



SYNOPSIS

House Bills and Joint Resolutions
2026 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 14, 2026
Schedule 1

PLEASE NOTE: The following legislation was prefiled for the 2026 Session.

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED JANUARY 14, 2026

HB 1 Delegate Crosby

INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRIC, GAS, AND GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANIES – COST RECOVERY – LIMITATIONS

Prohibiting certain public service companies from recovering through rates any costs associated with paying certain employees a bonus unless the employee has a written contract executed by December 31, 2025, or the employee is covered by a valid collective bargaining agreement; prohibiting a certain public service company from recovering through rates any costs associated with a supervisor's annual compensation once the compensation exceeds a certain amount; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PU, § 4-504 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Department of Legislative Services

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

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HB 2 Delegate Griffith**SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT INCOME**

Increasing, from \$15,000 to \$20,000, the amount allowed as a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for retirement income attributable to an individual's employment as a public safety employee; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-207(mm) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 3 Delegate Schindler, et al**HIGHER EDUCATION – NONRESIDENT TUITION – EXEMPTION FOR DEPENDENTS OF STATE OR LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES (MARYLAND FALLEN HEROES TUITION BENEFITS ACT)**

Exempting financially dependent children of State or local public safety employees who die as a result of or in the course of performance of duties from paying out-of-state or out-of-county tuition at a public institution of higher education in the State.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 15-106.12 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 4 Delegates Miller and M. Morgan**VEHICLE LAWS – HISTORIC MOTOR VEHICLES – MINIMUM AGE**

Requiring that a motor vehicle be at least 25 years old in order to be eligible for registration as a historic motor vehicle; and requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to reinstate, under certain circumstances, the historic motor vehicle registration of a motor vehicle that had its historic vehicle registration suspended or revoked as a result of the change to the definition of "historic motor vehicle" in Chapter 604 of 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TR, § 13-936 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 5 Delegates Fair and Patterson**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – MARYLAND NEW MARKETS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland New Markets Development Program; requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development to administer the Program; authorizing a credit against the State insurance premium receipts tax and certain State insurance retaliatory taxes, fees, charges, and penalties for certain equity investments in certain community development entities; authorizing the Department to recapture a credit under certain circumstances; limiting the credit amounts that may be issued to \$18,750,000 for any taxable year; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

HS, §§ 4-3101 through 4-3111 and IN, §§ 6-123 and 6-306 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Ways and Means

HB 6 Delegate Kerr**PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS – PLAN AND REPORTING**

Requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to collect certain data regarding the parental status of students from each public institution of higher education in the State; requiring public institutions of higher education to collect and report certain demographic data from students; and requiring all public institutions of higher education to adopt a certain plan for pregnant and parenting students.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 11-409 - added and § 15-140 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 7**Delegate Guzzone****STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR AUDIOLOGISTS, HEARING AID DISPENSERS, SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS, AND MUSIC THERAPISTS – AUTHORITY TO ISSUE LIMITED LICENSES TO PRACTICE MUSIC THERAPY**

Authorizing the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists to issue a limited license to practice music therapy; providing the purpose of the limited license is to permit an individual to practice music therapy while completing certain licensing requirements; and allowing a licensee with a limited license to practice music therapy under the supervision of a fully licensed music therapist.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HO, § 2-4A-01 - amended and § 2-4A-11.1 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 8**Delegate Stewart****VEHICLE LAWS – DANGEROUS DRIVER ABATEMENT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT (DANGEROUS DRIVER ACCOUNTABILITY ACT)**

Establishing the Dangerous Driver Abatement Program; establishing the purpose of the Program is to reduce motor vehicle-related deaths by requiring repeat offenders to complete a driver accountability and safety course or be subject to sanctions; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to administer the Program and provide a certain notice to repeat offenders; requiring a repeat offender to successfully complete a certain course within 90 days after receiving the notice; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, §§ 21-8A-01 through 21-8A-06 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 9 Delegates Lopez and Kerr**3-1-1 SYSTEMS – EXPANSION PROGRAM AND OVERSIGHT BOARD – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland 3-1-1 Oversight Board in the Maryland Information Network to oversee the expansion of 3-1-1 systems in Maryland; establishing the 3-1-1 Program to use certain artificial intelligence to answer certain questions and route certain calls in certain counties; and requiring the expansion of the 3-1-1 Program to all of the counties in Maryland after a certain time period.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

PS, §§ 1-3A-01 through 1-3A-05 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 10 Delegate Foley**LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE – PUBLICATION IN NEWSPAPER OR NEWSPAPER IN GENERAL CIRCULATION – DIGITAL NEWSPAPERS**

Establishing certain requirements for the print or digital publication of legal advertisements and notices in counties and municipalities in the State; requiring digital publications that publish a legal advertisement or notice to maintain an archive of all published legal advertisements and legal notices that shall be available to the public; and requiring digital publications that publish a legal advertisement or notice to employ at least one employee whose duties include reporting, writing, or editing local news and information.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, § 1-113 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 11 Delegate Simmons**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – SHERIFF – APPOINTMENT OF MAJORS**

Requiring the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County to appoint three majors at a salary determined by the County Council of Anne Arundel County.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, § 2-315(c) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 12 Delegates Griffith and Grammer**JUVENILE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY – QUALIFYING OFFENSES AND ACCESS**

Authorizing a local superintendent or the superintendent's designee to access the registry of juvenile sex offenders; and adding certain offenses to the list of offenses for which a person adjudicated delinquent is required to be included in the registry of juvenile sex offenders.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 13 Delegate Vogel, et al**INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME (SUPPORTING OUR 9-1-1 SPECIALISTS ACT)**

Altering a certain subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for retirement income attributable to an individual's employment as a public safety employee to include certain retirement income attributable to an individual's employment as a 9-1-1 specialist; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-207(mm) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 14 Delegate Foley**COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – BULLYING, HARASSMENT, OR INTIMIDATION – INFORMATION COLLECTION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Altering the contents of a certain bullying, harassment, or intimidation form to require, if the incident is believed to have been motivated in whole or in substantial part by an actual or perceived personal characteristic including race, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ancestry, physical attributes, socioeconomic status, familial status, or physical or mental ability or disability, the identification of those personal characteristics, if known; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-424 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 15 Delegate M. Morgan, et al**PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT – PUBLIC RECORDS – NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

Altering the definition of a “public record” under the Public Information Act to include certain documentary material made by a nonprofit organization that receives \$50,000 or more annually from State grants, State bond proceeds, or local impact grants; and altering the applicability of certain rules and limitations under the Public Information Act to include certain nonprofit organizations.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, §§ 4-101(k), 4-102, and 4-104 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 16 Delegate Phillips**CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – MARYLAND PAROLE COMMISSION – MEMBERS AND HEARING EXAMINERS**

Altering the number of members of the Maryland Parole Commission from 10 to at least 15 but not more than 20 members; altering the appointing authority and method of appointment of parole commissioners; and repealing the authority of the Commission to appoint and utilize hearing examiners.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CS, §§ 7-202, 7-204, 7-205(a), 7-207, 7-302, 7-303, and 7-305 - amended and § 7-306 - repealed

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 17 Delegate Cardin**ESTATES AND TRUSTS – VENUE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND JUDICIAL PROBATE AND APPLICATION OF INHERITANCE TAX**

Altering certain criteria for determining the venue for administrative or judicial probate of decedents who were not domiciled in the State; providing that, for purposes of the application of the Maryland inheritance tax, the situs of intangible personal property is the domicile of the decedent; repealing a certain exemption from the Maryland inheritance tax for personal property that passes from a nonresident decedent; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ET, § 5-103 and TG, §§ 7-202 and 7-203 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 18 Delegate Vogel**TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES – TRANSPORTATION NETWORK OPERATORS – MINIMUM PAYMENTS FOR PASSENGER TRIPS**

Requiring a transportation network company to pay operators, after July 1, 2026, and for any passenger trip originating in the State, \$1.66 per mile and \$0.40 per minute, an additional \$1.18 per mile for an operator using a wheelchair accessible vehicle, at least \$5.00 for any passenger trip, and at least 80% of any cancellation fee charged by a transportation network company; and adjusting the minimum amount paid per mile and per minute by inflation each year.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

PU, § 10-410 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 19 Delegate Toles**HIGHER EDUCATION – MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program to assist in the repayment of higher education loans owed by State employees in order to attract, recruit, and retain these employees; requiring the Office of Student Financial Assistance within the Maryland Higher Education Commission to administer the Program; and requiring the Office to report to the General Assembly on or before January 1 of each year on the implementation of the Program and any effects the Program has on State employee recruitment or retention.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, §§ 18-4201 through 18-4206 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 20 Delegate Amprey**BALTIMORE CITY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – RELATED EVENT PROMOTER'S PERMIT**

Reestablishing a related event promoter's permit in Baltimore City; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to issue a related event promoter's permit to certain applicants under certain circumstances; and requiring a holder of a State caterer's license to obtain a certain Class C per diem license from the Board before the holder may act as a participating license holder at a related event.

EMERGENCY BILL

ABC, §§ 12-1102.2 and 12-2802(e) and (f) - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 21 Delegate Allen**SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS – VLOGGERS AND VIDEO CONTENT FEATURING MINORS (CHILD INFLUENCERS PROTECTION ACT)**

Requiring a vlogger who creates video content that is posted on a social media platform and features a certain child to compensate the child under certain circumstances; establishing requirements on social media platforms relating to deleting video content featuring minor children; and applying certain requirements relating to the labor of minors to children compensated by vloggers.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

BR, §§ 19-1001 through 19-1004 - added and LE, § 3-203(4) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 22 Delegate Schindler, et al**CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS – IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND DRIVER'S LICENSES**

Requiring a certain correctional facility to return a certain identification card or driver's license to a certain incarcerated individual at or before the time of the individual's release from confinement under certain circumstances; requiring the Commissioner of Corrections and the managing official of a local correctional facility to provide certain forms and work with a certain incarcerated individual to ensure a certain identification card or driver's license is available at the time of release from confinement; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CS, § 9-609.1- amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 23 Delegate Woods**MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION – IDENTIFICATION CARDS – ISSUANCE TO MINORS**

Prohibiting the Motor Vehicle Administration from requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor at least 15 years of age to cosign or be present at the time of submission of the minor's application for an identification card; and requiring the Administration to adopt regulations establishing acceptable forms of documentation establishing proof of residency that a minor at least 15 years of age may use in an application for an identification card.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 12-301(a) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 24 Delegate Metzgar**COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – VOLUNTEER AIDES – SCHOOL CHAPLAIN**

Authorizing each county board of education to use a chaplain as a volunteer aide in schools to provide support services to students.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 6-106 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 25 Delegate Addison**FAMILY LAW – GRANDPARENT VISITATION**

Altering the circumstances under which an equity court is authorized to grant visitation rights to a grandparent of a child to include that the petition for visitation rights was filed after an action for divorce, annulment, custody, or paternity was filed by a parent of the child; and requiring an equity court to grant certain visitation rights if the child resided with the grandparent for at least 12 months, or the child's parent, who is the child of the grandparent, is deceased, and the court finds it in the best interests of the child.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, § 9-102 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 26 Delegate Toles**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.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 27 Delegate Wims**MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – LONG COVID INNOVATION GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM**

Requiring the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to establish a grant and loan program to provide grants and loans for Long COVID innovation; requiring the Corporation to contract with an independent review committee composed of scientific experts in the field of Long COVID; establishing the Maryland Long COVID Research Fund under the administration of the Corporation as a special, nonlapsing fund; and requiring that the interest earnings of the Fund be credited to the Fund.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EC, §§ 10-4E-01 through 10-4E-07 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)214. - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)212. and 213. - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 28 Delegate Fair, et al**HIGHER EDUCATION – PRIVATE CAREER SCHOOLS – ADVERTISING**

