSE NEAR A PLACE OF WORSHIP OR SCHOOL**

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Dorchester County to issue an alcoholic beverages license to an establishment that is within 300 feet of a place of worship or school with the written consent of the place of worship or school.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 19-1601 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 802 **Dorchester County Senators****DORCHESTER COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – VENUE BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE**

Establishing in Dorchester County a venue beer, wine, and liquor license that authorizes the holder to sell or serve beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption during an event where food is served; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Dorchester County to issue the license to a nonprofit or for-profit retail business that hosts private or public events at a venue that meets certain criteria; and establishing an annual fee of \$1,500 for the license.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 19-1001 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 803 **Talbot County Senators****TALBOT COUNTY – HOTEL RENTAL TAX – TIME OF PENALTY FOR NONPAYMENT**

Altering the amount of time that a hotel has to pay the hotel rental tax in Talbot County before incurring a penalty.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

LG, § 20-426 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 804 **Senator Brooks, 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: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 805 **Senators Jackson and Brooks**

PUBLIC SAFETY – 9–1–1 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM – DEFINITION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

Altering the definition of the term “first responder” as it relates to the 9–1–1 Emergency Telephone System to include emergency response technicians, facility maintenance technicians, and vehicle services and recovery technicians employed by the Department of Transportation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 1-301(j) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 806 **Senator Kramer**

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

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

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

AG, §§ 3-1101 through 3-1108 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 807 **Senator Kramer****ENVIRONMENT – LOCAL BUILDING ENERGY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS – AUTHORIZATION**

Authorizing counties to adopt local building energy performance standards that are at least as stringent as certain standards adopted by the Department of the Environment if the standards are approved by the Department; authorizing a county to enforce local building energy performance standards; and exempting a covered building that is subject to certain local building energy performance standards from complying with certain statewide standards.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, § 2-1602 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 808 **Senator Augustine****PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – STOP SIGN MONITORING SYSTEMS – SCHOOL BUS STOPS**

Authorizing the use of stop sign monitoring systems at school bus stops in Prince George’s County, if authorized by local law or, in the case of school bus stops located on State highways, the State Highway Administration.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 21-707.1(c) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 809 **Senator McCray****DECLARATION OF RIGHTS – RIGHT TO MINIMUM WAGE FOR TIPPED WORKERS**

Establishing that every person, as a central component of an individual’s right to liberty and equality, has the fundamental right to be paid at a wage rate that is at least equal to the State minimum wage rate set by law without regard to tips that the individual receives; and prohibiting the State from, directly or indirectly, denying, burdening, or abridging the right unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Declaration of Rights, Art. 49 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 810 Senator Jackson (Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions)**BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – INVESTMENT DIVISION – COMPENSATION AND STAFFING COMMITTEE**

Repealing the Objective Criteria Committee of the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System and establishing a Compensation and Staffing Committee of the Board of Trustees; requiring the Committee to make certain recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding the objective criteria to be used in setting compensation and awarding financial incentives to the Chief Investment Officer and Investment Division staff in the Investment Division of the State Retirement Agency; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SP, §§ 21-108(b), 21-118.1(a), (b), and (d)(1)(i), and 21-122(f) and (g) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 811 Senator James**TASK FORCE ON THE CREATION OF A DIVISION OF RETURNING CITIZENS AND EXPANDED REENTRY SERVICES – EXTENSION OF REPORT DEADLINE AND TASK FORCE**

Extending the deadline for the reporting requirement for the Task Force on the Creation of a Division of Returning Citizens and Expanded Reentry Services to be October 31, 2026; and extending the termination date for the Task Force to be June 30, 2027.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

Chapters 936 and 937 of the Acts of 2024, §§ 1(i) and 2 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 812 Senators Bailey and Jackson**LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM AND STATE POLICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM – LINE-OF-DUTY CATASTROPHIC INJURY DISABILITY**

Requiring a certain line-of-duty disability allowance to be paid to a member of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System or the State Police Retirement System who is found to be disabled and unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SP, §§ 29-109(c), 29-110, and 29-111 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 813 Howard County Senators

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE – BOARD OF TRUSTEES, MEETINGS, AND CONTRACTS – ALTERATIONS HO. CO. 1–25

Adding two members to the Board of Community College Trustees for Howard County; requiring each meeting of the Board to allow for public comment; requiring the Board to make a video or audio recording of its meetings which are to be made available on the Board’s website; requiring Board members to undergo certain training every 2 years; requiring the Board to submit a report to the General Assembly by January 1, 2026, and each 6 months thereafter until July 1, 2028, on the status of the faculty union contract; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

ED, § 16-410 - amended and § 16-410.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 814 Senator Watson, et al

LOCAL GOVERNMENT – DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES, SURCHARGES, AND EXCISE TAXES – REPORTING

Requiring county governments to make a certain report by July 1 each year to the Governor and General Assembly on the amount and use of county development impact fees, surcharges, and excise taxes.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, § 20-125 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 815 Senator Watson, et al

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION – CRIMINAL HISTORY – PROHIBITED DISCLOSURES

Altering certain provisions of law regarding the prohibition on certain departments of State government denying an occupational license or certificate to an applicant solely on the basis of the criminal history of the applicant by prohibiting the Maryland Department of Labor from requiring disclosure of certain actions on an application.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CP, § 1-209 - amended

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

SB 816 **Senator Watson, et al****PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – MEMBERSHIP – ALTERATIONS**

Increasing from five to seven the number of commissioners appointed to the Public Service Commission; establishing certain residency requirements for each commissioner; altering the manner in which the Chair of the Commission is appointed; requiring the Commission to submit, on or before August 1, 2025, a slate of nominees to the Governor for the initial appointment of certain commissioners; and applying the Act prospectively.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

PU, §§ 2-102 and 2-103 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 817 **Senator Watson****COMMON OWNERSHIP COMMUNITIES – CANDIDATE OR PROPOSITION SIGNS – DISPLAY PERIOD**

Altering, if there is early voting for an election, to 30 days before the start of early voting for a primary election, general election, or vote on the proposition the time period during which a common ownership community may restrict the display of candidate or proposition signs.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CA, § 5-6B-23 and RP, §§ 11-111.2 and 11B-111.2 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 818 **Senators Watson and Rosapepe****EDUCATION – SCHOOL BUILDING ENERGY USAGE – MONTHLY REPORT**

Requiring each county board of education to collect data on energy usage and report the data collected to the Interagency Commission on School Construction; requiring the Commission to adopt regulations specifying the data to be collected and the means and frequency of reporting; and requiring the Commission to analyze the data collected and provide recommendations for improving school building energy efficiency and usage.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 5-331 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 819 **Senators Watson and Attar****PUBLIC SCHOOLS – OPEN ENROLLMENT – POLICIES AND FUNDING**

Authorizing a county board of education to adopt an open enrollment policy to authorize certain students to attend, free of charge, a public school in a county other than the county where the student is domiciled with the student’s parent or guardian, subject to certain requirements; requiring county boards to include certain students in full-time equivalent enrollment counts; and directing certain funding to the county in which certain students are enrolled in a public school under an open enrollment policy.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-101(b)(1) - amended and § 7-101.4 - added

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

SB 820 **Senators Watson and Rosapepe****MUNICIPALITIES – ENFORCEMENT OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Increasing from \$1,000 to \$5,000 the maximum amount of a criminal fine or municipal infraction that may be imposed by a municipality to enforce certain ordinances and resolutions enacted by the municipality.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LG, §§ 6-101 and 6-102 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 821 **Senator Watson, et al****PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION – STUDENT IMMUNIZATION – TEMPORARY ADMISSION PERIOD**

Requiring each county board of education to grant certain students temporary admission to schools for a specified time frame if the parent or guardian of a student is unable to provide proof of immunization under certain circumstances; and requiring the parent or guardian of a student granted temporary admission to present evidence of the student’s appointment within 60 calendar days of the admission with a health professional or local health department for purposes of receiving the required immunizations or reconstructing a lost record.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-403(a) - amended and § 7-403.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 822 **Senator Jennings****PROPERTY TAX – TAX CREDIT FOR NONPRIMARY RESIDENCE**

Providing a credit against the State, county, and municipal corporation property tax imposed on certain nonprimary residences under certain circumstances; providing that “nonprimary residence” does not include residential real property that is held primarily for rental, investment, or the generation of income; and requiring the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City and the governing body of each county and municipal corporation to set a certain nonprimary residence credit percentage for purposes of calculating the credit.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

TP, § 9-112 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 823 **Senator McCray****NO TAX ON TIPS ACT**

Establishing consumer protections related to service fees charged by food service facilities; specifying the State minimum wage rate; prohibiting, beginning July 1, 2028, employers of tipped employees from including a tip credit amount as part of the employees’ wages; allowing a subtraction under the State income tax for certain qualified tips received by certain individuals; and allowing a person a credit against the State income tax for certain amounts paid to an employee based on the payment of certain wages and tips.

CONTINGENT

CL and LE, Various Sections - amended and CL and TG, Various Sections - added

Assigned to: Finance and Budget and Taxation

SB 824 **Senator McCray****ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – PROHIBITION ON CLASS A LICENSES FOR CHAIN STORES, SUPERMARKETS, AND DISCOUNT HOUSES – REPEAL**

Repealing a prohibition on boards of license commissioners from issuing a Class A alcoholic beverages license to chain stores, supermarkets, or discount houses.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 4-205 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 825 **Senator McCray (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)****BALTIMORE CITY – ASSAULT OF SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS – PENALTIES**

Increasing penalties for a person causing physical injury to a Baltimore City special enforcement officer, a special parking enforcement officer, or a special traffic enforcement officer while the officer is engaged in the performance of the officer's official duties; and providing that a person who violates the Act is guilty of the felony of assault in the second degree and is subject to imprisonment of up to 10 years or a fine of up to \$5,000 or both.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 3-203 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 826 **Senator McKay****GARRETT COUNTY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ACT OF 2025**

Establishing certain deluxe complex restaurant and resort complex beer and wine and beer, wine, and liquor licenses in Garrett County; requiring the Board of License Commissioners for Garrett County to hold a hearing for the issuance of certain festival licenses and altering certain notice requirements for the hearing; requiring certain festival license applicants to apply to the Board in a certain manner; clarifying the entities to which the Board may issue certain multiple day and multiple event licenses; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, §§ 21-804.1, 21-903.1, 21-1002.3, and 21-1002.4 - added and Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 827 **Senator Love, et al****JUVENILE LAW – CONFINEMENT AND RESTRICTIVE HOUSING – LIMITATIONS**