Authorizing the Secretary of Higher Education to allow certain private career schools to advertise certain information and collect contact information from potential new students before receiving a certificate of approval from the Maryland Higher Education Commission to operate a private career school in the State under certain circumstances; requiring an approved private career school to advertise only information relating to the opening of the private career school and include a certain disclosure; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 11-212 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 29 Delegate Wilkins**COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – POST COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS PATHWAYS – PAYMENT OF COSTS**

Authorizing a county board of education to develop and establish income eligibility guidelines and procedures for payment of costs for a certain post college and career readiness (post-CCR) pathway, except that a county board must provide access to the post-CCR pathway at no cost to the student or student's parents or guardians if the student's family income is below 400% of the federal poverty level.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-205.1(g) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 30 Delegate Foley**PUBLIC SAFETY – DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE – POLICE-INITIATED TOWING – ALTERATIONS**

Altering provisions related to the rates the Department of State Police sets for towing companies involved in police-initiated towing of motor vehicles to include the towing and recovery of light-duty vehicles; and defining "light-duty towing" as towing and recovery of a vehicle including trailers or semitrailers with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, §§ 2-314 and 2-314.1 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 31 Delegate Cardin**POLICE DISCIPLINE – ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

Authorizing a police officer who is denied a certain right to apply to the circuit court at any time before a hearing is held by the hearing board for an order that directs the law enforcement agency to show cause why the right should not be granted.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, § 3-113.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 32 Delegate Simmons**LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES – REQUIREMENTS – AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS**

Requiring all local law enforcement vehicles to carry an automated external defibrillator (AED); and requiring a local law enforcement agency to maintain the functionality of an AED carried by a local law enforcement vehicle.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, § 3-510 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 33 Delegate Griffith**INCOME TAX – ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS – CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

Excluding certain charitable contributions from a limitation on the amount of itemized deductions allowed for certain individuals under the Maryland income tax; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-218 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 34 Delegate Bouchat, et al**MUNICIPALITIES – OPEN DRAINAGE INLETS – REQUIRED GRATING SYSTEMS (MASON'S LAW)**

Requiring a municipality to construct or install an approved grating system which places a cover over the opening of an open drainage inlet in order to allow stormwater runoff to enter the drainage inlet while preventing large debris from entering the drainage inlet; requiring the approved grating system be installed on a new or existing open drainage inlet within the municipality; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LG, § 4-112 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 35 Delegate Foley**LOCAL GOVERNMENT – REGULATORY POWERS – REGULATION OF TREE OF HEAVEN**

Authorizing the governing body of a county or municipality to adopt certain ordinances to regulate trees of heaven; and authorizing the governing body of a county or municipality to establish a bounty program to incentivize the removal of trees of heaven.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LG, § 1-1318 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 36 Delegate Stewart**ANNOTATED CODE – TERMINOLOGY – CLERGY AND CHURCHES, FAITH INSTITUTIONS, AND PLACES OF WORSHIP**

Altering certain terminology throughout the Annotated Code that refers to a clergyman to refer to a member of the clergy and churches to refer to faith institutions and places of worship; and defining “faith institution” as any Christian, Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist, or Hindu congregation, or any other religious society, congregation, or denomination.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

Various Articles, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HB 37 Delegate Schindler**GENERAL ASSEMBLY – EMPLOYMENT AND LEAVE PROTECTION FOR MEMBERS**

Prohibiting an employer from depriving of employment or taking certain other actions against an employee who is a member of the General Assembly and who loses employment time to performing responsibilities as a member of the General Assembly; and establishing a penalty of a fine not exceeding \$1,000 for a violation of the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SG, § 2-105 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 38 Delegate Queen

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS – LICENSING OF AFFILIATED INSURANCE PRODUCER-MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATORS – ALTERATION

Requiring the Commissioner of Financial Regulation to approve a certain mortgage lender that meets certain criteria as an affiliated insurance producer–mortgage loan originator if the mortgage lender is in good standing with the Commissioner and any other regulator to which it is subject and is in material compliance with applicable state and federal law.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FI, §§ 11-603.1 and 11-619 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 39 Delegate Taveras

NET ENERGY METERING – PORTABLE SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES

Authorizing the use of a certain portable solar electric generating facility by an eligible customer–generator for the purpose of net energy metering.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PU, § 7-306 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 40 Delegate Charkoudian

PUBLIC UTILITIES – TRANSMISSION LINES – ADVANCED TRANSMISSION TECHNOLOGIES

Altering the definition of “qualified generator lead line” for provisions of law regarding certificates of public convenience and necessity; requiring an applicant for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of an overhead transmission line to include certain information in its application; requiring the Public Service Commission to consider certain evidence before taking action on a certain application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PU, § 7-207(a), (b)(3), and (f)(1) - amended and § 7-207.6 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 41 Delegate McCaskill**BALTIMORE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION – ALTERATIONS OF ELECTED MEMBER DISTRICTS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF REDISTRICTING PROCESS**

Requiring certain members of the Baltimore County Board of Education to be elected from certain districts in certain elections; and requiring the chair of the Baltimore County delegation to the General Assembly to introduce legislation to reapportion certain school board districts in a certain manner after each decennial census of the United States.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 42 Delegate Bagnall**HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS – REVISIONS**

Authorizing an individual registered by the State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners to practice massage therapy in the State to continue to practice massage therapy beyond October 31, 2026; altering the requirements an individual must meet to qualify for a massage therapy license; repealing obsolete qualifications for registered massage practitioners; repealing the requirement that the imposition of a certain administrative penalty be subject to certain hearing requirements; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

HO, §§ 6-301(a), 6-302, 6-305(d), 6-306, and 6-306.2 - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 43 Delegate Foley**PROCUREMENT – ADVERTISING – LOCAL NEWS ORGANIZATIONS (LOCAL NEWSPAPERS FOR MARYLAND COMMUNITIES ACT OF 2026)**

Requiring units of State government to ensure that at least 50% of the unit's total dollar value of procurement contracts for print and digital advertising is being made directly to local news organizations.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SF, § 14-419 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 44 Delegate Feldmark**ELECTION LAW – PETITIONS AND BALLOT QUESTIONS – CONTENTS, PLAIN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT, AND PROCEDURES**

Altering the information that is required to be included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and with a question on the ballot; requiring that a certain summary included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and a certain statement about a question on the ballot be written in plain language; requiring certain boards of elections to post the text of ballot measures for at least 90 days before the general election; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

EL, §§ 6-103(b), 6-201(c) and (d), 7-103(b) and (c), 7-105, and 9-207 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 45 Delegate Vogel**LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – MANDATORY MEETINGS ON RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL MATTERS – EMPLOYEE ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION (MARYLAND WORKER FREEDOM ACT)**

Prohibiting employers and their agents, representatives, and designees from taking certain actions against an employee or applicant for employment because the employee or applicant takes certain actions regarding employer-sponsored meetings during which the employer communicates the opinion of the employer regarding religious matters or political matters; authorizing an employee to file a certain complaint with the Commissioner of Labor and Industry; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LE, § 3-718 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 46 Delegate Queen**SPORTS WAGERING – GAMBLING PREVENTION TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Gambling Prevention Technology Pilot Program in the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission; requiring Bowie State University and Morgan State University to participate in the Pilot Program; requiring the Commission, in collaboration with certain entities, to designate certain no gambling zones on each campus, develop certain informational signage, and identify and implement certain technologies; and requiring the Commission to submit a report on the Pilot Program on or before January 1, 2031.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SG, § 9-1E-18 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 47 Delegate Schindler, et al**COMMISSION ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REAL PROPERTY BEARING CONFEDERATE NAMES – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Commission on State and Local Government Real Property Bearing Confederate Names to develop and implement a framework to identify real property owned by the State or a political subdivision that bears a Confederate name; and requiring the Commission to make recommendations regarding the real property that should be renamed and report its findings to the Governor, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City, the governing body of each county, and the General Assembly by October 1, 2033.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027

SG, §§ 9-4201 through 9-4208 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 48 Delegate Toles**FAMILY LAW – CHILDREN IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE AND TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS (RIGHT TO FIGHT ACT)**

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 49 Delegate Metzgar**PUBLIC HEALTH – ABORTION (HEARTBEAT BILL)**

Requiring that an abortion be performed by a physician, rather than a qualified provider; repealing certain provisions of law related to State interference with an abortion, regulations related to abortion, and liability or criminal punishment for qualified providers who perform an abortion; prohibiting a physician from knowingly performing, inducing, or attempting to perform or induce an abortion under certain circumstances and subject to certain exceptions; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 20-207, 20-208, and 20-214 - amended, §§ 20-202 and 20-204 through 20-212 - added, and § 20-209 - repealed

Assigned to: Health

HB 50 Delegate Foley**GENERAL ASSEMBLY – SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY IN OFFICE**

Proposing a Constitutional Amendment requiring that a special election be held at the same time as the regular statewide primary and general elections that are held in the second year of a term to fill a vacancy in the office of Delegate or Senator in the General Assembly if the vacancy occurs on or before the date that is 55 days before the deadline for filing certificates of candidacy for the regular statewide election that is held in the second year of the term.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Art. III, § 13 and Art. XVII, § 2 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 51 Delegate Taveras**STRATEGIC DIGITAL ASSET RESERVE ACT OF MARYLAND**

Establishing the Maryland Digital Asset Reserve Fund to serve as a reserve asset for the State through the investment of cryptocurrency; and authorizing the State Treasurer to invest the funds obtained by the State through the enforcement of certain gambling violations into cryptocurrency.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 13-104 - amended and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)212. and 213. - amended and §§ 6-226(a)(2)(iii)214. and 7-332 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 52 Delegate Wilkins**ELECTION LAW – INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS – VOTER HOTLINE AND VOTING ELIGIBILITY (VOTING RIGHTS FOR ALL ACT)**

Requiring the State Board of Elections to provide a toll-free voter hotline for incarcerated individuals to receive information about voting, request election-related materials, and report voting rights violations; and altering the circumstances under which an individual is not qualified to be a registered voter for the purpose of allowing individuals convicted of a felony and serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment for the conviction to register to vote.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027

EL, § 1-306 - added, §§ 3-102 and 3-504(a) - amended, and § 16-202 - repealed

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 53 Delegate Lehman, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – NONDOMESTICATED ANIMAL PROHIBITIONS – ALTERATIONS**

Altering an exception to the prohibition against the possession of certain nondomesticated animals in the State by reducing from 10 days to 48 hours the amount of time a nonresident may travel through the State with an otherwise prohibited animal; repealing the exception to the prohibition against the possession by a person with certain disabilities of certain nondomesticated animals for a certain purpose; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CR, § 10-621(a) and (b)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 54 Delegate Allen**TASK FORCE TO STUDY RESTRUCTURING MARYLAND'S ELECTRIC UTILITY INDUSTRY**

Establishing the Task Force to Study Restructuring Maryland's Electric Utility Industry to study and make recommendations on restructuring the State's electric utility industry; and requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before November 1, 2027.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 55 Delegate Guyton**VEHICLE LAWS – SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS – RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS**

Applying statewide certain provisions of law authorizing the use of speed monitoring systems in certain residential districts.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 21-809(b)(1)(vi) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 56 Delegate Bouchat**DISTRICTING – SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS AND LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT CONVENTION**

Requiring that each legislative district established for the purpose of electing members of the House of Delegates consist of three single-member delegate districts; requiring the General Assembly to enact a law establishing and governing a Legislative and Congressional Redistricting and Apportionment Convention to establish legislative and congressional districts and establishing certain requirements regarding the Redistricting Convention; establishing the Redistricting Convention; etc.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Art. III, §§ 3 and 5 and Art. IV, § 14 - amended and EL, §§ 8-7A-01 through 8-7A-11 - added

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HB 57 Delegate Vogel**PUBLIC SCHOOLS – MARYLAND CIVIC EXCELLENCE PROGRAM – ESTABLISHED**

Establishing the Maryland Civic Excellence Program in the State Department of Education; authorizing a local school system to participate in the Program to recognize students who meet criteria related to student proficiency in civics and civic literacy; and requiring the Department, no later than the 2027–2028 school year, to develop guidelines to assist participating local school systems.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-137 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 58 Delegate Healey**TRANSPORTATION – PARATRANSIT SERVICES – INTERJURISDICTIONAL ROUTES**

Requiring a county that submits an application to the Secretary of Transportation for funding for certain transportation services for elderly and disabled persons to identify interjurisdictional paratransit service routes between facilities within certain networks of providers in the application; requiring the Secretary to adopt procedures to ensure counties cooperate in establishing interjurisdictional paratransit service routes between facilities within certain networks of providers; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, §§ 2-103.3(c), (e), and (g) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 59 Delegate Addison**REAL PROPERTY – EXPEDITED WRONGFUL DETAINER PROCEEDINGS – PROPERTY FOR SALE OR LEASE**

Requiring certain expedited proceedings in a wrongful detainer action if the property that is the subject of the action is, at the time of the complaint, advertised or listed for sale or lease by the complainant and requiring that notice of a hearing or appeal be served in person or, under certain circumstances, posted conspicuously on the property; requiring the District Court or the circuit court to issue a warrant within 24 hours if the court rules in favor of the complainant in an expedited wrongful detainer action; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

RP, § 14-132 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Judiciary

HB 60 Delegate Patterson**SICKLE CELL DISEASE – INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGNS**

Prohibiting an institution of higher education from denying access or services to a student based on the student's diagnosis of sickle cell disease; requiring an institution of higher education to provide reasonable accommodations for students with sickle cell disease; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to develop an education and awareness campaign for institutions of higher education in the State regarding students with sickle cell disease; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, § 15-141 and HG, §§ 18-510 through 18-512 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 61 Delegate Lopez**FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS – DEFINITION OF STUDENT FINANCING COMPANIES – ALTERATION**

Altering the definition of "student financing company" to exclude an institution of postsecondary education for purposes of certain registration and reporting requirements.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FI, § 12-1101 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 62 Delegate Simmons**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – SUMMONS FOR ACTIONS TO REPOSSESS FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENT – ALTERATIONS**

Requiring the District Court for Anne Arundel County to issue its summons for a trial to repossess for failure to pay rent to any constable or sheriff's designee; providing that a sheriff's designee in Anne Arundel County has the same authority and responsibility as a constable or sheriff in an action to repossess for a failure to pay rent; requiring a sheriff's designee to post a notice of a trial at a certain property or address; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

RP, § 8-401(b) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 63 Delegate Szeliga, et al

EDUCATION – INTERSCHOLASTIC AND INTRAMURAL JUNIOR VARSITY AND VARSITY TEAMS AND LOCKER ROOMS – DESIGNATION BASED ON SEX (FAIRNESS IN GIRLS’ SPORTS ACT)

Requiring certain interscholastic and intramural junior varsity and varsity athletic teams or sports sponsored by certain schools and certain locker rooms to be expressly designated based on biological sex; prohibiting certain entities from taking certain adverse actions against a school for maintaining separate interscholastic and intramural junior varsity and varsity athletic teams or sports or locker rooms for students of the female sex; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-118 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 64 Delegate Fair, et al

TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FUNDING AND STUDENT POPULATION GROWTH

Establishing the Task Force on Education Funding and Student Population Growth to analyze the challenges related to the delay in student enrollment counts and its effect on school funding and the connection between growing student populations and the provision of school funding; and requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 15, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 65 Delegate Cardin

ESTATES AND TRUSTS – FIDUCIARIES – ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Clarifying that a communication between an attorney and a client that acts as a fiduciary is subject to the attorney-client privilege even if fiduciary funds are used to compensate the attorney for services rendered to the client.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ET, § 15-117 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 66 Delegate Chisholm

ENVIRONMENT – REGIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INITIATIVE – WITHDRAWAL (RESTORING ENERGY FREEDOM ACT)

Requiring the Governor to withdraw the State from participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

EC, EN, NR, and SG, Various Sections - amended and EN, § 2-1002(g) - repealed and § 2-1002(h) through (j) - renumbered

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 67 Delegate Metzgar

STATE GOVERNMENT – STATE HOUSE TRUST – TEN COMMANDMENTS MONUMENT DISPLAY ACT

Requiring a certain Ten Commandments Monument to be placed on the grounds of the Maryland State House; requiring the Commission on Artistic Property to oversee the care and maintenance of the monument; and establishing the Commission on the Ten Commandments Monument.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 68 Delegate Stewart

MOTOR VEHICLES – SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES – OLD LINE PLATES (OLD LINE PLATE PROGRAM ACT OF 2026)

Requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to develop and make available an Old Line Plate with a certain numeric-only registration number for certain motor vehicles.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 13-619.5 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 69 Delegate Vogel

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – EXEMPTIONS FROM OVERTIME PAY – ADMINISTRATIVE, EXECUTIVE, OR PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY

Altering the exemption from overtime pay for individuals who are employed to work in an administrative, executive, or professional capacity.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LE, § 3-403 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 70 Delegate Healey**STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION – TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES – STUDY**

Requiring the State Highway Administration to study and make recommendations on the implementation of a consistent statewide policy for the use of traffic calming devices on highways in the State; and requiring the Administration to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 71 Delegate Sample-Hughes**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION PROGRAM SERVICES – REIMBURSEMENT (YOUTH PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION PARITY ACT OF 2026)**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to adopt regulations requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to reimburse a psychiatric rehabilitation program for a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 30 psychiatric rehabilitation community psychiatric support services delivered to certain individuals each month.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

HG, § 15-103.9 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 72 Delegate Charkoudian**NATURAL RESOURCES – EDIBLE FORESTS AND FORAGING PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing an Edible Forests and Foraging Program within the Department of Natural Resources; requiring individuals who forage in designated foraging areas to obtain a foraging permit; requiring the Department to charge a permit application fee and establish a fee waiver process for individuals who demonstrate financial need; requiring the Department to establish and maintain edible forests on State land, subject to available funding; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

NR, §§ 5-2201 through 5-2205 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)214. - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)212. and 213. - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 73 Delegate Toles**PUBLIC SCHOOLS – WATER SAFETY AND SWIMMING COURSE – ESTABLISHED**

Requiring the State Board of Education to develop, by July 1, 2027, curriculum content for an elective course in water safety and swimming for public school students in kindergarten through grade 8; requiring, beginning in the 2027–2028 school year, county boards of education to implement the water safety and swimming curriculum content for students in kindergarten through grade 8 in public schools in the county; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-455 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 74 Delegate S. Johnson**STATE PROCUREMENT – CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICES – CONTRACT MODIFICATION**

Requiring a procurement contract for 3 years or more in duration and valued at greater than \$2,000,000 for construction or security services to include a clause requiring contract modification for increased costs for compensation and benefits as a result of statutory changes increasing required compensation or benefits; and requiring a certain contract that is modified to be contingent on approval by the Chief Procurement Officer.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SF, § 13-218(b) - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 75 Delegate Cardin**VIDEO LOTTERY OPERATIONS – PROHIBITIONS ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS – PARITY ACT**

Repealing the prohibition on applicants for and holders of video lottery operation licenses and persons who own an interest in video lottery facility operations in the State from directly or indirectly making contributions to certain campaign finance entities.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027

EL, § 13-237 - repealed

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 76 Delegate Griffith**LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS – SCHOOL SAFETY – GRANT ALLOCATIONS**

Authorizing the reallocation of certain school safety grants to local school systems that have fully expended their grant allocation and demonstrate unmet need within the same fiscal year.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-1508(g) - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 77 Delegate Woods**CONSUMER PROTECTION – SALE AND RESALE OF EVENT TICKETS – REGISTRATION AND REGULATION**

Requiring certain ticket resellers to register annually with the Division of Consumer Protection of the Office of the Attorney General to resell an event ticket in the State; regulating the sale and resale of event tickets in the State; establishing that a violation of the Act is an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice subject to enforcement and penalty provisions under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CL, § 13-310.1 - repealed, § 13-301(14)(xlvii) - amended, and §§ 13-301(14)(xlii) and 14-5101 through 14-5112 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 78 Delegate Stewart**PROPERTY TAXES – AUTHORITY OF COUNTIES TO ESTABLISH SUBCLASSES AND SET SEPARATE RATES FOR LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS TO LAND**

Authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county to establish subclasses of real property consisting of land and improvements to land and set separate real property tax rates for each subclass.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, §§ 6-202.1 and 6-302(b) - amended and § 6-302(e) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 79 Delegate Chisholm**CLIMATE SOLUTIONS AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 2026**

Specifying that certain requirements under the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 are to be carried out to the extent economically practicable, including requirements concerning achieving certain direct greenhouse gas emissions reductions from certain buildings, measuring and reporting direct emissions data to the Department of the Environment, achieving certain greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals, and achieving zero-emission vehicle goals relating to the State vehicle fleet and local school buses; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EN, §§ 2-1205(e), 2-1505, and 2-1602(a) and (b), LE, § 3-416, PS, § 12-503, and SF, §§ 4-810 and 14-418 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 80 Delegate Vogel**LANDLORD AND TENANT – RESIDENTIAL LEASES – FEE DISCLOSURES**

Requiring a landlord to provide certain information to prospective tenants about fees imposed on tenants and prohibiting a landlord from imposing a mandatory fee that was not disclosed; applying the Act to a lease signed or renewed on or after October 1, 2026, and a landlord that offers four or more dwelling units for rent; and authorizing a tenant to file a claim against a landlord for a violation of the Act on or after February 1, 2027, and during the tenancy or up to 2 years after the tenancy expired.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

RP, § 8-212.5 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 81 Delegate Phillips**MOTOR VEHICLES – POLICE STOPS – SECONDARY ENFORCEMENT AND EXCLUDABLE EVIDENCE**

Requiring a police officer to document all reasons for a traffic stop or other stop on a citation or police report resulting from the stop; establishing that certain evidence obtained from a traffic stop or other stop in violation of certain provisions of law may be excluded as evidence in certain proceedings; authorizing a police officer to enforce certain provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law only as a secondary action; and applying certain provisions of the Act retroactively.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 2-109 and TR, §§ 13-401, 13-411, 13-701, 21-1111, 22-203(b), 22-204(f), 22-403, and 22-406(i)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary and Environment and Transportation

HB 82 Delegate Cardin**RECORDATION AND TRANSFER TAXES – EXEMPTION FOR RELATED BUSINESS ENTITIES – COMMON LAW TRUSTS**

Altering an exemption from the recordation tax and State and county transfer tax for transfers between related business entities to include transfers involving common law trusts; and applying the Act to instruments of writing recorded on or after July 1, 2026.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TP, §§ 12-108(p) and 13-405(c) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 83 Delegate Bartlett**FAMILY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PROTECTION ACT**

Altering and establishing provisions relating to the surrender of firearms by a respondent under the domestic violence statutes; and requiring a local law enforcement authority to take certain actions within 3 business days after service of an order against a respondent who is not in compliance with an order to surrender certain firearms.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, §§ 4-504(b), 4-504.1(f), 4-505(a), 4-506(f), 4-506.1, and 4-509(a) - amended and § 4-504(e) - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 84 Delegate Smith

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – SENTENCING – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AS A MITIGATING FACTOR (PROVIDING ALTERNATIVES THROUGH HEALING FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS (PATH) ACT)

Authorizing the introduction of evidence that a certain defendant was the victim of domestic violence and that the domestic violence was a significant contributing factor to the commission of a certain crime as a mitigating factor at sentencing of the defendant or a hearing on a motion for modification or reduction of a sentence; and establishing related procedures.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 6-238 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 85 Delegate Charkoudian

CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS – COOPERATIVE LIMITED EQUITY HOUSING CORPORATIONS – ESTABLISHMENT

Authorizing a Maryland nonstock corporation to convert to a cooperative limited equity housing corporation subject to certain requirements; requiring a cooperative limited equity housing corporation to provide a certain notice and offer to certain households under certain circumstances; requiring a cooperative limited equity housing corporation to reimburse certain households for moving expenses; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2027