Limiting the circumstances under which an incarcerated minor may be involuntarily placed in restrictive housing to the extent necessary to eliminate identifiable risk; prohibiting the placement of a minor in restrictive housing for more than 6 hours; and authorizing a correctional facility to place a minor in restrictive housing at the minor's request; establishing certain requirements for detaining, confining, or transporting a child; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CS, § 9-614.1, CJ, § 3-8A-16, and CP, § 4-202(h) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 828 **Senator Smith****IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT – SENSITIVE LOCATIONS – GUIDELINES AND POLICIES (PROTECTING SENSITIVE LOCATIONS ACT)**

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

EMERGENCY BILL

SG, § 6-111 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 829 **Senator Hayes****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: Budget and Taxation

SB 830 **Senator Hayes****WORKERS' COMPENSATION – CLAIMS APPLICATION FORM – AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

Altering the entities to which a claimant is required to authorize the release in a claim application filed with the Workers' Compensation Commission to include the Uninsured Employers' Fund and the Subsequent Injury Fund; altering the information which a claimant is required to authorize the release in a claim application to include additional claims filed by the claimant and information in the custody of the Commission.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LE, § 9-709(a) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 831 **Senator Charles****CREDIT REGULATION – REVERSE MORTGAGE LOANS – ESCROW ACCOUNTS**

Requiring a lender for a reverse mortgage loan to establish a certain escrow account for the payment of eligible homeowner expenses, deduct a certain amount of funds from each loan distribution to a borrower, deposit the deducted funds into the escrow account, and deliver on-time payments from the escrow account to the appropriate collection entity for eligible homeowner expenses.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, § 12-1208 - renumbered and added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 832 **Senator Charles****PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – DISTRICT COUNCIL ZONING LAWS – OVERRIDE BY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

Authorizing a municipal corporation in Prince George’s County that is in the regional district to override, by a majority vote of the governing body of the municipal corporation, a certain zoning law made by the district council if the zoning law affects land within the jurisdiction of the municipal corporation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LU, §§ 20-709 and 22-119(a) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 833 **Senator Charles****FAMILY LAW – TREATMENT FOSTER CARE HOMES – CHILD CARE STIPENDS FOR PRIVATE PROVIDERS**

Requiring, beginning in fiscal year 2026, the Secretary of Human Services to review and reallocate a portion of the Department of Human Services’ annual budget to be used to provide child care stipends to certain private treatment foster care homes to cover child care expenses in a manner similar to public treatment foster care homes; requiring, beginning in fiscal year 2027, the Secretary to include in the Department’s annual budget proposal certain funding for child care stipends for private treatment foster care homes; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

FL, § 5-525.3 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 834 **Senator Waldstreicher**

VEHICLE LAWS – MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS – PRICES LISTED ON DEALER WEBSITES

Providing that a manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch may not take an adverse action against a dealer for disclosing on its website that the advertised price of a vehicle is the manufacturer's minimum allowable advertised price and that the dealer may offer a lower price for the vehicle.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 15-207(h) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 835 **Senators Mautz and Bailey**

STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT – RETENTION PROCEEDS

Requiring that undisputed retention proceeds retained by a unit or a certain contractor under a State procurement contract be paid within 90 days after the date of substantial completion.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SF, § 13-225 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 836 **Senator Mautz, et al**

CORPORATE INCOME TAX – RATE REDUCTION (ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2025)

Decreasing, over 5 taxable years, the State corporate income tax rate from 8.25% to 6.25%.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TG, § 10-105(b) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 837 **Senator Mautz, et al**

OYSTER RESTORATION – USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS – PROHIBITION

Prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from using federal funds for oyster restoration projects in State waters from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2030, both inclusive, subject to a certain exception.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 4-1016 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 838 **Senator Mautz, et al****ELECTION LAW – ABSENTEE BALLOTS – SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS AND VERIFICATION**

Prohibiting a local board of elections from removing an absentee ballot from a return envelope or ballot/return envelope or counting the ballot unless the return envelope or ballot/return envelope is signed by the voter and, except under certain circumstances, a witness and the local board verify the voter's signature; and providing that the witness signature requirement does not apply to active duty uniformed services members serving overseas or their spouses or dependents who live overseas.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EL, §§ 9-303 and 9-310(a)(5) and (c) - amended and § 9-310.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 839 **Dorchester County Senators****DORCHESTER COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR TASTING LICENSE**

Authorizing certain Class A license holders in Dorchester County to conduct tastings of liquor under certain circumstances, in addition to tastings of beer and wine; and limiting the quantity of liquor allowed per individual for tastings to 0.5 ounces from each offering and 1.5 ounces from all offerings of liquor in 1 day.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 19-1306 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 840 **Senator Mautz****MEDICAID MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM – SURVEILLANCE AND UTILIZATION REVIEW SUBSYSTEM – PUBLICATION OF PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to publish on its website a schedule for the issuance of a solicitation for the procurement of a Surveillance and Utilization Review Subsystem of the Medicaid Management Information System; and requiring the Department to publish on its website notice of certain time frames at least 60 days before the issuance of the procurement.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

SB 841 Senator Mautz**NATURAL RESOURCES – PUBLIC CLAM FISHERY AREA – ESTABLISHMENT**

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources, in consultation with the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission, to identify by regulation the public clam fishery area in the Chesapeake Bay based on commercial harvesting activity during the 3 years preceding June 1, 2025, any surveys conducted by the Department, and other quantitative data known or made available to the Department; and prohibiting the lease of the public clam fishery area for shellfish aquaculture.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

NR, § 4-1006.3 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 842 Senator Beidle**OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES – SEIZURE AND WHOLESALER LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS**

Authorizing the Executive Director of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission or a peace officer to seize other tobacco products and electronic smoking devices that are sold or offered for sale in violation of certain provisions of law without a warrant; establishing procedures for the return and destruction of certain property seized by the Executive Director or a peace officer; establishing an electronic smoking devices wholesaler license and certain record-keeping requirements; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, Various Sections - renumbered, added, and amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 843 Senator Hershey**SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION – LOCAL COST-SHARE – ALTERATIONS**

Adding an adjustment for the local cost-share for school construction projects for certain counties under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 5-303(k) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 844 **Senator Hershey****MARYLAND SELF-SERVICE STORAGE ACT – SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY IN SATISFACTION OF LIEN – NOTICE REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring an operator of a certain self-service storage facility to notify an occupant in default at least 10 days before conducting a sale of the occupant's property stored in the self-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; and requiring the operator of a self-storage facility to send a second notice if no response has been received 5 days prior to the sale.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CL, § 18-504(b) and (d) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 845 **Senator Hettleman****LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES – EDUCATOR SCREENING – NASDTEC CLEARINGHOUSE (SCHOOL PERSONNEL VETTING AND HIRING TRANSPARENCY ACT)**

Requiring each local education agency in the State to become an associate member of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) to utilize the Educator Identification Clearinghouse for screening educators and individuals who apply to be educators; and requiring each educator employed within the local school system to become a member of NASDTEC by July 1, 2025.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 6-103.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 846 **Senator Hettleman****BUSINESS REGULATION – CELLULAR PHONE CARRIERS – SERVICE CONTRACT REQUIREMENT**

Requiring a cellular phone carrier to include an option in the service contract that allows more than one individual who is a customer of record to the service contract to alter, modify, or cancel the service contract without the agreement of the other customers of record if all of the customers of record agree in writing to the option on execution of the service contract.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, § 19-108 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 847 **Senator Hettleman**

HIGHER EDUCATION – ANTIHATE AND ANTIDISCRIMINATION POLICIES AND WORKGROUP (MARYLAND CAMPUS ACCOUNTABILITY AND MODERNIZATION TO PROTECT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ACT)

Requiring institutions of higher education to adopt and enforce policies regarding antihate and antidiscrimination and time, place, and manner requirements for expressive conduct; requiring institutions of higher education to conduct certain meetings with certain approved student organizations; establishing the Campus Community Grant Program; and establishing the Workgroup on Combating Antisemitism, Islamophobia, and Other Forms of Racial, Ethnic, and Religious Violence, Harassment, and Intimidation.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 11-2001 through 11-2006 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 848 **Senator Guzzone**

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: Finance and Budget and Taxation

SB 849 **Senator Guzzone****PROFESSIONAL AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER INNOVATIVE
CANCER SCREENING TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM – FUNDING**

Altering the amount the Governor is authorized to include in the annual budget for the Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program from \$500,000 to \$3,000,000; and authorizing the Secretary of Health to use up to 20% of Program funds to support academic medical centers in the collection, analysis, and processing of Program outcome data for the purposes of assessing, maximizing, and improving the effectiveness and clinical utility of the cancer screening funded by the Program.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HG, § 13-4006 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation and Finance

SB 850 **Senator Zucker****STATE LOTTERY – TICKET PURCHASE AND DELIVERY BY THIRD-
PARTY ENTITY – AUTHORIZATION**

Authorizing the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency to allow licensed agents to enter into an agreement with third-party entities to allow those entities to purchase State lottery tickets on behalf of individuals in the State and deliver the tickets to the purchasers; and authorizing the third-party entities to charge a service fee.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SG, § 9-111(g) - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 851 **Senator Zucker, et al****PUBLIC SCHOOLS – INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES – MAIN ENTRANCE ACCESSIBILITY AND EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Requiring each county board of education, by September 1, 2025, and each September 1 thereafter, to publish on its website and report to the General Assembly on the number of main entrances to public school buildings in the county that are not accessible for individuals with disabilities and not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act; requiring each local school system to send a copy of the local school system’s emergency plan to the State Department of Education; requiring a certain report to the General Assembly; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-136 - added and § 7-435 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 852 **Senator Lewis Young****BLUEPRINT FOR MARYLAND’S FUTURE – ALTERATIONS**

Repealing the Career Counseling Program for Middle and High School Students and the associated funding; requiring county boards of education to report on per-school funding for certain programs associated with the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future in a certain manner; providing a waiver from the minimum funding per school requirement for schools with 350 or fewer total students; altering the definition of “Tier I child” for purposes of publicly funded prekindergarten to include certain children; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, Various Sections - amended and §§ 6-1006 and 7-127 - repealed

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

SB 853 **Senator Lewis Young, et al****PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – TRANSMISSION LINE SITING – LIMITATIONS**

Prohibiting the Public Service Commission from authorizing, and a person from undertaking, the construction of an overhead transmission line outside of an existing transmission line right-of-way unless the applicant adequately demonstrates to the Commission that existing transmission line rights-of-way are not sufficient for the proposed overhead transmission line.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

PU, § 7-207(h) - added and amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 854 **Senator Lewis Young****HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – LICENSED DIRECT-ENTRY MIDWIVES – REVISIONS**

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

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

Assigned to: Finance

SB 855 **Senator Ellis, 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: Finance

SB 856 **Senator Henson****MOLD – LANDLORD REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS
(MARYLAND TENANT MOLD PROTECTION ACT)**

Requiring the Department of the Environment, the Maryland Department of Health, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Maryland Department of Labor, and the Department of General Services to develop a certain pamphlet and website; requiring a landlord to provide a tenant with certain information at certain times and in a certain manner; requiring a landlord to perform a mold assessment and mold remediation within 45 days after receipt of a written notice regarding the detection of mold; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EN, § 6-1702 and RP, § 8-121 - added

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

SB 857 **Senator Henson****CHILD CARE – PREKINDERGARTEN EXPANSION GRANT
MODIFICATIONS AND WORKGROUP**

Altering the use of Prekindergarten Expansion Grants to add slots for additional children and not supplant child care slots for infants and toddlers; requiring applications for the grant to use certain terminology and be accompanied by certain instructions; requiring the State Department of Education to establish a multiyear grant award process; requiring the Department to convene a workgroup to explore and make recommendations on opportunities to incentivize growth in certain child care providers with slots for infants and toddlers; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-101.2 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 858 **Senator Henson****STATE PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICE AND STATIONS – EXCLUSION
FOR ASSAULT AND BODILY INJURY**

Providing that a person alleged to have committed an assault or other intentional act causing bodily injury may not board a State public transit service or enter a State public transit service station for a certain period of time and under certain circumstances; and providing that a person who violates the Act is subject to prosecution for trespassing.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 7-705.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 859 **Senator Hettleman, et al****FAIR SHARE FOR MARYLAND ACT OF 2025**

Altering a certain limit on the unified credit used for determining the estate tax for decedents dying on or after a certain date; altering a certain limitation on the amount of the estate tax for decedents dying on or after a certain date; altering the definition of “qualified child” for purposes of a certain credit against the State income tax for certain dependent children; imposing a certain business transportation fee on certain taxable income of corporations and pass-through entities for certain taxable years; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

TG, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 860 **Senator Corderman****GAMING – PROHIBITION OF ONLINE SWEEPSTAKES GAMES AND REVENUE FROM ILLEGAL MARKETS**

Prohibiting a person from operating, conducting, or promoting online sweepstakes games or supporting the operation, conducting, or promotion of online sweepstakes games; requiring the State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency to deny certain license applications and revoke certain licenses under certain circumstances; prohibiting the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission from issuing a license to certain persons or allowing the person to commence or continue operations under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CR, § 12-115 and SG, §§ 9-1A-07(g) and 9-1A-08.1 - added and SG, §§ 9-1A-07(g) and 9-1E-03(a)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 861 Senator Corderman**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – WESTERN MARYLAND ECONOMIC FUTURE INVESTMENT BOARD AND SENATOR GEORGE C. EDWARDS FUND – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the composition of the Western Maryland Economic Future Investment Board; providing that the Executive Director serves as a nonvoting member of the Board; altering the purpose of the Senator George C. Edwards Fund to provide grant or loan funding to create jobs and significant economic development opportunities in the region; extending, through fiscal year 2031, the fiscal years in which the Governor is required to include an appropriation of at least \$10,000,000 in the annual budget bill to the Fund; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EC, §§ 13-737, 13-739, and 13-740 - amended

Assigned to: Finance and Budget and Taxation

SB 862 Senator Jackson (Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions)**STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – ADMINISTRATIVE FEES – REPEAL**

Requiring the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System to certify certain employer contribution rates each fiscal year; requiring the employer contribution rates to include recognition of certain administrative and operational expenses; repealing a requirement that certain administrative and operational expenses of the State Retirement and Pension System and the State Retirement Agency be funded by charging each participating employer an administrative fee for each system participant; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

SP, §§ 21-125, 21-302, 21-303, and 21-315 - amended and § 21-316 -repealed

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 863 **Senator Muse****MOTOR VEHICLES – RENTAL FLEET VEHICLES – REGISTRATION**

Establishing an alternative registration process for rental fleet vehicles; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to issue distinctive registration plates for rental vehicles registered under the alternative process; and requiring, in addition to an annual registration fee, the owner of a registered rental vehicle to pay a one-time initial registration fee not to exceed \$8.50 when the new registration plates are issued.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 13-424 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 864 **Senator Muse****EMPLOYEES' PENSION SYSTEM – TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS
EMPLOYEES – MEMBERSHIP**

Authorizing certain employees of the Town of Forest Heights to participate in the Employees' Pension System; providing that membership in the Employees' Pension System is optional for certain employees of the Town of Forest Heights; requiring certain employees of the Town of Forest Heights to make a certain election on a certain date; providing for certain employees of the Town of Forest Heights to receive service credit for certain prior service; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

SP, § 31-111 - amended and § 31-111.9 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 865 **Senator Muse****LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM – FOREST
HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT – MEMBERSHIP**

Authorizing certain law enforcement employees of the Forest Heights Police Department to participate in the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System; providing that membership in the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System is optional for certain employees of the Forest Heights Police Department; providing for certain employees of the Forest Heights Police Department to receive service credit for certain prior service; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

SP, § 31-2A-04 - amended and § 31-2A-08 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 866 **Senator Muse, et al****COMMON OWNERSHIP COMMUNITIES – OMBUDSMAN UNIT,
GOVERNING DOCUMENT DATABASE, AND LOCAL COMMISSIONS**

Establishing the Common Ownership Community Ombudsman Unit in the Office of the Attorney General to monitor relevant changes in federal and State laws, make certain information publicly available, assist members in understanding certain rights and processes, and provide information on alternative dispute resolution services; requiring common ownership communities to file certain documents; requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish a data base of governing documents; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

CL, § 13-207, HS, § 2-304, and RP, §§ 11C-101 through 11C-114 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 867 **Senator Hester****CYBER MARYLAND PROGRAM – REVISIONS**

Transferring the Cyber Maryland Program from the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to the Maryland Department of Labor; altering the duties of the Program; requiring the Program to issue certain competitive grants and contracts beginning in fiscal year 2026; altering the purposes for which the Cyber Maryland Fund may be used; altering certain funding requirements related to the Program; requiring that certain unused balances from certain programs and funds be transferred to the Program at the close of the fiscal year; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EC, § 10-491 - transferred and LE, § 11-1701 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 868 **Senator Henson****SUBSTITUTE CHILD CARE PROVIDER POOL PILOT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHED**

Establishing the Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program in the State Department of Education; providing the purpose of the Program is to facilitate the continuous operation of child care facilities in the State by ensuring that qualified substitute child care providers are available to fill short-term staffing needs of child care facilities on a temporary basis; requiring the Department for fiscal years 2027 through 2030, to award a grant of \$350,000 to the nonprofit organization selected to administer the Program; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 9.5-118 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 869 **Senator Mautz****DORCHESTER COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES – FEES**

Altering licensing fees for certain alcoholic beverages licenses in Dorchester County; and authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Dorchester County to charge an application or transfer fee under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, Various Sections - amended and § 19-1408 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 870 **Senator Mautz****BOATING – MIGRATORY WATERFOWL SEASON – PROHIBITED ACTS**

Prohibiting a person from operating a vessel, including a kayak or a paddle boat, within 500 yards of a stationary blind or blind site that is occupied and being used for hunting migratory waterfowl during open season.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

NR, § 8-724.2 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 871 **Senator Hester****DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT – COMMUNITY WATER AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS – CYBERSECURITY PLANNING AND ASSESSMENTS**

Requiring the Department of the Environment to coordinate, in coordination with the Department of Information Technology and the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, cybersecurity efforts within community water systems and community sewerage systems; establishing the roles and responsibilities of various State agencies with respect to regulating, assessing, and promoting cybersecurity efforts within the water and wastewater sector; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, §§ 9-2701 through 9-2707 - added, GP, § 4-338 and PS, § 14-104.1 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 872 **Senator Jennings****LOCAL GOVERNMENT – HIRING AND PROMOTION PREFERENCES FOR VETERANS AND SPOUSES OF SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS (FAMILIES SERVE ACT)**

Authorizing counties and municipalities to grant, by local law, a preference in the hiring and promotion to eligible veterans, spouses of an eligible service member, spouses of certain eligible veterans and eligible service members, and surviving spouses of deceased eligible veterans; authorizing counties and municipalities to adopt a local law that allows for the application of a certain credit on a selection test for eligible spouses, eligible veterans, and certain spouses and surviving spouses.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LE, § 3-714 - amended and LG, §§ 1-204 through 1-206 - renumbered, § 1-204 - added and § 12-109(a)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 873 **Senator Smith****CRIMINAL LAW – ASSAULT IN THE THIRD DEGREE**

Establishing that it is a misdemeanor to intentionally cause offensive contact, engage in conduct intending to put another in fear of offensive contact, or attempt to cause offensive contact; providing that assault in the third degree is not a lesser included crime of any other crime, with a certain exception; providing that a person charged with assault in the third degree may assert any judicially recognized defense, with a certain exception; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 3-203.1 - added and §§ 3-206 and 3-209 - amended, CJ, §§ 4-301(b) and 4-302(d) - amended, and CP, § 10-110(a) and (c) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 874 **Senator Folden****CRIMINAL LAW – GIFT CARD CRIMES**

Prohibiting a person from taking a certain gift card from another or receiving a gift card with the intent to use, sell, or transfer the gift card in a certain manner; prohibiting a person from receiving a gift card that the person knows was lost, mislaid, or delivered under a mistake and retaining possession in a certain manner; prohibiting a person from selling and buying a gift card under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 8-201 - amended and §§ 8-204.1 and 8-205.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 875 **Senator Folden****PUBLIC HEALTH – MEDETOMIDINE AND XYLAZINE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT**

Prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, or exposing for sale a medetomidine product or a xylazine product unless the purchaser provides to the retailer certain proof; prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, or exposing for sale a medetomidine product or a xylazine product to an individual under the age of 21 years; requiring a retailer that prepares, distributes, sells, or exposes for sale a medetomidine product or a xylazine product to maintain certain records; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 8-6A-01(b)(3) - amended and §§ 21-2F-01 through 21-2F-03 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 876 **Senators Hershey and Mautz****MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – COVERAGE FOR THE TREATMENT OF OBESITY**

Requiring, beginning on July 1, 2026, the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide comprehensive coverage for the treatment of obesity; and requiring the Maryland Department of Health to provide notice to Program recipients of the coverage requirements.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 15-103(a)(2)(xxiii) and (xxiv) - amended and §§ 15-103(a)(2)(xxv) and 15-157 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 877 **Senator Hershey****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: Judicial Proceedings

SB 878 **Senator Hershey, et al****OIL AND NATURAL GAS – HYDRAULIC FRACTURING – AUTHORIZATION**

Authorizing a person to engage in the hydraulic fracturing of a well for the exploration or production of oil or natural gas in the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, § 14-107.1 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 879 **Senator Carozza, et al****INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – DUALY ENROLLED STUDENTS – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the definition of “dually enrolled student” to include a nonpublic secondary school student and a home school student to be eligible to apply for the Part–Time Grant Program and the Early College Access Grant.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 15-127, 18-1401, and 18-14A-01 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 880 **Senator Guzzone****GOVERNOR’S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN – BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF MARYLAND – GRANT FUNDING**