CA, § 5-207(a) - amended and §§ 5-6D-01 through 5-6D-09 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 86 Delegate Vogel

STATE AND LOCAL EMPLOYEES – CANCER SCREENING – PAID LEAVE

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

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

LG, § 1-210 and SP, § 9-1110 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 87 Delegate Vogel

INCOME TAX – ENERGY EFFICIENT HOME IMPROVEMENT CREDIT

Allowing a credit against the State income tax for certain costs paid or incurred by an individual for certain energy efficient home improvements made to the individual's residence during the taxable year, subject to certain limitations; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-758 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 88 Delegate Taveras

HEALTH INSURANCE – BULK PURCHASING POOLS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Authorizing certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to join bulk purchasing pools for prescription drugs.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

IN, § 15-128 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 89 Delegate Nawrocki

BALTIMORE COUNTY – INSPECTOR GENERAL – AUTHORITY OVER BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Authorizing the County Council of Baltimore County, beginning in 2027, to enact a local law granting the Baltimore County Office of the Inspector General the same authority over Baltimore County Public Schools that the Inspector General has over a department of county government.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PLL of Baltimore Co, Art. 3, § 3-14-113 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 90 Delegate Fair, et al

PROPERTY TAXES – AUTHORITY OF COUNTIES TO ESTABLISH A SUBCLASS AND SET A SPECIAL RATE FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

Authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county to establish, by law, a subclass of real property consisting of certain commercial and industrial property and to set a special property tax rate for certain commercial and industrial property for the purpose of financing certain transportation improvements or the approved budget of the county board of education; applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2026; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, §§ 6-202.1 and 6-302(b) - amended and §§ 6-302(e) and (f), 7-402, 9-112, and 9-276 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 91 Delegates Healey and Ruth

AGRICULTURE – NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDES – PROHIBITIONS

Prohibiting a person from distributing, selling, or using corn, soybean, or wheat seeds that have been coated in or treated with neonicotinoid pesticides; prohibiting an individual from applying neonicotinoid pesticides to treat outdoor ornamental plants and turf; and authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to temporarily suspend the prohibitions under the Act based on certain determinations made by the Secretary in consultation with the Department of the Environment and the Department of Natural Resources.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

AG, §§ 5-2A-01 and 5-2A-02(c) - amended and § 5-2A-02(d) and (e) - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 92 Delegate Schindler, et al

ENVIRONMENT – BEVERAGE CONTAINERS CONNECTED WITH PLASTIC RINGS – RESTRICTION ON SALE

Prohibiting a person from selling, offering for sale, or distributing for sale beverage containers that are connected to other beverage containers with a plastic ring connector unless the plastic ring connector is made of a biodegradable material.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EN, §§ 9-2101(a) and 9-2105 - amended and §§ 9-2108 through 9-2110 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 93 Delegate Crosby**HOME BUILDERS – MODEL HOMES AND CONTRACTS FOR THE INTENT TO PURCHASE A NEW HOME – REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring certain home builders that construct model homes to make certain information about the model home available to prospective home buyers in a certain manner; requiring a home builder to provide certain information about model home upgrades to a home buyer at the time of signing a certain contract; providing that a home buyer has a right to rescind a contract for the intent to purchase a new home for any reason within a certain period of time; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

BR, §§ 4.5-502 and 4.5-801 - amended and §§ 4.5-801 through 4.5-803 - added
Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 94 Delegates Valentine and Simmons**PUBLIC SAFETY – HANDGUN PERMITS – EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL PERIODS FOR RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

Establishing alternative expiration and renewal periods for a handgun permit issued to a retired law enforcement officer who retired in good standing from service with a law enforcement agency of the State or a county or municipal corporation of the State; and providing that a handgun permit issued to a law enforcement officer who retired in good standing expires on the last day of the holder's birth month following 5 years after the date the permit is issued and may be renewed for successive periods of 5 years under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, § 5-309 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 95 Delegate Simmons**FAMILY LAW – MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS – APPEARANCE IN COURT**

Requiring both parties to be married, rather than one party, to appear before the clerk of a circuit court to apply for a marriage license.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, § 2-402(b) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 96 Delegate Phillips**BALTIMORE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATING COMMISSION – MEMBERSHIP – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the membership of the Baltimore County School Board Nominating Commission, from 19 to 21 members, to include one representative of the Greater Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce, one representative from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3, Council 434, and one representative of the Citizens Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented Education.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, § 3-2B-03(b) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 97 Delegate T. Morgan**STATE DESIGNATIONS – STATE SHARK – MEGALODON**

Designating the megalodon (*Otodus megalodon*) as the State shark.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, § 7-310 - renumbered and added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 98 Delegate Cardin**INHERITANCE TAX – BENEFICIARIES OF LIMITED MEANS – INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS**

Requiring a register of wills to allow an installment payment plan for the inheritance tax to be paid by a certain beneficiary of limited means under certain circumstances and subject to certain limitations; and applying the Act to all decedents dying on or after July 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 7-218.1 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 99 Delegates Schindler and Fair**MUNICIPALITIES – ANNEXED LAND – LAND USE AND DENSITY**

Altering the restrictions on a municipality, for a period following an annexation of land, to authorize the development of certain annexed land for certain land uses or certain densities without obtaining the express approval of the county in which the municipality is located; and altering the authority of a municipality to authorize certain land uses or certain densities for certain annexed land with the express approval of the county in which the municipality is located.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LG, § 4-416 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 100 Delegate Crosby**HIGHER EDUCATION – EDWARD T. AND MARY A. CONROY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – ELIGIBILITY**

Expanding the eligibility for the Edward T. and Mary A. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program to an applicant who is or was eligible for the Chapter 35 Survivors' Dependents' Educational Assistance benefit as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; and authorizing certain methods for verifying eligibility of these individuals for the Edward T. and Mary A. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 101 Delegate Simmons**PUBLIC BROADCASTERS – DEBATE FOR CANDIDATES FOR STATEWIDE OFFICE – REQUIRED PARTICIPANTS**

Requiring a public broadcaster that holds a debate between candidates for statewide office to invite all candidates who are certified to the ballot in the general election subject to certain requirements; prohibiting a public broadcaster from using or receiving State funds for the remainder of the fiscal year under certain circumstances; requiring the Governor to approve an amended appropriation to reappropriate State funds from a public broadcaster under certain circumstances; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

ED, § 24-208 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections and Appropriations

HB 102 Delegate Patterson**EDUCATION – DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS – ADVANCE ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES**

Requiring a county superintendent of schools to allow a certain dependent child of an active service member to advance enroll in a school in the county in a certain manner; requiring the remote registration process to provide an opportunity for the service member or other parent or guardian of a dependent child with a disability to note whether the child has an individualized education program or a 504 plan in the sending state; and requiring the Secretary of Veterans and Military Families to publish information on advance enrollment.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-115.1 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 103 Delegate Stewart**CONSUMER PROTECTION – CONSUMER CONTRACTS – PROHIBITED WAIVER**

Repealing certain exemptions relating to a prohibition on a consumer contract that sets a shorter time to bring an action under or on the consumer contract under certain circumstances; prohibiting a consumer contract from waiving, limiting, impairing, or disclaiming any right conferred or created or a manner of enforcement established by federal or State law; establishing that a violation of the Act is an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice subject to enforcement and certain civil penalties; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CL, §§ 13-301(14)(xlvii) and 14-1328 - amended and § 13-301(14)(xlix) - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 104 Delegate Mireku-North**UNHOUSED INDIVIDUALS – RIGHTS AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Providing that all unhoused individuals have certain rights; establishing an affirmative defense of necessity to certain criminal charges relating to trespass or disturbing the peace; and repealing the authority of a municipality to prohibit vagrancy.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, §§ 3-2701 through 3-2705 - added and LG, § 5-207 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 105 Delegate Foley**PUBLIC HEALTH – RESTAURANTS – DISCLOSURE OF MAIN FOOD ALLERGENS**

Requiring restaurants to make available to each customer a written disclosure of each main food allergen, if any, that is an ingredient in each menu item; and excluding a violation of the Act from certain criminal penalties.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 21-330.3 and 21-330.4 - renumbered, ED, § 13-517(a)(4) and HG, § 21-1214 - amended, and HG, § 21-330.3 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 106 Delegate Foley**STATE PERSONNEL – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – NONTENURE TRACK FACULTY**

Providing collective bargaining rights to nontenure track faculty at State system institutions, Morgan State University, or St. Mary's College of Maryland; defining "nontenure track faculty" as full-time, part-time, or adjunct nontenure track employees whose assignments involve academic responsibilities, including teachers, researchers, and department heads and those in comparable positions; and establishing a separate collective bargaining unit for nontenure track faculty.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SP, §§ 3-101 and 3-102(b)(9) and (12) and (d)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 107 Delegate Allen**MOTOR VEHICLES – INTELLIGENT SPEED ASSISTANCE SYSTEM PILOT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Intelligent Speed Assistance System Pilot Program; requiring individuals whose driver's licenses are subject to certain suspension or revocation to participate in the Program; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to issue to participants a restricted license requiring the use of an intelligent speed assistance system; and prohibiting a participant from operating a motor vehicle in violation of the requirements of the Program.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 16-404(c) - amended and § 16-404.2 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 108 Delegate Pasteur**DIVISION OF CORRECTION – RELEASE PREPARATION PROGRAM**

Establishing the Release Preparation Program in the Division of Correction for the purpose of providing access to formerly incarcerated individuals to State correctional facilities to assist incarcerated individuals with release preparation; and altering the purposes of the Cannabis Regulation and Enforcement Fund to include providing funds to cover the costs of supporting the Release Preparation Program.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ABC, § 36-206 - amended and CS, § 9-619 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 109 Delegate Vogel**INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS – TITLE VI COORDINATORS**

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

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Appropriations and Ways and Means

HB 110 Delegate Taveras**MOTOR VEHICLES – SCHOOL BUSES – SEAT BELTS**

Requiring the public school safety education program to include student instruction concerning school bus safety and the proper use of seat belts on school buses; requiring that school buses purchased after July 1, 2030, and registered in the State be equipped with, for every seat on the school bus, 3-point seat belts that are accessible to passengers; and prohibiting a civil action for damages based on the failure of a school bus operator to ensure that an occupant of a school bus was wearing a seat belt.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, § 7-410 and TR, §§ 21-1118, 22-412, and 22-412.3 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Ways and Means

HB 111 Delegate Griffith

FAMILY LAW – CHILD ABUSE – DEFINITIONS

Expanding the definitions of “abuse” and “sexual abuse” for purposes of provisions relating to the reporting and investigation of child abuse and neglect.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, § 5-701 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 112 Delegate Crosby

PROPERTY TAX – AGRICULTURAL USE ASSESSMENT – COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEMS

Altering the date from December 31, 2025, to December 31, 2030, by which certain community solar energy generating systems must be approved by the Public Service Commission in order for land that is used by the community solar energy generating systems to qualify for the agricultural use assessment.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, § 8-209(e) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 113 Delegate Phillips

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – EXPUNGEMENT OF RECORDS – RESISTING ARREST AND MAKING A FALSE STATEMENT TO A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Adding convictions for resisting arrest, making a false statement to a law enforcement officer, and making a false statement to a law enforcement officer when under arrest to the list of misdemeanor convictions that a person may expunge under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 10-110(a)(1)(xii) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 114 Delegate Allen**MOTOR VEHICLES – ACCIDENTS – REQUIRED TESTING FOR IMPAIRED DRIVING (MATEO’S LAW)**

Requiring any person involved in a motor vehicle accident that results in the death of, or a life threatening injury to, another person to submit to breath and blood testing for impaired driving.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 16-205.1(c) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 115 Delegate Wilkins**ELECTION LAW – INDIVIDUALS RELEASED FROM STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES – AUTOMATIC RESTORATION OF VOTER REGISTRATION**

Requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to transmit a list that includes the name and new residential address of individuals released from incarceration at a State correctional facility to the State Board of Elections on a weekly basis; requiring the State Board to automatically restore the voter registration of certain individuals released from State correctional facilities who were registered to vote in the State before being incarcerated; etc.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027

EL, § 3-203.1 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 116 Delegate Miller**EDUCATION – AGREEMENTS, PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS, AND MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING – REPORTING AND PUBLICATION**

Requiring the reporting of certain procurement contracts and memoranda of understanding entered into by certain public elementary and secondary education systems in the State; and requiring each local school system to make publicly available on the local school system’s website certain in-kind services agreements, procurement contracts, and memoranda of understanding.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 2-307 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 117 Delegate Metzgar**PUBLIC SCHOOLS – AIRWAY CLEARING DEVICE AVAILABILITY AND USE – POLICY (BOWEN LEVY AIRWAY CLEARING DEVICE ACT)**

Requiring each county board of education to establish a policy to obtain at least one airway clearing device per school and to authorize school nurses and other school personnel to use an airway clearing device in certain emergency situations; and requiring the State Department of Education to develop and disseminate a form for public schools to report each incident requiring the use of an airway clearing device.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-426.8 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 118 Delegate Queen**MARYLAND MONEY TRANSMISSION ACT – DEFINITION OF MONEY TRANSMITTER – ALTERATION**

Altering, for a certain licensing requirement, the definition of “money transmitter” under the Maryland Money Transmission Act to exclude a certain person designated as an agent of a payor for the purpose of the agent’s provision of payroll processing services under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FI, § 12-401(q) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 119 Delegate Vogel**ENERGY PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS – NAVIGATORS, FUNDING, AND REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring a public body that enters into an energy performance contract to comply with certain provisions of law regarding energy performance contracts; requiring the Maryland Clean Energy Center to hire or contract with navigators to assist a public body in creating an energy performance contract; altering the Jane E. Lawton Conservation Loan Program and the Jane E. Lawton Conservation Fund to allow for the issuance of certain grants and loans to certain public bodies; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SF, §§ 17-1001 & 17-1002 - added and SG, §§ 9-20A-01 through 9-20A-07 and 9-20B-05(f)(13) & (14) - amended and 9-20B-05(14) - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 120 Delegate Fisher, et al**MORATORIUM ON CONSTRUCTION OF NEW DATA CENTERS – CO-LOCATION AND GENERATION CONTINGENCY**

Prohibiting a person from constructing a data center in the State; prohibiting a unit of State or local government from approving a proposal for the construction of a data center in the State; providing for the termination of the Act if the General Assembly enacts legislation regarding the co-location of data centers with a new or existing natural gas power generation facility, nuclear power generation facility, or small module reactor; applying the Act prospectively; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

RP, § 14-134 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 121 Delegates Szeliga and Nawrocki**BALTIMORE COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – SALE FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION**

Providing that certain authorization for the holders of certain licenses to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption in a certain manner applies only if the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore County has adopted certain regulations; authorizing the holders of certain licenses in Baltimore County that authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages at a restaurant or bar to sell certain alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ABC, § 13-1104 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 122 Delegate Szeliga, et al**STATE AID – NONPROFITS – STATUS**

Prohibiting a unit of State government or other State entity that provides State aid from providing State aid to a nonprofit entity unless the nonprofit is current with certain obligations under federal, State, and local law.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SF, § 7-407 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 123 Delegate Griffith

SCHOOL SYSTEMS – REPORTABLE OFFENSES – ALTERATIONS

Including institutions and programs of higher education in which a student is enrolled as part of a dual enrollment program in the definition of “school system”; adding certain offenses to the list of offenses a law enforcement agency must report to certain school personnel under certain circumstances; and authorizing State’s Attorneys to make a certain notification if a student is arrested for certain offenses.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-303 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Judiciary

HB 124 Delegate Vogel

INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – LOSSES FROM THEFT OR FRAUD

Allowing, subject to certain limitations, a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain personal casualty losses of certain retirement assets from theft or a fraud scheme; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-208(dd) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 125 Delegate S. Johnson

VEHICLE LAWS – HISTORIC MOTOR VEHICLES – MINIMUM AGE

Requiring that a motor vehicle be at least 25 years old in order to be eligible for registration as a historic motor vehicle.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TR, § 13-936 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 126 Delegate Pippy

REGULATED FIREARMS – SEVEN-DAY WAITING PERIOD – EXCEPTIONS

Exempting a sale, rental, or transfer of a regulated firearm from the seven-day waiting period requirement if the purchaser, renter, or receiver of the firearm is a law enforcement officer, a retired law enforcement officer who retired in good standing, or an individual with a permit to wear, carry, or transport a handgun.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, §§ 5-123 and 5-124 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 127 Delegate Metzgar

BALTIMORE COUNTY – PROPERTY TAX CREDITS – PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS AND PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM EMPLOYEES

Requiring the governing body of Baltimore County to grant, by law, a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on certain dwellings owned by public safety officers or Baltimore County public school employees under certain circumstances.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, § 9-305(j) and (k) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 128 Delegate Vogel

COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – THERAPY DOGS – POLICY FOR HANDLING AND USE IN SCHOOLS

Requiring a county board of education to allow, subject to certain requirements and policies, the use of therapy dogs in public schools in the county.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 4-148 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 129 Delegate M. Morgan, et al

PUBLIC FUNDING – NONPROFIT ENTITIES – REPORTING

Requiring a nonprofit entity that receives at least 50% of its funding each year from a grant from the State, a county, or a municipality, the State capital budget, or certain local impact grants to report certain information to the Comptroller; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SF, § 7-407 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 130 Delegate Ruff

CRIMINAL LAW – DEED FRAUD – PROHIBITION, DEED FRAUD PREVENTION GRANT FUND, AND TASK FORCE TO STUDY DEED FRAUD

Prohibiting the intentional fraudulent sale, conveyance, or lease or attempted sale, conveyance, or lease of real property by a person who does not own the real property; prohibiting the acquisition, sale, or conveyance or the attempted acquisition, sale, or conveyance of real property by deception, intimidation, threat, or undue influence; establishing the Deed Fraud Prevention Grant Fund; and establishing the Task Force to Study Deed Fraud.

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, § 5-106(kk), CR, § 8-906, PS, §§ 2-801 and 2-802, & SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)214. - added & CR, PS, & SF, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 131 Delegate Moon**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – EXPUNGEMENT – ADVERSE ACTIONS AND REMOVAL FROM MARYLAND ELECTRONIC COURTS (MDEC) SYSTEM**

Clarifying that refusal by a person to disclose information about criminal charges that have been expunged may not be the sole reason for a unit, an official, or an employee of the State or a political subdivision of the State to deny the person's application for a license, permit, registration, or governmental service; providing that refusal by a person to disclose information about criminal charges that have been expunged may not be the sole reason for an educational institution to expel or refuse to admit the person; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, §§ 10-109, 10-111, and 10-112 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 132 Delegates Grammer and Bartlett**WIRETAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE – INTERCEPTED COMMUNICATIONS – ADMISSIBILITY OF EVIDENCE**

Providing that the contents of a certain intercepted communication and evidence derived from the communication may be received in evidence in a certain criminal proceeding under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, § 10-405 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 133 Delegate Bouchat, et al**INCOME TAX AND SALES AND USE TAX – RATE REDUCTIONS AND ALTERATIONS**

Altering the State individual and corporate income tax rates; increasing, from 2% to 3%, the income tax rate imposed on the net capital gains attributable to certain sources of income; exempting from the income tax on net capital gains the first \$10,000 in net capital gains of an individual who is at least 65 years old; reducing, from 6% to 3%, the sales and use tax rate; reducing, from 9% to 3%, the sales and use tax rate on alcohol and cannabis sales; repealing the sales and use tax on the sale of certain technology services; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, Various Sections - repealed and amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 134 Delegate Vogel

FAMILY LAW – INCAPACITATED OR PROTECTED PERSONS – PETITION FOR VISITATION

Establishing a rebuttable presumption relating to the best interest of an alleged incapacitated or protected person in an action under the Act; authorizing a certain person to petition a certain court for reasonable visitation with a certain alleged incapacitated or protected person; authorizing the court to impose certain restrictions on a certain visitation; establishing a certain immunity from civil liability under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, §§ 15-101 through 15-103 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 135 Delegate Schindler, et al

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – TAX INCREMENT FINANCING – NONCONTIGUOUS AREAS

Authorizing the governing body of a political subdivision to designate certain noncontiguous blighted areas as development districts.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 136 Delegate Vogel

MARYLAND PUBLIC ETHICS LAW – OFFICIALS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH – GIFTS OF FOOD AND BEVERAGES

Altering an exemption that allows an official of the Legislative Branch to accept a gift of food or beverages as part of a meal or reception to which a legislative unit is invited to instead allow an official of the Legislative Branch to accept a gift of food or beverages at a meal or reception to which all members of the General Assembly are invited and that was open to the public; altering the written invitation and registration report requirements a regulated lobbyist must meet under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, § 5-101(w) - repealed, § 5-101(x) through (gg) and (gg-1) - renumbered, and Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 137 Delegate Kaufman, et al**FAMILY LAW – CHILD CUSTODY EVALUATORS – QUALIFICATIONS**

Establishing qualifications for an individual to be appointed by a court as a custody evaluator; and authorizing a court to waive certain requirements for a court employee or an individual under contract with the court under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

FL, § 9-109 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 138 Delegate Bartlett, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – THIRD-DEGREE SEXUAL OFFENSE – BURGLARY**

Establishing that engaging in sexual contact with another without the consent of the other in connection with a first-, second-, or third- degree burglary constitutes sexual offense in the third degree; and altering the definitions of “tier I sex offender”, “tier II sex offender”, and “tier III sex offender” applicable to provisions relating to sex offender registration to include certain acts constituting sexual offense in the third degree.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CR, § 3-307 and CP, § 11-701(o), (p), and (q) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 139 Delegate Rogers**SALES AND USE TAX – TAX-FREE DAY – VETERANS’ DAY**

Establishing November 11 as a tax-free day each year during which an exemption from the sales and use tax is provided for sales to certain veterans if the taxable price of the item for sale is less than \$2,000; authorizing the Comptroller, in the Comptroller’s sole discretion, to suspend the tax-free day; and requiring an individual, in order to qualify for the exemption, to provide to the vendor evidence of eligibility for the exemption.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 11-247 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 140 Delegate Woods**COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION AND BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS – VACANCY PROCEDURES – ALTERATIONS**

Requiring each county board of education and the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners to hold an election for a vacant elected board member position that occurs 55 days or more before the candidate filing deadline for a certain election; requiring each county board and the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners to appoint a replacement for a vacant elected board member position that occurs 54 days or less before a certain candidate filing deadline for a certain election; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, Various Sections - added, amended, and repealed

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 141 Delegate Foley**STATE PERSONNEL – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – GRADUATE ASSISTANTS**

Providing collective bargaining rights to certain graduate assistants at a system institution, Morgan State University, or St. Mary's College of Maryland; defining "graduate assistant" as a graduate student at a system institution, Morgan State University, or St. Mary's College of Maryland who is a teaching, administrative, or research assistant or in a comparable position, a fellow, or a postdoctoral intern; and establishing a separate collective bargaining unit for the graduate assistants.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SP, §§ 3-101 and 3-102(b)(9) and (d)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections and Appropriations

HB 142 Delegate Taylor**CHILD SUPPORT – EARNINGS WITHHOLDINGS LIMITS**

Specifying that the amount of earnings withholding or a wage withholding order for child support may not exceed 25% of the obligor's disposable earnings under certain circumstances; requiring an earnings withholding order or earnings withholding notice sent to an obligor's employer to include information on certain limits on earnings withholding; and authorizing an employee to contest the amount of an earnings withholding order based on certain limits.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, §§ 10-122, 10-128, 10-138, and 12-102.3 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 143 Delegate Charkoudian**ELECTRIC COMPANY CONTRACTS, CAPACITY MARKET MODELS, AND REGIONAL TRANSMISSION ORGANIZATIONS – STUDIES**