Requiring the Governor to include \$5,000,000 in the annual budget bill each fiscal year to the Governor’s Office for Children to provide certain grants for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Maryland.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HU, § 8-105 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 881 **Senator Rosapepe****TRANSPORTATION – REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITIES**

Establishing the Baltimore region, capital region, and Southern Maryland region transportation authorities to develop and implement certain transportation plans; establishing the Baltimore region, capital region, and Southern Maryland region transportation funds as special, nonlapsing funds; imposing certain transportation authority sales tax surcharges, hotel surcharges, and transfer tax surcharges; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, §§ 10.5-101 thru 10.5-413 - added and SF, TG, and TP, Various Sections - added and amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation and Finance

SB 882 **Senator Rosapepe****COAL TRANSPORTATION FEE AND FOSSIL FUEL MITIGATION FUND (COAL DUST CLEANUP AND ASTHMA REMEDIATION ACT)**

Imposing a coal transportation fee on a person that transports coal in the State; providing that the rate of the coal transportation fee is \$13 per short ton transported in the State; providing that the fee does not apply to the transportation of coal that is solely for use on a farm and the carrier does not otherwise use or sell the coal; establishing the Fossil Fuel Mitigation Fund to support activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the State; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EN, §§ 7-701 through 7-703 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)206. - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)204. and 205. - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 883 Senator James**COMMERCIAL LAW – STATUTORY LIENS – MOTOR VEHICLES
TOWED OR REMOVED FROM PARKING LOTS**

Establishing that a certain person has a lien on a motor vehicle towed or removed from a privately owned parking lot for charges incurred for any towing, recovery, storage, or notice provided under certain circumstances; and establishing the circumstances in which the lien is extinguished.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, § 16-202(e) - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 884 Senator Ready**COMMERCIAL DRIVER’S LICENSES – OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS –
SCHOOL BUSES OR PASSENGER VEHICLES**

Authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to issue a Class B commercial driver’s license with a school bus or passenger vehicle endorsement to nonresidents of Maryland who hold an equivalent commercial driver’s license and the appropriate equivalent endorsement from the driver’s licensing authority of a neighboring state.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 16-817 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 885 Carroll County Senators**CARROLL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION – VACANCY
PROCEDURES – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the procedures used to fill a vacancy of a voting member of the Carroll County Board of Education under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 3-401 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 886 **Senator Ready**

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: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 887 **Senator King**

COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – REAPPOINTMENT OF INCUMBENT COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT – AUTHORIZATION

Authorizing a county board of education to reappoint an incumbent county superintendent in a certain manner; and authorizing a county board, at any point during the incumbent superintendent's term, to take action at a public meeting not later than March 1 of the year in which the contract is being renewed to reappoint the incumbent superintendent to serve a new term of 4 years beginning the immediately following July 1.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

ED, § 4-201(b) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 888 **Senator Henson**

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – LICENSE AND PERMIT DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS

Authorizing, rather than prohibiting, the Board of Liquor Commissioners for Anne Arundel County to issue a certain dancing permit to the holder of a Class H beer and wine or beer, wine, and liquor license for a licensed premises located within 1,000 feet of a school located at the Annapolis Mall; and authorizing, rather than prohibiting, the Board from issuing a new Class B beer and wine or beer, wine, and liquor license if the establishment is located within 1,000 feet of a school located at the Annapolis Mall.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, §§ 11-1102(d) and 11-1603 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 889 **Senator Henson**

CRIMINAL LAW – DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS’ PERSONAL INFORMATION – PROHIBITION

Prohibiting a person from distributing personal identifying information or images of a student enrolled in an institution of secondary education or an institution of postsecondary education with intent or knowledge that the information will be used to harm the student or with reckless disregard for the risk the information will be used to harm the student; and providing that a person who violates the Act is guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to imprisonment of up to 1 year or a fine of up to \$5,000 or both.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 3-810 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 890 **Senator M. Washington**

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – DIVISION OF JUST COMMUNITIES – ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Division of Just Communities in the Department of Housing and Community Development; transferring the authority to designate an area as a Just Community from the Governor to the Department; altering the criteria for designating an area as a Just Community; and transferring the administration of the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program to the Division.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HS, Various Sections - renumbered, amended, and added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 891 **Senator M. Washington****LAND USE AND REAL PROPERTY – ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS
– REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS**

Establishing the policy of the State to promote and encourage the creation of accessory dwelling units on land zoned for single-family residential use in order to meet the housing needs of the citizens of the State; requiring, on or before October 1, 2026, the legislative body of certain counties or municipal corporations to adopt a local law authorizing the development of accessory dwelling units on land zoned for single-family residential use subject to certain requirements; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LU and RP, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 892 **Senator Zucker****EDUCATION – MINIMUM WAGE FOR EDUCATION SUPPORT
PROFESSIONALS**

Establishing a minimum wage of \$25.00 to be paid by county boards of education to certain education support professionals beginning July 1, 2025; adjusting the minimum wage for education support professionals for inflation each year; and defining “education support professional” as a noncertificated public school employee designated as part of a nonsupervisory bargaining unit.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

ED, § 6-306 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 893 **Senator Charles****INSURANCE – ENFORCEMENT, IMPAIRED ENTITIES, HOMEOWNER’S INSURANCE POLICIES, AND UNFAIR CLAIM SETTLEMENT PRACTICES – REVISIONS**

Establishing and altering requirements governing the regulation of insurance in the State, including requirements related to reviews and examinations undertaken by the Maryland Insurance Commissioner, premium discounts, the temporary suspension of writing new homeowner’s insurance policies, and claims handling; providing that certain insurers may be subject to additional market conduct examinations under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

IN, Various Sections - added and amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 894 **Senator M. Washington****OFFICE OF SOCIAL EQUITY – COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND – ADVISORY BOARD AND MODIFICATIONS**

Requiring the Office of Social Equity within the Maryland Cannabis Administration, rather than the Comptroller, to administer the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund; repealing provisions of law requiring the Office to report on the Fund and to solicit public input on the uses of the Fund and publish a review of the input; requiring the Office to oversee the appropriation of funds from the Fund and to train Fund recipients; establishing the Community Reinvestment and Repair Advisory Board; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

AB, §§ 1-309.1 and 1-322 - amended, §§ 1-3A-01 through 1-3A-03 - added, and § 1-323 - renumbered

Assigned to: Finance

SB 895 **Senator Love****EMPLOYMENT – WAGES – DEDUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**

Applying to governmental employers certain provisions of the Maryland Wage Payment and Collection Law that prohibit an employer from making deductions from the wage of an employee except for specified purposes; and allowing a governmental employer to make a deduction from a public employee’s wage if the deduction is authorized expressly in a compensation or benefit plan adopted by the employer.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

LE, § 3-503 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 896 **Senator Love****REAL PROPERTY – RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY – PET POLICY DISCLOSURE (PET POLICY TRANSPARENCY ACT)**

Requiring the landlord of a residential rental property to provide the property’s pet policy on the property’s website, in digital advertisements, in information provided for residential rental search engines, and in applications for a rental unit on the property.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 8-210 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 897 **Senator Love****PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION – STUDENT TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCE GUIDE**

Requiring the National Center for School Mental Health at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, in consultation with the State Department of Education, to develop and distribute a student technology and social media resource guide beginning in the 2027–2028 school year with additional information included in successive years; requiring the Governor to include an appropriation of \$100,000 for fiscal year 2027 and \$125,000 for fiscal years 2028 and 2029 in the annual budget bill; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 7-2201 through 7-2205 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 898 **Senator Love****NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT – TIDAL BUFFER – VEGETATIVE BUFFERS AND RESTRICTION ON FERTILIZER APPLICATION**

Authorizing, in accordance with technical specifications adopted by the Department of Agriculture, that State cost–share funding be made available for installing various vegetative buffer practices on land within the 100–foot tidal buffer on an agricultural operation; prohibiting a nutrient management plan renewed after July 1, 2025, from allowing a person to apply certain fertilizer to land within the 100–foot tidal buffer; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

AG, § 8-706 - amended and §§ 8-707 and 8-803.10 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 899 **Senator Augustine****EDUCATION – HIGH SCHOOL CLASS RANKINGS AND GUARANTEED ADMISSIONS TO PUBLIC SENIOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

Requiring, beginning in the 2025–2026 school year, certain high schools to prepare, in a certain manner, a class ranking of each student who completes grade 11 to establish rankings for use in a certain guaranteed admissions process to certain public senior institutions of higher education in the State; and requiring, beginning in the 2026–2027 academic year, public senior institutions of higher education to establish a certain process for accepting high school students who apply under a guaranteed admission policy.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 7-205.2, 7-205.3, and 7-205.4 - renumbered, §§ 7-205.2 and 15-101.1 - added, and § 15-101(a) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 900 **Senator Augustine****MARYLAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM – INTEGRATION OF 9–8–8 SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE NETWORK AND OUTCOME EVALUATIONS**

Requiring each crisis communication center in the Maryland Behavioral Health Crisis Response System to coordinate with the 9–8–8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Network to provide supportive counseling, suicide prevention, crisis intervention, and referrals to additional resources; and altering the evaluation of outcome of services the System is required to include.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HG, § 10-1403 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 901 **Senators Augustine and Love****ENVIRONMENT – PACKAGING MATERIALS – PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY PLANS**

Requiring certain producers of packaging materials, individually or as part of a producer responsibility organization, to submit a certain packaging materials producer responsibility plan to the Department of the Environment for review and approval on or before April 1, 2027, and every 5 years thereafter, in accordance with certain requirements.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

EN, Various Sections - amended, added, and repealed

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 902 **Senator Augustine****HEALTH INSURANCE – ACCESS TO NONPARTICIPATING PROVIDERS – REFERRALS, ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE, AND COVERAGE**

Repealing the June 30, 2025, termination date for certain provisions of law related to referrals to and reimbursement of specialists and nonphysician specialists who are not part of a carrier's provider panel; requiring that a certain referral procedure required to be established and implemented by certain carriers require the carrier to provide certain assistance to a member in identifying and arranging coverage for a specialist or nonphysician specialist for treatment of mental health or substance use disorder services; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

IN, § 15-830(d) and (e) and Chapters 271 and 272 of the Acts of 2022, § 4 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 903 Senator Hester**DATA CENTERS – FAST TRACK PASS FOR CO-LOCATION AND SALES AND USE TAX**

Establishing an expedited certificate of public convenience and necessity review process for certain co-located energy generation projects that have received a fast track pass; establishing a Data Center Fast Track Advisory Committee in the Public Service Commission to facilitate the application for and review and awarding of fast track passes; altering the requirements for qualified data center personal property to be eligible to be exempt from the sales and use tax; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