Requiring the Public Service Commission and the Maryland Energy Administration jointly, in consultation with neighboring states, to study the benefits and costs of, and make recommendations on, potential options for certain actions with regard to withdrawing from the PJM Interconnection, LLC capacity market model, developing a certain multistate compact, withdrawing from PJM Interconnection, LLC, and establishing or joining an alternative regional transmission organization; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 144 Delegate Vogel**COMMERCIAL LAW – FAIR PRICING AND MARKET COMPETITION FUND – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Fair Pricing and Market Competition Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to provide additional operating funds for the Antitrust Division of the Office of the Attorney General; requiring that certain civil penalties, damages, attorney's fees, and costs awarded to the State be credited to the Fund; and requiring, for fiscal years 2028 through 2033, that the Governor include in the annual budget bill a certain appropriation to the Fund.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

CL, § 11-209(a)(4) - amended and § 11-213 - renumbered and added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 145 Delegate Feldmark**ELECTION LAW – ELECTION MISINFORMATION, ELECTION DISINFORMATION, AND DEEPFAKES**

Requiring the State Administrator of Elections to take certain actions if the State Administrator receives a credible report that election misinformation or election disinformation, including a deepfake, has been or is being communicated, disseminated, or distributed; requiring the Administrator to communicate correct information to the public; prohibiting a person, under certain circumstances, from knowingly or with reckless disregard using or disseminating a deepfake to produce materially false information; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

EL, § 2-110 - amended and § 16-905 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 146 Delegate Guyton**ENVIRONMENT – ON-SITE WASTEWATER SYSTEMS – REQUIREMENTS FOR INSPECTION AND PUMPING SERVICES AND IMPLEMENTATION DATES**

Requiring a landlord of property that is served by an on-site wastewater system to ensure, on or before July 1, 2028, and before each new tenant occupies the property thereafter, that the system has been inspected and pumped out in a certain manner; requiring a landlord or an owner of property to notify a certain delegated approval authority that an on-site sewage disposal system is failing and when the system is fixed, under certain circumstances; extending certain dates; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

RP, §§ 8-122 and 10-716 - added and Chapter 419 of the Acts of 2022, §§ 6 and 7 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 147 Delegate Guzzone**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS NAVIGATOR – TERMINATION PROVISION – REPEAL**

Repealing a termination provision relating to provisions of law establishing a nonprofit organizations navigator within the Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Chapters 314 and 315 of the Acts of 2025, § 6 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 148 Delegate Vogel**CONSUMER PROTECTION AND LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – SURVEILLANCE-BASED PRICE AND WAGE SETTING – PROHIBITION**

Prohibiting a person from engaging in certain surveillance-based price setting; making a certain violation of the Act an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice that is subject to enforcement and penalties under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act; and prohibiting an employer from engaging in certain surveillance-based wage setting.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CL, § 13-301(14)(xlvii) - amended and CL, §§ 13-301(14)(xlix) and 14-1330 and LE, §§ 3-103(e)(7) and 3-718 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 149 Delegate Charkoudian**FIRE PREVENTION – ASSISTANT FIRE MARSHALS, RESIDENTIAL RENTAL HIGH-RISE PROPERTY FIRE SAFETY EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEM TECHNICIANS**

Authorizing a county or municipal corporation to designate certain fire marshals with the approval of the State Fire Marshal or to request that the State Fire Marshal designate certain fire marshals and requiring the State Fire Marshal to adopt certain regulations governing the qualifications, training, standards, and certification of designees; requiring installation of certain fire prevention in certain high-rise residential buildings; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, §§ 6-304, 9-102, 9-901, and 9-902 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 150 Delegate Cardin**CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES – SELECTION AND RETENTION ELECTIONS**

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

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

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

Assigned to: Judiciary and Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 151 Delegate Vogel**SALES AND USE TAX – DISTRIBUTION OF CANNABIS SALES TAX REVENUE – MARYLAND VETERANS TRUST FUND**

Requiring 3% of the sales and use tax revenue collected from the sale of cannabis to be distributed to the Maryland Veterans Trust Fund.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SG, § 9-913 and TG, § 2-1302.2 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 152 Delegate Stewart**CONSUMER PROTECTION – ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS – REGULATIONS (ELDER FRAUD PREVENTION ACT OF 2026)**

Providing that consumer wire transfers involving electronic funds transfers made ancillary to bank-to-bank transfers via a wire service are subject to certain provisions of the federal Electronic Funds Transfer Act of 1978.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CL, § 4A-508 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 153 Delegate Lehman, et al

RESIDENTIAL RENTAL APARTMENTS – AIR-CONDITIONING REQUIREMENT

Requiring a landlord to provide air-conditioning to residential rental units in apartment buildings with four or more individual dwelling units in a certain manner beginning June 1, 2026, for newly constructed residential rental units and beginning October 1, 2026, for residential rental units that undergo renovation that includes the replacement or substantial upgrade of electrical systems or heating systems; and applying the Act prospectively.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

RP, § 8-122 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 154 Delegate Korman

OPEN MEETINGS ACT – COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – ENHANCED REQUIREMENTS (LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TRANSPARENCY ACT)

Establishing enhanced requirements under the Open Meetings Act for county boards of education and the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners; and requiring county boards and the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners to maintain on their respective websites a complete and unedited archived video recording of each open meeting for which live video streaming was made available for a minimum of 5 years after the date of the meeting.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 4-107(d) and GP, § 3-307 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 155 Delegate Williams, et al**PUBLIC SAFETY – LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS – PROHIBITION ON FACE COVERINGS**

Requiring the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to develop a model policy prohibiting the use of a face covering in the performance of duty; requiring a law enforcement agency to adopt a policy consistent with the model policy developed by the Commission; and prohibiting a certain law enforcement officer from wearing a certain face covering while in the performance of duty in the State, except when actively engaged in an undercover operation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, §§ 3-207(p) and 3-535 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 156 Delegate Fair, et al**ELECTION LAW – AFFILIATING WITH A PARTY AND VOTING – UNAFFILIATED VOTERS**

Authorizing unaffiliated voters to request to affiliate with a political party at an early voting center during a primary election and vote a provisional ballot for the voter's preferred political party; and requiring an election judge to determine whether the voter resides in the county in which the voter seeks to vote.

EMERGENCY BILL

EL, §§ 3-303, 3-305(a) and (e), 9-404(b), and 11-303(d)(4) - amended and § 3-305(e) - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 157 Delegates Palakovich Carr and D. Jones**ELECTION LAW – CAMPAIGN FINANCE – EXPLORATORY COMMITTEES**

Applying certain campaign finance requirements for a political committee to exploratory committees; establishing requirements and prohibitions for exploratory committees relating to the establishment of the committees, receipt of funds, and permissible disbursements; requiring an authorized candidate campaign committee that results from the exploratory committee to make any equipment purchases from the exploratory committee at the fair market value of the equipment; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

EL, § 1-101(k) - amended and § 13-107 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 158 Delegate Woods**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – MATERNAL HEALTH MONITORING PILOT PROGRAM**

Establishing the Maternal Health Monitoring Pilot Program in the Maryland Department of Health to support pregnant and postpartum Maryland Medical Assistance Program recipients who have higher risks of pregnancy complications because of maternal hypertension or maternal diabetes; requiring the Department to select at least one managed care organization to administer the Program; requiring the managed care organizations to contract with a technology vendor to offer remote patient monitoring services to participants; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

HG, §§ 15-1301 and 15-1302 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 159 Delegate Solomon**MAIL THEFT**

Altering the prohibition against taking and breaking open a letter; providing that a person may not knowingly and intentionally open mail addressed to another without permission of the person or an authorized designee; providing certain penalties for violations of the Act; prohibiting the theft of mail under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from possessing an arrow key under certain circumstances; and providing for concurrent jurisdiction in the District Court and circuit court to try a violation of the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, §§ 4-301 and 4-302 - amended and CR, § 3-905 - repealed and §§ 3-905 and 3-905.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 160 Delegate Schindler, et al**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT – REAL PROPERTY – CONFEDERATE NAMING PROHIBITED**

Prohibiting a State entity or a political subdivision of the State from assigning a Confederate name to real property owned by the State or political subdivision.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, §§ 9-101 and 9-102 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 161 Delegate Ruth, et al**PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – RETAIL SERVICE STATION CONVERSIONS**

Authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to grant, by law, a credit against the county or municipal corporation property tax on real property if use of the real property has been converted from a retail service station to other certain uses; authorizing the State to pay to each county or municipal corporation that grants the property tax credit under the Act 50% of forgone revenue; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, § 9-276 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 162 Delegate Queen**DEPARTMENT OF AGING – MARYLAND ACCESS POINT – DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

Requiring the Department of Aging to provide resources, training, grants, and other support to the Maryland Access Point network to create dementia-friendly communities through community-based efforts; and requiring the Maryland Access Point network to provide certain public awareness and educational materials to communities regarding community-based ways to support individuals with dementia.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HU, §§ 10-1001, 10-1002, and 10-1004 - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 163 Delegate Wu, et al**COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – STUDENT TECHNOLOGY USE POLICY – REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring a county board of education to develop and adopt a policy on the use of personal electronic devices during school hours; requiring the policy to restrict or limit the use of personal electronic devices by students during school hours, except for any purpose documented in the student's education program or Section 504 plan, to monitor or address a student's health issue, or for certain educational purposes; and requiring the policy to be published on the county board's website and in student handbooks.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-137 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 164 Delegate Lehman, et al**STATE BUILDINGS AND STATE HIGHWAYS – COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF YARD WASTE**

Prohibiting a person from disposing of yard waste collected on the grounds of a State building or State highway in single-use plastic container; requiring a person to collect yard waste on the grounds of a State building or State highway in a container that will not be discarded with the yard waste or in a compostable paper bag; and requiring all yard waste collected on the grounds of a State building or State highway to be disposed of in a certain manner under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SF, §§ 2-1001 and 2-1002 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 165 Delegate Bouchat**COURTS – SHERIFFS’ SALARIES – ALTERATIONS**

Requiring that the salary of certain Sheriffs to be equal to the salary of certain State’s Attorneys.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 166 Delegate Metzgar**PUBLIC HEALTH – HENRIETTA LACKS COMMISSION – ESTABLISHMENT (HENRIETTA LACKS COMMISSION OF MARYLAND ACT OF 2026)**

Establishing the Henrietta Lacks Commission to take certain actions related to the legacy of Henrietta Lacks and the use of HeLa cells; and requiring the Commission, beginning in 2027, to report by December 1 annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on its activities regarding oversight of life sciences activities in the State and promotion of education on the life of Henrietta Lacks.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 24-2801 and 24-2802 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 167 Delegate Foley**GASOLINE-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS – PURCHASE AND USE – PROHIBITIONS**

Prohibiting the State from purchasing gasoline-powered leaf blowers beginning July 1, 2026; prohibiting the State or any contractor or subcontractor employed by the State from using gasoline-powered leaf blowers beginning January 1, 2031; and requiring the State or any contractor or subcontractor employed by the State to comply with certain local government standards.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EN, §§ 3-601 through 3-605 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 168 Delegate Vogel**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – AFFORDABLE HOUSING – EDUCATOR WORKFORCE HOUSING AND MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS**

Establishing that providing educator workforce housing is an eligible use of certain financial assistance provided by the Department of Housing and Community Development; establishing that teachers and other employees of a local school system shall be considered a specified group for purposes of the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program; and altering the eligible recipients of certain financial assistance.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 4-115 and HS, §§ 4-512, 4-3001 through 4-3004, and 6-405 - amended and HS, § 1-103 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 169 Delegate Ruff**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – EXPUNGEMENT OF RECORDS – GOOD CAUSE**

Authorizing a person to file a petition for expungement of any misdemeanor or felony conviction a certain period of time after the completion of the sentence, parole, probation, and any other form of mandatory treatment associated with the conviction; authorizing a court to grant a petition on a showing of good cause; and providing that a denial of a petition may not be appealed and a subsequent petition may not be filed for a certain period of time.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 10-113 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 170 Delegates Bouchat and Moon**COMMISSION TO STUDY AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL WAR SAILORS IN MARYLAND**

Establishing the Commission to Study African American Civil War Sailors in Maryland; requiring the Commission to study the history of the African American sailors who fought for the Union Navy; requiring the Commission to make certain recommendations regarding the funding, design, construction, and location of an appropriate memorial dedicated to African American Civil War sailors; and requiring the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 171 Delegates Valentine and Simmons**CRIMINAL LAW – DRUG TRAFFICKING CRIME – DEFINITION**

Altering the definition of “drug trafficking crime” applicable to prohibitions against possessing, using, wearing, carrying, or transporting a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CR, § 5-621(a)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 172 Delegate Schindler, et al**MUNICIPALITIES – ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS – BODY-WORN CAMERAS**

Including a certain municipal enforcement officer in the definition of “law enforcement officer” for purposes of a certain exception to prohibitions against wiretapping and electronic surveillance relating to the use of body-worn cameras; authorizing a municipality to adopt an ordinance or a resolution authorizing an official who is authorized to act as an enforcement officer to utilize a body-worn camera; and requiring that a certain municipality publish its policy for the issuance and use of body-worn cameras by enforcement officers.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, § 10-402(c)(11) - amended and LG, § 6-103.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 173 Delegate Allen**STATE DESIGNATIONS – STATE NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUM – NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF MARYLAND**

Designating the Natural History Society of Maryland as the State natural science museum.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, §§ 7-325 and 7-326 - renumbered and § 7-326 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 174 Delegate Cardin**MOTOR VEHICLES AND MARINE VESSELS – TRANSFER-ON-DEATH DESIGNATIONS**

Authorizing an individual who is the sole owner of a marine vessel or multiple individuals who jointly co-own a marine vessel to apply to the Department of Natural Resources to designate a beneficiary to take ownership of the marine vessel on the death of the owner or each co-owner; and altering certain provisions of law governing the transfer-on-death designation for motor vehicles to allow multiple individuals who jointly co-own a motor vehicle to designate a transfer-on-death beneficiary.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

NR, § 8-720.1 - added and TR, § 13-115 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 175 Delegate Ziegler, et al**INCOME TAX CREDIT – VENISON DONATION – ALTERATIONS**

Repealing the limitation on the maximum amount of a credit against the State income tax that an individual may claim for certain expenses incurred for a donation of deer meat to certain organizations; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-746 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 176 Delegate Fair, et al**STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION AND
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES – PROPERTY APPRAISAL
AIDS – GEOGRAPHIC IMAGES**

Requiring the State Department of Assessments and Taxation to prepare, install, and maintain certain appraisal aids that consist of a database of statewide and local geographic images; requiring each county and Baltimore City to reimburse the State for 100% of the costs of the database less than \$1,000,000 and 50% of the costs over \$1,000,000; and requiring, by June 30, 2026, the Department to develop policies to protect the identity of any individual whose image is captured by oblique aerial photographic imagery.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, §§ 2-106(b) and (c) and 2-210 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 177 Delegate Palakovich Carr, et al**VEHICLE LAWS – BICYCLES, PLAY VEHICLES, AND UNICYCLES –
CROSSWALKS**

Authorizing a person operating a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle at an intersection who is facing a red signal to enter the intersection to cross the highway in the direction of a pedestrian control “walk” signal displayed for the portion of the highway on which the bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle is traveling; and requiring, before entering an intersection, a person operating a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle to yield the right-of-way to any vehicle or pedestrian lawfully using the intersection.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 21-1202 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 178 Delegate Patterson

PUBLIC HEALTH – SICKLE CELL DISEASE – SPECIALIZED CLINICS AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR MEDICAL RESIDENTS

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to establish certain specialized clinics for the management and treatment of sickle cell disease and establish a scholarship program for medical residents who specialize in classical hematology with a focus on sickle cell disease; and requiring the Governor for fiscal year 2028 to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$6,138,000 to support clinic operations, staffing, training, and social support services.

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 18-510 and 18-511 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 179 Delegate Vogel

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – COMPLAINT PORTAL AND ANNUAL REPORT

Requiring the Department of Commerce to create and maintain a complaint portal for reporting when a governmental unit takes longer than 60 days to process an application for a license, form, certificate, certification, permit, or registration for a business or nonprofit organization; and requiring the Department, by September 15, 2026, and each September 15 thereafter, to submit an annual report to certain committees of the General Assembly on the complaints filed through the portal.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EC, § 2.5-111 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 180 Delegate Cardin**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – INCOMPETENCY TO STAND TRIAL DISMISSAL**

Altering the time period after which a court is required to dismiss a certain charge against a defendant found incompetent to stand trial under certain circumstances; and requiring a court to provide a certain notice and provide an opportunity to be heard to the State's Attorney and a certain victim or victim's representative before dismissing a certain charge against a defendant found incompetent to stand trial.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

CP, § 3-107 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 181 Delegate Woods**PUBLIC HEALTH – RESTAURANTS – DISCLOSURE OF MAIN FOOD ALLERGENS**

Requiring restaurants to make available to each customer a certain written disclosure of each main food allergen, if any, that the restaurant knows or reasonably should know is an ingredient in each menu item.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 21-330.3 and 21-330.4 - renumbered and § 21-330.3 - added and ED, § 13-517(a)(4) - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 182 Delegate Stein**ELECTION LAW – PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS – SELECTION AND VOTING**

Altering the procedures for the selection of presidential elector nominees and alternate presidential elector nominees; requiring the State Administrator of Elections to preside at a certain meeting of certain presidential electors; altering the procedures for the meeting of presidential electors; and establishing procedures for the preparation, delivery, signing, and transmission of an amended certificate of ascertainment after the vote of the State's presidential electors under certain circumstances.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EL, §§ 1-101(ii-2), 8-504, 8-506, 8-507, and 8-509 - added and §§ 1-101(tt-1) and 8-503 through 8-505 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 183 Delegate Bouchat, et al

VEHICLE LAWS – VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION PROGRAM – REPEAL

Repealing the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, §§ 23-201 through 23-206, 23-206.1, 23-206.2, 23-206.4, 23-207, and 23-209 - repealed

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 184 Delegate Pasteur

CRIMINAL LAW – IDENTITY FRAUD – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DEEPFAKE REPRESENTATIONS

Prohibiting a person from utilizing certain personal identifying information or engaging in certain conduct in order to cause physical injury, serious emotional distress, or economic damages; prohibiting a person from using certain artificial intelligence or certain deepfake representations for certain purposes; providing penalties of 5 years of imprisonment and a fine of up to \$10,000 or both where one victim is involved, and for two or more victims the term of imprisonment is up to 10 years and the fine is up to \$15,000 or both; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CR, § 8-301 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 185 Delegate Cardin

ESTATES AND TRUSTS – SPOUSAL LIFETIME ACCESS TRUSTS

Adding to the circumstances under which an individual who creates a trust for the benefit of the individual's spouse may not be considered the settlor of the trust with regard to the individual's interest in the trust.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ET, § 14.5-1003 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 186 Delegate Bouchat, et al**NATURAL RESOURCES – BOW HUNTING – SUNDAYS**

Authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow statewide a person to hunt deer on Sundays throughout the deer bow hunting season and to hunt turkey using a bow and arrow on Sundays throughout the turkey hunting season.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

NR, § 10-410(a) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 187 Delegate Taylor**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – EXPUNGEMENT – NO FINDING AND CASE TERMINATED WITHOUT FINDING**

Authorizing the expungement of a disposition under a certain provision of law if the disposition was included in a case that was disposed of by the court with a no finding designation or designated by the court as having been terminated without finding.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 10-110(d) - amended and § 10-110(j) - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 188 Delegate Charkoudian**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2026**

Repealing and establishing the methodology used to calculate the weekly benefit amount; altering the taxable wage base used to determine employer contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund and the amount of earned wages subtracted from a weekly benefit amount; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to determine and make available online the State annual average wage applicable to the rate of contribution; requiring, beginning in 2027, the maximum weekly benefit to be 40% of the state average weekly wage; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

LE, §§ 8-607(b), (c), and (d)(1) and 8-804 - amended and § 8-803 - repealed and added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 189 Delegate Miller**PUBLIC MIDDLE, HIGH, AND CHARTER SCHOOLS – START TIME FOR INSTRUCTION**

Requiring, beginning in the 2028–2029 school year, each public middle school and each public high school to begin instruction not earlier than 8 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., respectively, unless granted a waiver by the State Board of Education under certain circumstances; and requiring each county board of education and each public charter school to implement a certain public service campaign to raise awareness of sleep deprivation and later school start times.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-103 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 190 Delegate Bouchat**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – FORM OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT – REQUIREMENT TO ADOPT CHARTER HOME RULE**

Requiring each county to adopt a charter by December 31, 2032, using a certain procedure; altering the method by which a county shall adopt a charter under certain circumstances; requiring the charter to provide for the election of members of the county council by the voters of councilmanic districts; limiting the applicability of certain constitutional provisions governing code home rule counties; and requiring the amendment proposed by the Act be submitted to the qualified voters of the State for approval or rejection.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Art. XI-A, § 1 - repealed and added and Art. XI-A, §§ 1A and 3A and Art. XI-F, § 1 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 191 Delegate Wims**CONSUMER PROTECTION – RETAIL TRANSACTIONS – CASH PAYMENTS**

Prohibiting a merchant, in a certain transaction, from prohibiting a person from making a cash payment to purchase a good or service; requiring a person to purchase a good or service by using a credit or debit card, or charging or collecting from a person a fee for making a cash payment for the purchase of a good or service; and establishing that a violation of the Act is an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice subject to certain enforcement and penalty provisions under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CL, § 13-301(14)(xlvii) - amended and §§ 13-301(14)(xlii) and 14-1330 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 192 Delegate Woods**MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION – RELIGIOUS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS – CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL**

Exempting certain religious educational institutions accredited by accrediting bodies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education from the requirement to obtain a certificate of approval from the Maryland Higher Education Commission to operate in the State.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 11-202.1(b) - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 193 Delegate Kerr**STATE PROCUREMENT – TRANSPARENCY AND PROCEDURES**

Requiring a unit of State government to provide a certain debriefing of a contract award to certain persons on request; adding an exemption to the prohibition on an individual who assists in the drafting of specifications, an invitation for bids, or a request for proposals from submitting a bid or proposal or assisting in the submission of a bid or proposal; requiring a procurement contract to include a certain clause pertaining to certain contract modifications related to changes in law; altering the required contents of a certain change order; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SF, §§ 13-212.1(b), 13-218(a), 15-112(b)(1), 15-218, and 15-219 - amended and § 13-104(h) - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 194 Delegate Metzgar**INCARCERATED JOB TRAINING ACT**

Requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to develop and offer an apprenticeship program in skilled trades for incarcerated individuals; establishing that the purpose of the program is to assist incarcerated individuals to develop marketable job skills and to earn money that can be used once the individual is released from incarceration; authorizing the Department to pay all or part of an incarcerated individual's wages to a spouse, child, or other dependent in need of financial support; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CS, §§ 3-901 through 3-908 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 195 Delegate Queen**STATE LOTTERY AND GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION – AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT STUDIES ON THE USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGY – COLLABORATION**

Requiring the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to conduct studies of the State lottery and gaming program that identify certain trends and emerging technology to create a safe and transparent gambling environment; requiring the Commission to analyze certain technology that may be used by the Commission to carry out its duties in implementing certain provisions of law concerning sports wagering; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SG, § 9-109 - amended and § 9-1E-03(a)(3) and (4) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 196 Delegate Taveras**PUBLIC HEALTH – BABY FOOD TESTING – DEFINITION OF BABY FOOD**