PU, §§ 7-207(b)(1)(iv), 7-207.4, and 7-218 - added and TG, § 11-239 - amended

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

SB 904 Senator Hester, et al**DATA BROKERS – REGISTRY AND GROSS INCOME TAX (BUILDING INFORMATION GUARDRAILS DATA ACT OF 2025)**

Establishing the Privacy Protection and Enforcement Unit within the Division of Consumer Protection in the Office of the Attorney General; establishing a data broker registry; requiring certain data brokers to register each year with the Comptroller; and imposing a tax on the gross income of certain data brokers for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2026.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

TG, CL, ED, and SF, Various Sections - renumbered, added, and amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation and Finance

SB 905 Senator Hester**CRIMINAL LAW – IDENTITY FRAUD – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DEEPPFAKE REPRESENTATIONS**

Prohibiting a person from utilizing certain personal identifying information or engaging in certain conduct in order to cause certain harm; prohibiting a person from using certain artificial intelligence or certain deepfake representations for certain purposes; and providing that a person who is the victim of certain conduct may bring a civil action against a certain person.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 8-301 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 906 **Senator Hester****EDUCATION – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – GUIDELINES, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND TASK FORCE**

Requiring the State Department of Education, in consultation with the State Board of Education and the Task Force on Artificial Intelligence in K–12 Education, to develop or update guidance on artificial intelligence for county boards of education; requiring the Department, in consultation with the Department of Information Technology, to develop and update annually a list of approved artificial intelligence tools; requiring each county board to conduct an annual inventory of systems that employ artificial intelligence; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

ED, §§ 7-2201 through 7-2203 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 907 **Senator Hester****CYBERSECURITY – STANDARDS, COMPLIANCE, AND AUDITS – ALTERATIONS**

Repealing the requirement that county boards of education prioritize the purchase of digital devices with certain funds; requiring each local school system to comply with, and certify compliance with, the State minimum cybersecurity standards and to conduct a cybersecurity maturity assessment every 2 years; requiring the Office of Security Management within the Department of Information Technology to annually update the State minimum cybersecurity standards; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 5-212 - amended and § 5-213(e) and (f) - added, SF, §§ 3.5-101, 3.5-2A-04(b), and 3.5-405 - amended, and SG, § 2-1221 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 908 **Senator Hester****PUBLIC UTILITIES – ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANS – ESTABLISHMENT (AFFORDABLE GRID ACT)**

Requiring the Public Service Commission to adopt regulations or issue orders on or before December 31, 2025, that require electric companies to, every 3 years, develop an electric system distribution plan to be approved by the Commission and provide the Commission with annual progress reports; requiring the Commission to adopt regulations or issue orders adopting certain metrics to monitor and assess electric distribution system plans; requiring an electric company to provide certain public comment opportunities; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-804 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 909 **Senator Hester****ENERGY RESOURCE ADEQUACY AND PLANNING ACT**

Establishing the Integrated Resource Planning Office in the Public Service Commission; requiring the Office to develop a Comprehensive Energy Forecast and conduct a certain study to support the development of the Forecast; requiring the Office, in consultation with the Commission and the Maryland Energy Administration, to complete certain energy modeling; and requiring the Commission, in consultation with the Office, to adopt regulations requiring each electric company to develop a certain integrated resource plan.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

PU, §§ 7-1201 through 7-1206 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 910 **Caroline County Senators****CAROLINE COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – MULTIPLE EVENT LICENSES**

Establishing the rural special event venue beer, wine, and liquor license as a multiple event license in Caroline County; and authorizing holders of certain multiple event licenses in Caroline County to store alcoholic beverages on the licensed premises for use at subsequent events under the license.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 15-1309 - added and § 15-1310 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 911 **Senator Attar, 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: Finance

SB 912 **Charles County Senators**CHARLES COUNTY – OFF-HIGHWAY RECREATIONAL VEHICLES –
REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Authorizing Charles County to regulate the operation of off-highway recreational vehicles in the county and to impound an off-highway recreational vehicle that is subject to certain alleged motor vehicle violations.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, § 25-102(a) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 913 **Senator Hettleman**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – PUBLIC ELECTRIC VEHICLE
SUPPLY EQUIPMENT – REGISTRATION, REGULATION, AND
OVERSIGHT

Requiring the owner of public electric vehicle supply equipment to register with the Secretary of Agriculture on or before certain dates; applying certain provisions of law regarding weights and measures to public electric vehicle supply equipment; requiring the Secretary to establish a program to test the weight and measure of public electric vehicle supply equipment and ensure the equipment conforms to certain standards; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AG, §§ 11-204.2, 11-204.6, and 11-208.1 - amended and §§ 11-501 through 11-509 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 914 **Senator Hettleman****BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES**

Authorizing supervisory employees of the Baltimore County Public Library to form, join, and participate in an employee organization and engage in certain other activities related to collective bargaining; authorizing certain bargaining units for the employees of the Baltimore County Public Library; and altering certain provisions to provide that an employee may be deemed a certain management employee, rather than a supervisory employee, under certain circumstances.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 23-802 through 23-812 - renumbered, §§ 23-801(h), 23-803, and 23-810(a) - amended, and § 23-802 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 915 **Senator Hettleman****BALTIMORE COUNTY – VEHICLE LAWS – PRIVATE ROADWAYS IN RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS AND COMMUNITIES**

Prohibiting a person from driving a motor vehicle in violation of certain provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law on private roadways in certain residential areas in Baltimore County; and authorizing a police officer to enforce the Maryland Vehicle Law on private roadways in certain residential areas in Baltimore County.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, §§ 11-205(c) and 21-101.1(b)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 916 **Senator Kramer****EDUCATION – CURRICULUM STANDARDS – REQUIREMENTS
(EDUCATE TO STOP THE HATE ACT)**

Requiring that certain curriculum guides and courses of study established by county boards of education be aligned with certain content standards, curriculum standards, and curriculum resources; requiring the State Department of Education to develop certain content standards; establishing certain requirements for the Department's process for developing, reviewing, and adopting certain content standards, curriculum standards, and curriculum resources; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, §§ 4-111(a) and 7-202.1 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 917 **Senator Kramer****ELECTRONIC PAYMENT TRANSACTIONS – INTERCHANGE FEES –
CALCULATION AND USE OF DATA**

Requiring certain entities that process electronic payment transactions to exclude, under certain circumstances, the amount of tax and gratuity included in the electronic payment transaction from the amount on which an interchange fee is charged; requiring certain credit and debit card issuers to credit a merchant who provides certain documentation with the amount of the interchange fee charged on the amount of tax and gratuity included in an electronic payment transaction; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, §§ 12-402 and 13-301(14)(xlv) - amended and §§ 12-405 and 13-301(14)(xlv) - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 918 Senator Gile**BUSINESS REGULATION – ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES
MANUFACTURERS – CERTIFICATIONS**

Authorizing the Executive Director of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission and the Attorney General to take certain action relating to the licensure of certain electronic smoking devices manufacturers, wholesalers, importers, and retailers and vape shop vendors in certain circumstances; requiring an electronic smoking devices manufacturer to execute and deliver a certain certification to the Attorney General each year; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, Various Sections - amended and §§ 16.7-301 thru 16.7-309 - added and CL, § 13-301(14)(xlii) - amended and § 13-301(14)(xliv) - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 919 Senator Gile**HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – PRACTICE OF AUDIOLOGY – DEFINITION**

Altering the definition of “practice audiology”, including by clarifying that the ordering and performing of certain scanning and imaging are included as these procedures relate to auditory or vestibular conditions in the human ear.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HO, § 2-101(q) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 920 Senator Gile**PUBLIC HEALTH – MARYLAND INTERESTED PARTIES ADVISORY
GROUP – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland Interested Parties Advisory Group to ensure adequate access to applicable home– and community–based services, and the existence of an adequate direct care workforce in the State; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to provide certain support to the Advisory Group; and requiring by September 1 each year, beginning in 2026, the Advisory Group to report its activities and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly addressing recommendations for increasing Medicaid payment rates; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HG, §§ 15-1201 through 15-1205 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 921 **Senator Gile****HEALTH INSURANCE – STEP THERAPY OR FAIL–FIRST PROTOCOLS
– DRUGS TO TREAT ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS OF ADVANCED
METASTATIC CANCER**

Prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from imposing a step therapy or fail–first protocol for certain prescription drugs used to treat a symptom of or side effect from the treatment of stage four metastatic cancer that the treating provider determines will negatively impact the insured or enrollee’s health if left untreated and use of the prescription drug is consistent with best practices for treatment of the condition.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

IN, § 15-142(e) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 922 **Senator Gile****BUSINESS REGULATION – TRAVEL SERVICES – SURETY
REQUIREMENT (DON’T YOU WORRY (WURIE) ACT)**

Requiring certain providers of travel services to file with the Department of Labor evidence of financial security; requiring the Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General’s Office and the Department to provide reasonable notice of the requirements of the Act to consumers and sellers of travel; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

BR, §§ 17-2201 through 17-2205 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 923 **Senator Gile****PUBLIC SCHOOLS – HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS OFFICIATING SERVICES
– PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Establishing requirements for local school systems that issue invitations for bids for high school sports officiating services for boys’ and girls’ high school sports; authorizing the Department of Education to develop guidelines to assist a local school system in the implementation of the provisions of the Act, including additional criteria for determining which high school sports qualify as similar boys’ and girls’ high school sports.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 4-147 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 924 **Senator Smith**

STATE GOVERNMENT – OFFICE OF THE CORRECTIONAL OMBUDSMAN – JUVENILE JUSTICE MONITOR – APPOINTMENT

Providing that the Director of Juvenile Justice Monitoring is appointed by the Correctional Ombudsman to serve a term of 4 years; and requiring the appointment of the Director of Juvenile Justice Monitoring to be subject to the advice and consent of the Senate if the appointee has already served in that role.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SG, § 9-4013 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 925 **Senator Smith**

CRIMINAL LAW – CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES AND FIREARMS

Authorizing a person who is at least 21 years of age to manufacture a personal use amount of cannabis products or concentrated cannabis for personal use or adult sharing at a private residence if the manufacturing process does not involve the use of a volatile solvent; specifying that manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, or possessing certain large quantities of certain controlled dangerous substances is a felony; altering the penalties for being a volume dealer and drug kingpin with regard to cannabis; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, §§ 5-603, 5-612, and 5-613, PS, §§ 5-138, 5-140, 5-406, and 5-703 - amended, and CR, §§ 5-612.1 and 5-613.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 926 **Senator Smith**

END-OF-LIFE OPTION ACT (THE HONORABLE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS AND THE HONORABLE SHANE E. PENDERGRASS ACT)

Authorizing an individual to request aid in dying by making certain requests; establishing requirements and prohibitions governing aid in dying, including requirements related to requests for aid in dying, consulting physicians, mental health assessments, the disposal of drugs prescribed for aid in dying, health care facility policies, and the effect of aid in dying on insurance policies; authorizing a pharmacist to dispense medication for aid in dying only to certain individuals under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 3-103 - amended and HG, §§ 5-6A-01 through 5-6A-17 and IN, § 27-208.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 927 **Senator Smith****CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS – LIMITED EQUITY HOUSING COOPERATIVES – ESTABLISHMENT**

Authorizing a Maryland nonstock corporation to convert to a limited equity housing cooperative subject to certain requirements; requiring a limited equity housing cooperative for certain households to receive notice and vacate a portion of a certain residential rental facility; requiring a limited equity housing cooperative to reimburse certain households for moving expenses; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

CA, § 5-207(a) - amended and CA, §§ 5-6D-01 through 5-6D-10 and TP, §§ 7-308 and 9-275 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 928 **Senator Smith****VETERANS BENEFITS MATTERS – CLAIM SERVICERS – PROHIBITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

Establishing prohibitions and requirements regarding compensation for certain services related to veterans benefits matters; prohibiting a person that is not V.A. accredited from making certain guarantees; providing for the enforcement of the Act under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act; and repealing certain advertising and disclosure requirements for veterans benefits services and veterans benefits appeals services.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, § 13-301(14)(xliv) - amended and § 13-301(14)(xlvi) - added and SG, § 9-905.1 - repealed and added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 929 **Senator Brooks, et al****WORKGROUP ON MAIL–IN BALLOT ACCESSIBILITY**

Establishing the Workgroup on Mail–In Ballot Accessibility to examine current processes in the State relating to mail–in ballot return, assessing the impact on voters with disabilities, collect information about current practices for accessible alternatives to paper mail–in ballot return, and evaluate the alternatives for individuals with disabilities; and requiring the Workgroup to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 930 **Senator Gile****ENVIRONMENT – MANAGED AQUIFER RECHARGE PILOT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Managed Aquifer Recharge Pilot Program; authorizing the Department of the Environment to review, permit, and regulate a process to test the use of treated reclaimed water from a demonstration facility as a source for groundwater augmentation; requiring the demonstration facility to address a groundwater supply or quality problem that is anticipated to occur in the next 25 years; and requiring, on or before December 31 each year, the Department to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on the Pilot Program.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, § 1-601(a) - amended and § 9-303.4 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 931 **Senator Feldman****PUBLIC UTILITIES – GENERATING STATIONS – GENERATION AND SITING (RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTAINTY ACT)**

Altering the factors the Public Service Commission must consider before taking final action on a certificate of public convenience and necessity; establishing certain requirements for the construction of a certain solar energy generating station or energy storage device; requiring the Commission to conduct a certain study to establish a process by which the Commission may establish partnerships between electric companies and electricity suppliers for electricity generation projects; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, §§ 7-207(e) and 7-306.2(a), (c), and (d)(7) - amended and §§ 7-218, 7-219, 7-306.2(o), and 7-320 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 932 Senator Lewis Young**PESTICIDE AND PEST CONTROL – STATE–OWNED PROPERTY – PESTICIDE USE RESTRICTIONS AND POLLINATOR HABITAT**

Authorizing a person to apply a pesticide on State–owned property only if the person is applying a listed pesticide or a registered pesticide for specified purposes; requiring the Department of Agriculture to develop a model pesticide and pollinator habitat management plan to be implemented on State–owned and managed property; and requiring a unit of State government that manages tracts of State–owned property to work with the Department to adapt the model plan.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

AG, §§ 5-1101 through 5-1103 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 933 Senator Carozza, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – CAUSING INGESTION OF AN ABORTION–INDUCING DRUG – PROHIBITION (WOMEN’S FREEDOM FROM COERCION ACT)**

Prohibiting a person from knowingly and willfully causing another to ingest an abortion–inducing drug when the person knows or believes that the other person is pregnant and without consent, through fraud or coercion, or by force or threat of force.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CR, § 3-216 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 934 Senator Watson**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – PREMIUM CIGAR LOUNGE LICENSE – ESTABLISHMENT (MARYLAND PREMIUM CIGAR LOUNGE ACT OF 2025)**

Establishing a Class C–PCL (premium cigar lounge) alcoholic beverages license for use in conjunction with a certain tobacco products retailer license; authorizing a local licensing board to issue the license; exempting a holder of the license from the Clean Indoor Air Act; and altering a certain period of time during which a local alcoholic beverages license may not be issued to a certain tobacconist.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 4-1002 - added and HG, § 24-505 and Chs. 754 and 755 of the Acts of 2024, § 3 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 935 **Senator Benson**

TRANSPORTATION – REGIONAL AUTHORITIES – ESTABLISHED

Authorizing certain counties to impose certain transportation authority sales tax surcharges, hotel surcharges, and transfer tax surcharges; establishing the Baltimore region, Capital region, and Southern Maryland region transportation authorities to develop and implement certain transportation plans; establishing the Baltimore region, Capital region, and Southern Maryland region transportation funds as special, nonlapsing funds; requiring interest earnings of the funds to be credited to the funds; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, §§ 10.5-101 through 10.5-413 - added and SF, TG, and TP, Various Sections - added and amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation and Finance

SB 936 **Senator Hester, et al**CONSUMER PROTECTION – HIGH-RISK ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
– DEVELOPER AND DEPLOYER REQUIREMENTS

Requiring a certain developer of, and a certain deployer who uses, a certain high-risk artificial intelligence system to use reasonable care to protect consumers from known and reasonably foreseeable risks of certain algorithmic discrimination in a certain high-risk artificial intelligence system; regulating the use of high-risk artificial intelligence systems by establishing certain requirements for disclosures, impact assessments, and other consumer protection provisions; authorizing the Attorney General to enforce the Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, §§ 14-47A-01 through 14-47A-08 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 937 The President and Senator Feldman**PUBLIC UTILITIES – ELECTRICITY GENERATION PLANNING –
PROCUREMENT, PERMITTING, AND CO-LOCATION (NEXT
GENERATION ENERGY ACT)**

Requiring the Maryland Energy Administration, in coordination with the Public Service Commission and the Department of Natural Resources, to pursue certain agreements with neighboring states and federal agencies related to the development of new nuclear energy generation stations; prohibiting an electricity supplier or other owner of a certain generating station from entering into a certain contract with a commercial or industrial customer under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

PU, Various Sections - repealed, renumbered, amended, and added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 938 The President (By Request – Office of the Attorney General)**FRAUD PREVENTION AND WORKER PROTECTIONS –
PROHIBITIONS, PENALTIES, AND ENFORCEMENT**

Prohibiting a person from knowingly making or using, or causing to be made or used, a false record or statement resulting in underpayments of unemployment insurance contributions or payment of unemployment insurance benefits of more than a certain amount; altering the enforcement mechanisms of the Maryland Wage and Hour Law, the Maryland Wage Payment and Collection Law, workplace fraud laws, living wage laws, and prevailing wage laws; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

GP, LE, SF, and SG, Various Sections - repealed, renumbered, amended, and added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 939 **Senator Hayes****BALTIMORE CITY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – AUTHORIZATIONS AND REVISIONS**

Requiring the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to impose a fee of not more than \$250 for expedited processing of certain Class C per diem licenses; requiring the Board to adopt regulations related to the application process for Class C per diem licenses, including for the denial or revocation of the licenses; and authorizing the Board to issue certain alcoholic beverages licenses for certain locations in the 40th alcoholic beverages district.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, §§ 12-1311 and 12-1603(c)(17) and (18) - amended and §§ 12-1314 and 12-1603(c)19 through (22) - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 940 **Senator Hayes****HEALTH INSURANCE AND FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES – CONSUMER PROTECTIONS – UPDATES**

Updating references to federal law related to family planning services, grandfathered plans, explanation of benefits, summaries of benefits and coverage, medical loss ratios, catastrophic plans, annual limits for cost sharing, prescription drugs, and rescissions; providing that the Maryland Insurance Commissioner and the Commission on Civil Rights have concurrent jurisdiction to enforce certain provisions of law related to discrimination in health insurance; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

HG, §§ 13-3401, 13-3402, and 15-102.1(b)(6) and IN, Various Sections - amended and IN, § 15-1A-22(f) - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 941 **Senator Sydnor****TRANSPORTATION-RELATED FINES AND TOLLS – INCOME-BASED INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLANS**

Requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority and the Department of Transportation to establish programs to offer income-based installment payment plans for the payment of certain tolls, penalties, and fines in excess of \$250.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, §§ 21-1414(d)(5) and (6) and (h)(2), 26-201(c)(1) and (d)(1), and 27-103(a) - amended and §§ 21-1417 and 27-103.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 942 **Senator Sydnor****CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – MEDICATION–ASSISTED TREATMENT FUNDING**

Requiring the Maryland Secretary of Health to provide funding to counties for medication–assisted treatment programs; requiring counties that receive funding to submit a certain report; authorizing the Governor to appropriate certain funds in the annual budget bill; altering the requirements for a certain report; authorizing funds in the Opioid Restitution Fund to be used for medication–assisted treatment programs; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CS, § 9-603 and SF, § 7-331 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings and Finance

SB 943 **Senator Hettleman, et al****FAMILY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PROTECTION ACT**

Altering and establishing provisions relating to the surrender of firearms by a respondent under the domestic violence statutes; creating the Task Force to Study the Use of Firearms in Domestic Violence Situations; and requiring the Task Force to submit a report on its recommendations on or before November 15, 2025.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

FL, §§ 4-504(b), 4-504.1(d) through (i), 4-505(a), 4-506.1, and 4-509(a) - amended and §§ 4-504(e) and 4-504.1(d) - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 944 **Senator Hettleman****HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PERMITS – LOCAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS (MARYLAND HOUSING DATA TRANSPARENCY ACT)**

Requiring certain local jurisdictions to report information about certain housing development permits to the Department of Planning beginning January 1, 2027, and on the first day of each month thereafter; requiring the Department of Planning to make certain permit information public on a public, interactive, and searchable website; and requiring the Department to submit a report on the collection of building permit information on or before December 31 each year.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

LU, § 7-105 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 945 **Senator Hettleman, et al****COMMUNITY-BASED RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES – LICENSING ENTITIES – PROVISION OF LICENSING CRITERIA AND SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT**

Requiring a licensing authority, on request, to provide to an interested party the criteria used by the licensing authority to determine whether to issue a license for or renew a license of a community facility; and requiring a licensing authority to designate a single point of contact to respond to complaints, concerns, or issues regarding a community facility.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, §§ 24-2501 and 24-2502 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 946 **Senator Carozza, et al****ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES – INCIDENTAL TAKING – BATS**

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

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

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 947 **Senators Ready and West****MARYLAND CO-LOCATION ENERGY INNOVATION AND RELIABILITY ACT**

Requiring the Public Service Commission to adopt regulations related to the construction of a generating station that is co-located with a data center but is not interconnected with the electric transmission system or electric distribution system.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-207.4 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 948 **Senator Ready**

CHILDREN – PARENTAL RIGHTS – EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS

Requiring each county board of education, in consultation with certain individuals, to develop and implement a certain policy to promote parental involvement in students' education; and establishing a complaint and appeals process for violations of a certain policy.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

ED, § 7-136 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 949 **Senator Love, et al**

VEHICLE LAWS – FULLY AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

Establishing certain standards and requirements for the operation of fully autonomous vehicles on highways in the State; requiring, before operating a fully autonomous vehicle on a highway in the State, a person to submit a law enforcement interaction plan to the Motor Vehicle Administration; and establishing that a State agency or local political subdivision may not prohibit the operation of fully autonomous vehicles on highways under their jurisdiction.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, §§ 21-1501 through 21-1505 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 950 **Senator West, et al**

NATURAL GAS GENERATING FACILITIES – AUTHORIZATION

Authorizing the construction, permitting, and operation of natural gas generating facilities in the State until the State meets 50% its energy needs from renewable energy resources; and requiring the Maryland Energy Administration to work with the owners and operators of natural gas generating facilities in the State to decrease the production of energy from natural gas after the State meets 50% its energy needs from renewable energy resources.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-218 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 951 **Senator West, et al****INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRIC COMPANIES – GENERATING AND TRANSMISSION FACILITIES – AUTHORIZATION**

Authorizing investor-owned electric companies in the State to construct, acquire, or lease, and operate, their own generating facilities and construct, acquire, or lease, and operate, certain transmission facilities; and repealing the authority of the Public Service Commission to allow an investor-owned electric company to construct, acquire, or lease, and operate, its own generating facilities or construct, acquire, or lease, and operate, certain transmission facilities under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-510(c)(6) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 952 **Senator West, et al****CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY – OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINES – GRID ENHANCING TECHNOLOGIES**

Adding grid enhancing technologies to the list of requirements the Public Service Commission must consider before taking final action on an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of an overhead transmission line.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-207(a) and (f) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 953 **Senator West, et al****CONSTRUCTION AND EXPANSION OF TRANSMISSION LINES AND TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP A REALISTIC ELECTRICITY PLAN FOR MARYLAND**

Establishing the Task Force to Develop a Realistic Electricity Plan for Maryland to study and make recommendations on the State's current and future electricity needs under various scenarios; and prohibiting the Public Service Commission from approving the construction or expansion of transmission lines in the State from July 1, 2025, through May 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 954 **Senator West, et al****CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES AND DISTRICT COURT JUDGES – SELECTION AND TENURE**

Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution relating to the selection and tenure of circuit court and District Court judges; requiring Senate confirmation of individuals appointed by the Governor to the office of a judge of a circuit court; prohibiting a judge of a circuit court or of the District Court from performing the duties of office until confirmed by the Senate; authorizing the Governor to convene a session of the Senate during a recess of the General Assembly in order to confirm a judicial appointment; etc.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Art. IV, §§ 3 and 5 - repealed, § 3 - added, and §§ 5A and 41D - amended and Art. XVIII, § 6 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 955 **Senator West****OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINES – EMINENT DOMAIN**

Prohibiting a person constructing an overhead transmission line from exercising a right of condemnation to acquire property encumbered by a conservation easement; authorizing a certain property owner to bring an action for damages incurred as a result of a certain condemnation proceeding; and requiring that reasonable counsel fees be awarded to counsel for the defendant in a condemnation proceeding and that certain court costs be charged against the plaintiff under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PU, § 7-207(b)(3) - amended and RP, § 12-104(h) - added and §§12-105(b) and 12-107(b) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 956 **Senator West****HEALTH INSURANCE – MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT POLICIES – BROKER COMMISSION**

Requiring a carrier to pay the same commission rate to a broker for the sale of certain Medicare supplement policies sold during a guaranteed issue period as a Medicare supplement policy sold during an open enrollment period.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

IN, § 15-922.1 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 957 **Senator Waldstreicher****MORTICIANS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS – NOT-FOR-PROFIT FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENTS**

Altering the definition of “corporation” for the purpose of provisions relating to the provision of mortuary sciences and the operation of a funeral establishment to include a not-for-profit organization that is exempt from taxation under a certain provision of federal law; and authorizing the State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors to issue and renew a license to practice funeral direction to a certain not-for-profit organization.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HO, §§ 7-101(f), 7-309, and 7-310 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 958 **Senator Mautz****AGRICULTURE – CATASTROPHIC DAMAGE CAUSED BY DEER**

Authorizing the Department of Agriculture to authorize the use of extraordinary measures to reduce the deer population causing the catastrophic damage if the Department determines that deer have caused catastrophic damage to a field; and defining “catastrophic damage” as the loss of 50% or more of crops from a single field.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

AG, § 2-108 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 959 **Senator Mautz, et al****ENVIRONMENT – WETLANDS – LANDWARD BOUNDARIES**

Requiring certain land created under a tidal wetlands license to be described by metes and bounds; and requiring the Department of the Environment to update, to a certain standard, the landward boundaries of certain wetlands following the completion of improvements consisting of certain shoreline stabilization measures.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, § 16-103 - amended and § 16-206 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 960 Senator Mautz**NATURAL RESOURCES – BLUE CATFISH – POPULATION CONTROL**

Establishing that regulations of the Department of Natural Resources governing the catching of blue catfish shall establish a pilot program authorizing the use of electrofishing, shall authorize the use of finfish trotlines of up to 2,400 feet in length, may not set a limit on the number of hooks used, and shall authorize the use of hooks that are not corrodible; and requiring the Department of Agriculture to report on or before September 1, 2025, outlining needs and best practices for collecting, processing, and marketing blue catfish.

EMERGENCY BILL

NR, § 4-701.2 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 961 Senator Mautz**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND HEALTH INSURANCE – PHARMACOGENOMIC TESTING – REQUIRED COVERAGE**

Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain health insurers, nonprofit health services plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for single-gene and multigene pharmacogenomic testing in certain circumstances; and limiting the prior authorization requirements that certain health insurers, nonprofit health services plans, and health maintenance organizations may implement for pharmacogenomic testing.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, §§ 15-102.3(m) and 15-103(a)(2)(xxv) and IN, § 15-861 - added and HG, § 15-103(a)(2)(xxiii) and (xxiv) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 962 Senator Mautz**MUNICIPALITIES – LEGISLATIVE AUDIT – EXEMPTION**

Exempting a municipality with annual revenues below \$100,000 from a certain audit requirement; clarifying that a certain audit exemption does not affect certain financial reporting requirements; and authorizing the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee to request or require a certain review or audit of the financial records of a certain municipality if the financial report indicates a financial or accounting irregularity or concern.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

LG, § 16-305 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 963 **Senator Mautz****ABANDONED AND NEGLECTED CEMETERIES FUND – ESTABLISHMENT AND INCOME TAX CHECKOFF**

Establishing the Abandoned and Neglected Cemeteries Fund to provide for the care, preservation, maintenance, and restoration of abandoned and neglected cemeteries in the State; establishing an income tax checkoff for contributions to the Fund; requiring the Comptroller to include a checkoff on individual income tax returns and to include certain information in income tax return packaged; and requiring an annual report by September 30 to the General Assembly on the donations to the Fund and promotional efforts undertaken by money from the Fund.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

BR, SF, TG, and Chapter 717 of the Acts of 2024, Various Sections - added and amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 964 **Dorchester County Senators****DORCHESTER COUNTY – WELL AND ON–SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL ACTIVITIES – PRIVATIZATION PROGRAM**

Authorizing the Department of the Environment, at the request of the Dorchester County government and the local health department or county agency in Dorchester County that has received a well or on–site sewage disposal system delegation of authority by the Department, to establish a privatization program for the performance of activities associated with the well or on–site sewage disposal system delegation of authority in Dorchester County.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

EN, § 9-1104.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 965 Senator Carozza, et al**PUBLIC HEALTH – WOMEN’S HEALTH CARE DATA – REPORT**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to collect and compile annual data on the costs of birth, postpartum care, pregnancy care, and abortion; requiring the Department to post on its website and submit to the General Assembly a reproductive health care data report each December 1, beginning in 2025; and requiring the report to include the aggregated cost data for certain categories of care, comparative data by region within the State, analysis of trends in the cost of care, and recommendations for improving cost efficiency.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2025

HG, §§ 20-217 through 20-220 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 966 Howard County Senators**HOWARD COUNTY – AMBIENT AIR QUALITY CONTROL – PERMIT APPLICATIONS, PERMIT HOLDERS, AND PROPERTY TAX CREDIT
HO. CO. 6–25**

Requiring the Department of the Environment to provide for an informational meeting on an application for an air quality control permit for activities located in Howard County; requiring Howard County to hold a public meeting before verifying that certain zoning and land use requirements are satisfied; requiring certain permit holders in Howard County to provide annual emission reports to certain community associations; authorizing the governing body of Howard County to grant a certain property tax credit; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

EN, §§ 1-603 and 2-404 and TP, § 9-315(a)(5) and (6) and (b) - amended and

EN, § 2-407 and TP, § 9-315(a)(7) - added

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

SB 967 Howard County Senators**HOWARD COUNTY – NOISE ABATEMENT MONITORING SYSTEMS – AUTHORIZATION**

Authorizing the use of noise abatement monitoring systems in Howard County to enforce certain motor vehicle noise requirements; and requiring that Howard County report by March 1, 2026, to the Governor and the General Assembly on the time period noise abatement monitoring systems were in use, the number of warnings and citations issued, the costs associated with implementation, the revenue collected, and the effectiveness of noise abatement monitoring systems in reducing the noise produced by motor vehicles in the county.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

TR, § 22-612 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 968 Howard County Senators**HOWARD COUNTY – PATUXENT RIVER WILDLAND – USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT HO. CO. 5–25**

Authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to enter into use agreements with volunteers to facilitate the use of motor vehicles and motorized equipment for the purpose of maintaining existing paths within the Patuxent River Wildland to ensure clear and safe access to the wildland.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

NR, § 5-1212 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 969 Howard County Senators**HOWARD COUNTY – DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES – CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEE MEDICAL CANNABIS USE**

Prohibiting the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services from taking certain adverse employment actions against an employee or prospective employee solely because of the employee's or prospective employee's authorized use of medical cannabis; and authorizing the Department to prohibit an employee from working while impaired by cannabis or using cannabis within the 12 hours immediately preceding the employee's shift.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 7-405 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 970 Howard County Senators

HOWARD COUNTY – DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING –
PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION HO.
CO. 13–25

Requiring the Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning to consider whether pedestrian infrastructure could offset the need for the construction of parking spaces for new construction when determining the minimum number of mandatory parking spaces.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PLL of Howard Co, Art. 14, § 3.107 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 971 Senator Lam (By Request – Commission on Public Health)

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HEALTH OFFICERS –
REVISIONS

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to notify each health officer for a county of a certain procurement to offer the opportunity for the county health department to join the procurement; authorizing a health officer for a county to make an appointment to a position without the approval of the Maryland Department of Health or the Department of Budget and Management if the position is fully funded through the use of local funding or grant funding; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 3-306 - amended and §§ 24-2501 and 24-2502 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 972 Senator Lam

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
– ALTERATIONS

Increasing from three to five the membership of the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; altering the eligibility requirements for Board membership; requiring the Board to adopt and publish a certain ethics policy; requiring the Board to include an option to provide certain information on an application for the issuance of a license or a license renewal; and requiring the Board to submit a report on the racial breakdown of the disciplinary actions taken by the Board to the General Assembly each year.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

AB, § 11-202(a) and (b) - amended and §§ 11-210, 11-1409, and 11-2607 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 973 **Senator Lam****AVIATION OVERSIGHT – BWI THURGOOD MARSHALL AIRPORT MASTER PLAN**

Requiring the Maryland Aviation Commission to adopt, rather than approve for adoption by the Executive Director of the Maryland Aviation Administration, regulations for the operation of the State-owned airports; altering requirements for meetings and a quorum of the Commission; altering certain powers and duties of the Administration and the Commission; requiring certain contracts to be approved by the Commission; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

TR, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 974 **Senator Lam****MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND HEALTH INSURANCE – NONOPIOID DRUGS FOR THE TREATMENT OF PAIN**

Prohibiting the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations, and managed care organizations from applying a prior authorization requirement, step therapy protocol, or fail-first protocol for a nonopioid drug used for the treatment of pain that is more restrictive than any prior authorization requirement, step therapy protocol, or fail-first protocol applied to an opioid or narcotic drug used for the treatment of pain; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

HG, §§ 15-102.3(m), 15-103(a)(2)(xxv), and 15-157 and IN, § 15-861 - added and HG and IN, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 975 **Senator Lam****HEALTH INSURANCE – COVERAGE FOR SPECIALTY DRUGS**

Prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from excluding coverage for certain specialty drugs that are administered or dispensed by a provider that is an in-network provider of covered medical oncology services, complies with State regulations for the administering and dispensing of specialty drugs, and the specialty drug meets certain qualifications; and requiring the reimbursement rate for certain specialty drugs to meet certain criteria.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

IN, §§ 15-847(d), 15-1611.1, and 15-1612 - amended and § 15-847.2 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 976 **Senator Lam****COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RELATIONS ACT**

Establishing collective bargaining rights for public local employees; applying the Maryland Public Employee Relations Act to county and municipal government employers and their employees; providing that a public employee may be deemed a certain management employee for purposes of establishing collective bargaining rights; establishing impasse procedures for collective bargaining between public local employees and their employers that include binding arbitration; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

LG, §§ 1-2A-01 through 1-2A-07 and SG, § 22-104 - added and SG, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 977 **Senator Lam****STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES – ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL IMMIGRATION LAW – RESTRICTIONS ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION (MARYLAND DATA PRIVACY ACT)**

Altering certain provisions of law to require a law enforcement agency or a unit of State or local government to deny access to certain databases, facilities, or buildings by certain individuals seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law, under certain circumstances; requiring the Attorney General to enforce certain provisions of the Act; and providing that a State employee that violates certain provisions of the Act is subject to certain discipline.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

PS, § 3-529 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 978 **Senator Lam****ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS – REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND IMPACT AND BURDEN ANALYSES (CUMULATIVE HARMS TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION FOR IMPROVING SHARED HEALTH – CHERISH OUR COMMUNITIES ACT)**

Applying certain public participation requirements to permits for projects that have been identified by the Department of the Environment as having an increased potential for adverse community environmental and public health impacts; requiring a person applying for certain environmental permits for certain projects with an increased potential to cause adverse community environmental and public health impacts to include in the permit application an environmental impact analysis; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

EN, §§ 1-601(a), 1-601.1, 1-602(a), and 2-405(a) - amended and §§ 1-703 through 1-705 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 979 **Senator Guzzone****LOCAL GOVERNMENT – ACCOMMODATIONS INTERMEDIARIES – HOTEL RENTAL TAX COLLECTION BY COMPTROLLER**

Requiring certain accommodations intermediaries to collect and remit the hotel rental tax to the Comptroller rather than to each county; providing for the administration of the hotel rental tax by the Comptroller; providing that certain provisions of State law prevail over certain local laws or agreements related to the hotel rental tax; repealing the authority of certain counties to provide for certain exemptions from the hotel rental tax; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

LG and TG, Various Sections - amended and added and PLL of Howard Co and Prince George's Co, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 980 **Senator Corderman****NATURAL RESOURCES – MARYLAND HERITAGE AREAS
AUTHORITY – FUNDING AND GRANTS**

Authorizing the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority to award grants and loans to certain entities for the management of certified heritage areas under certain circumstances; establishing a maximum funding amount of \$300,000 for certain grants made by the Maryland Heritage Areas; decreasing from 10% to 7% the percentage of Program Open Space funds transferred to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Financing Fund that may be used for certain operating expenses; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

FI, §§ 13-1113 and 13-1114 and NR, § 5-903(a)(1) and (2)(i) and (iv) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 981 **Senator Hershey****HOSPITALS – FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND COLLECTION OF
DEBTS – POLICIES**

Altering provisions of law related to a hospital's financial assistance and collection of debts policies; specifying the percentage by which a hospital is required to reduce a patient's out-of-pocket expenses under certain circumstances; adding to the notice requirements relating to a hospital's financial assistance policy; prohibiting a hospital from filing a civil action to collect a debt against a patient whose outstanding debt is at or below \$500; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, §§ 19-214.1 and 19-214.2 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 982 **Senator Corderman, et al****SPORTS WAGERING – WAGERS ON HISTORICAL HORSE RACES – AUTHORIZATION**

Altering the definition of “sporting event” for purposes of provisions of law governing sports wagering to include historic horse races; authorizing certain sports wagering facility licensees to accept wagers on historic horse races that are made by an individual physically present and subject to certain limitations; authorizing sports wagering on historical horse races only in a designated area on the premises of a sports wagering facility licensee that is approved by the Commission; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SG, §§ 9-1E-01(i) and 9-1E-09(a) and (b) - amended and §§ 9-1E-09(f) and 9-1E-09.1 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 983 **Senator Brooks****SOLAR ENERGY – DISTRIBUTED GENERATION CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY, GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR, AND SMALL SOLAR SITING WORKGROUP**

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

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

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 984 **Senator A. Washington****PRIVATE PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE – USE OF
TELEMATICS SYSTEMS**

Requiring an insurer that issues, sells, or delivers private passenger motor vehicle insurance policies in the State to disclose the use of certain telematics systems and to establish an appeals process by which a policyholder may challenge data the policy holder believes to be erroneous; prohibiting an insurer that issues, sells, or delivers private passenger motor vehicle insurance policies in the State from using data obtained through telematics systems to establish certain premiums or to take certain actions with respect to a policy; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

IN, §§ 19-521 and 27-908 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 985 **Senator A. Washington****CONSUMER PROTECTION – THIRD-PARTY LITIGATION FINANCING**

Prohibiting certain litigation financiers from engaging in certain conduct with respect to litigation financing transactions and certain litigation financing contracts; requiring that the litigation financing contracts contain certain disclosures and be executed in a certain manner; requiring a certain disclosure of a litigation financing contract in certain civil actions; and imposing a fiduciary duty on litigation financiers in certain class actions.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

CL, §§ 14-5001 through 14-5010 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 986 **Senator A. Washington****MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – PATIENT NAVIGATION
SERVICES – STUDY**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to conduct a study on patient navigation services in the State that help a patient overcome health care system barriers and facilitate timely access to quality health and psychosocial care from prediagnosis through all phases of the cancer experience; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

SB 987 **Senator Lam****ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – HEALTH SOFTWARE AND HEALTH INSURANCE DECISION MAKING**

Requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission to maintain a registry of artificial intelligence health software that may be distributed or operated in the State; prohibiting a person from distributing or operating artificial intelligence health software unless the software is registered with the Commission; and prohibiting a health insurance carrier from using artificial intelligence to decide or directly influence a health care decision or a decision directly related to health care; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

HG, § 19-150 and IN, § 15-147 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 988 **Senator Lam****DENTAL SERVICES – DENTAL HYGIENISTS IN SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS AND THE MARYLAND COLLABORATIVE TO IMPROVE CHILDREN’S ORAL HEALTH THROUGH SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS**

Providing that a general license to practice dental hygiene authorizes the licensee to practice dental hygiene under the general supervision of a dentist in a school or school-based health center; establishing the Maryland Collaborative to Improve Children’s Oral Health Through School-Based Programs to study and make recommendations on ways to improve school-based dental programs; and requiring the Collaborative to submit an interim report by December 1, 2025, and a final report on its findings and recommendations by October 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

HO, § 4-308(f)(1) - amended and § 4-308(n) - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 989 **Senators Charles and Watson****REAL PROPERTY – UNAUTHORIZED OCCUPANTS – SHERIFF’S
PROPERTY REGISTRY AND REMOVAL**

Authorizing a sheriff of a county to establish an Unauthorized Occupant Registry for residential real property located in the county in order to facilitate the removal of unauthorized occupants from dwellings on residential property in the county; authorizing a residential property owner to enroll the property in a registry established in accordance with the Act and to request the removal of an unauthorized occupant from the property by a sheriff, subject to certain requirements; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

RP, § 14-132.1 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SENATE BILLS REASSIGNED January 27, 2025**SB 693** **Senator Jackson (Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions)****STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – REEMPLOYMENT
EARNINGS LIMITATIONS – MAXIMUM AVERAGE FINAL
COMPENSATION**

Clarifying that the maximum average final compensation that certain retirees of the State Retirement and Pension System is to be based on the minimum annual salary on the standard State pay scale as of January 1 of the preceding calendar year in order to be exempt from a certain reemployment earnings limitation; and adding an average final compensation reemployment exemption for the temporary suspension of a retirement allowance for disability retirees.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

SP, §§ 22-406(c)(4)(ii), 23-407(c)(4)(i), 25-403(b)(3)(ii), 29-115(a), and 29-116(a)(2) - amended

Reassigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 700 **Senator Ready**

NOTARIAL ACTS – REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

Requiring a notary public to provide certain reasonable accommodations to individuals with a physical disability that limits the individual’s ability to sign a record without assistance, including specifying that a notary public shall notarize the signature of an individual who is blind after the notary public reads the entire record to that individual and the individual assents to the notarization after the reading.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

SG, § 18-106 - added

Reassigned to: Judicial Proceedings