Altering the definition of “baby food” for purposes of certain provisions of law governing baby food testing to include, rather than exclude, infant formula and to include infant cereal; and altering the defined term “toxic heavy metal” to be “toxic element” for purposes of certain provisions of law governing baby food testing.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 21-330.4 - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 197 Delegate Mireku-North, et al**COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY SAFETY FUNDING ACT**

Imposing an excise tax on certain gross receipts of certain firearms dealers derived from the sales of firearms, firearm accessories, and ammunition in the State and sales of firearms to residents of the State; requiring the Comptroller to distribute a portion of the tax revenues to the Maryland Violence Intervention Program, the Center for Firearm Violence Prevention, the Coordinated Community Supports Partnership, the Survivors of Homicide Victims Program, the Trauma Physician Services Fund, and the Cowley Shock Trauma Center; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027

ED, § 7-447.1(p)(6), HG, § 19-130(c), and PS, § 4-902(e)(1) - amended and TG, Various Sections - added and amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 198 Delegate Griffith**SCHOOL SYSTEMS – REPORTABLE OFFENSES – NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT AS SUSPECT**

Requiring law enforcement agencies to notify the State’s Attorney if a student is a suspect in an investigation of certain offenses and if the student no longer is a suspect; authorizing the State’s Attorney to notify the local superintendent or the superintendent’s designee if the student is a suspect in an investigation of certain offenses; and requiring the State’s Attorney to notify the local superintendent or the superintendent’s designee if a student is no longer a suspect in certain investigations.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-303 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Judiciary

HB 199 Delegate Crosby**ESTATES – MARYLAND UNIFORM SIMULTANEOUS DEATH ACT**

Conforming the Maryland Uniform Simultaneous Death Act to the Uniform Simultaneous Death Act; providing that a surviving individual who does not survive the death of another individual for at least 120 hours is deemed to have predeceased the other individual for purposes relating to the inheritance of property; establishing evidentiary procedures for determining an individual's death or survival in certain circumstances; providing for liability under the Act in connection with the distribution of disputed assets; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, §§ 10-801 through 10-805 - repealed, §§ 10-806 and 10-807 - renumbered, and §§ 1-801 through 10-807 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 200 Delegate Lehman, et al**SALE OF RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY – REQUIRED FLOOD RISK DISCLOSURE**

Requiring the Department of the Environment to develop, publish, and maintain a real property flood risk disclosure statement form that includes certain information about a property's flood risk and history; and requiring, beginning July 1, 2027, a vendor of residential real property to provide the purchaser with a completed real property flood risk disclosure statement form before entering into a contract for the sale of the property.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EN, § 5-810 and RP, § 10-716 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 201 Delegate Fisher, et al**INCOME TAX – TIPS OR GRATUITIES – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION (NO INCOME TAXES ON TIPS ACT)**

Providing a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for compensation received in the form of a tip or gratuity for the performance of certain work in a food service facility, business licensed for on-sale consumption of alcoholic beverages, or hotel, for providing passenger-for-hire services, or for providing taxicab services; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-207(rr) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 202 Delegate Vogel**PUBLIC HEALTH – SOCIAL ISOLATION AND LONELINESS PILOT GRANT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Social Isolation and Loneliness Pilot Grant Program in the Maryland Department of Health to provide grants for the operating costs associated with the maintenance or expansion of programs that target vulnerable populations with socioemotional support addressing social isolation and loneliness; requiring the Governor to include in the budget bill for fiscal year 2028 an appropriation of \$100,000 for the Program; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 13-5901 and 13-5902 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 203 Delegate Vogel**LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – TRAINING REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS – PROHIBITION**

Prohibiting employers from requiring, as a condition of employment, employees or prospective employees to enter into training repayment agreements; defining “training repayment agreement” as one that requires an employee to pay an employer or a third party, such as a training provider, a sum of money if the employee voluntarily or involuntarily leaves employment with the employer; and providing that an agreement that constitutes a training repayment agreement is null and void as being against the public policy of the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LE, §§ 3-103(e)(7) and 3-718 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 204 Delegate Allen

DRINKING WATER – REGULATION – CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF WATERBORNE DISEASE

Establishing minimum detectable disinfectant residual level requirements, disinfectant residual testing requirements, and related requirements for the control of Legionella bacteria and other pathogens in the public water supply; requiring suppliers of water to provide certain notices and records regarding disruptions in the water distribution system; establishing requirements for the investigation of reported cases of Legionnaires' disease; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EN, §§ 9-412 and 9-413 - amended and §§ 9-429 through 9-436 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 205 Delegate Bouchat, et al

VIOLENT CRIMINALS – PAROLE LIMITATION AND LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY REMOVAL (SEXUAL OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY AND VICTIM PROTECTION ACT)

Providing that an incarcerated individual who is serving a certain sentence for a certain sexual crime may be considered for parole only one time after becoming eligible; providing that if a victim, victim's family, victims' advocacy organization, or victim's representative objects to the granting of parole to a certain individual, parole shall be denied permanently; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CS, § 7-311 and CP, § 11-106 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 206 Delegate Bouchat

GENERAL ASSEMBLY – MEMBERSHIP, ELECTION TIMING FOR STATE SENATORS, AND ELIGIBILITY

Altering the membership of the Senate and the House of Delegates beginning with the 2033 legislative session; altering the method and timing of the election of State Senators; and requiring a Delegate who seeks election for a certain Senate term to vacate the seat of Delegate on the first day of the next immediately following legislative session.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Art. III, §§ 2, 6, 7, and 10 - amended

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HB 207 Delegate Vogel

ELECTION LAW – CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY FOR CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES – STOCK TRADING ACTIVITIES (CONGRESSIONAL STOCK TRADING TRANSPARENCY ACT)

Requiring the State Board of Elections to include the option on the certificate of candidacy form for candidates for congressional offices to indicate that, if elected, the candidate and the candidate's spouse will not engage in certain stock trading activities during the candidate's term of office; and requiring the State Board to publish on its website information concerning candidates for congressional offices who make that indication.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027

EL, § 5-304(d) - added and § 5-304(d) and (e) - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 208 Delegate Griffith

COURTS – EVIDENCE – PROOF OF OWNERSHIP OF REAL PROPERTY

Establishing that certain documentation relating to real property may be used to establish a rebuttable presumption of ownership of the property in certain court proceedings.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

CJ, § 10-926 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 209 Delegate Allen

HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS – ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TREATMENT – INFORMED CONSENT AND FRAUD

Prohibiting a health care provider from using the health care provider's human reproductive material when providing assisted reproductive treatment without the consent of the recipient of the treatment; prohibiting a health care provider from using a donor's human reproductive material to provide assisted reproductive treatment without the donor's informed consent or in a manner that is inconsistent with the donor's consent; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 20-112 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 210 Delegate Foley

MOTOR VEHICLES – OUT-OF-STATE DRIVERS – AUTOMATED ENFORCEMENT (OUT-OF-STATE DRIVER ACCOUNTABILITY ACT)

Requiring each county and municipal automated traffic enforcement program to submit to the Vision Zero coordinator a quarterly report containing certain information regarding each citation issued under the program during the quarter to a motor vehicle registered in another state.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 211 Delegate Nawrocki

BALTIMORE COUNTY – PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE 34

Authorizing the governing body of Baltimore County to grant, by law, a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on certain real property owned by the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 34.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, § 9-305(j) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 212 Delegate Addison

VEHICLE LAWS – OUT-OF-STATE VEHICLES – IMPROPER REGISTRATION

Establishing a certain process for bringing vehicles owned by State residents that are improperly registered in another state into compliance with the Maryland Vehicle Law; providing that if a vehicle's owner fails to properly register the vehicle within 60 days after issuance of a warning, the Administration will begin to assess a civil fine of \$7 per day up to 60 days; providing that if the vehicle is not registered within 120 days after the warning, the vehicle may be immobilized by towing and impoundment or by booting.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 26-301(b-1) - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 213 Delegate Bartlett**EVIDENCE – INTERCEPTION OF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – FAIR HOUSING TESTING**

Providing that it is lawful for a person to intercept an oral communication if the person is working as a fair housing tester for a fair housing testing program operated by the federal government, the State, a local government, or a nonprofit civil rights organization under certain circumstances; and providing that the contents of an intercepted oral communication may be used only for the purpose of enforcing federal, State, or local fair housing laws.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, §§ 10-401(13) and 10-402(c)(12) - added and § 10-401(13) through (18) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 214 Delegate Healey**HIGHER EDUCATION – ACADEMIC FORGIVENESS POLICY – ESTABLISHED**

Requiring institutions of higher education to develop and implement an academic forgiveness policy on or before August 1, 2026, that applies to applicants who earned unsatisfactory or failing grades at a prior institution of higher education under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 15-141 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 215 Delegate Vogel**CONTINUING CARE PROVIDERS – FINANCIAL STRESS TESTS, TRANSPARENCY, AND GOVERNING BODIES**

Requiring the Department of Aging to conduct an annual financial stress test for each continuing care in a retirement community provider; requiring a continuing care in a retirement community provider to meet with a resident association at least quarterly and in a certain manner; requiring a provider to make agendas and minutes of certain meetings accessible to the provider's subscribers; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HU, § 10-417 - added and §§ 10-426 and 10-427 - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 216 Delegate Kaufman, et al

CRIMINAL LAW – BENEFITS EXPLOITATION

Prohibiting a person from knowingly recruiting, harboring, transporting, or obtaining an individual for the purpose of appropriating the government benefits of an individual for the benefit of the person or another through deception, coercion, exploitation, isolation, or any other means; prohibiting a person from aiding, abetting, or conspiring with one or more persons to violate a certain provision of the Act; establishing that a violation of the Act is a felony; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CR, § 8-524 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 217 Delegate Stein, et al

GENERAL PROVISIONS – COMMEMORATIVE MONTH – MARYLAND NATIVE PLANT MONTH

Requiring the Governor to annually proclaim May as Maryland Native Plant Month in recognition of the benefits that native plants have on Maryland's natural environment; and requiring the proclamation to urge educational and environmental organizations and businesses to observe Maryland Native Plant Month properly.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, §§ 7-504 through 7-507 - renumbered and § 7-504 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 218 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Office of the Attorney General)

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL – ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES CRIMES UNIT – REPORTING REQUIREMENT

Altering the date, from November 30 to October 1 each year, by which the Office of the Attorney General must report on certain activities of the Office's Environmental and Natural Resources Crimes Unit and certain activities taken by the Department of the Environment and the Department of Natural Resources in response to findings of the Unit.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SG, § 6-702(d) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 219 Delegate Smith**MARYLAND VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 2026 – VOTER INTIMIDATION AND SUPPRESSION**

Altering public notice requirements of the State Board of Elections, local boards of elections, and certain municipal corporations with respect to changes in administrative policy affecting voting rights; prohibiting acts of intimidation, deception, or obstruction that interfere with the right to vote; prohibiting local governments from taking any action related to the election process that results in a disparity between members of a protected class and other members of the electorate; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EMERGENCY BILL

EL, §§ 1-101(b-3) and 1-305 - amended and §§ 15.3-101 through 15.3-501 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 220 Delegate Charkoudian**ENVIRONMENT – WATER – INDIVIDUAL UNIT METERS**

Authorizing the installation of individual unit meters, used to determine the actual use of water, for certain apartment houses and dwelling units; prohibiting the owner, operator, or manager of an apartment house, or a contractor hired by the owner, operator, or manager, from imposing certain costs on a unit; requiring each individual unit meter to include a leak detection monitor; requiring the maintenance of adequate records regarding individual unit meters; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EN, § 9-1115 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 221 Delegates Bouchat and Hornberger**ELECTION LAW – PRIMARY ELECTIONS – CHANGE OF POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION**

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

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONTINGENT

Maryland Constitution, Art. I, § 2B - added and EL, § 3-303 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 222 Delegate Vogel

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS – OPIOID OVERDOSE-REVERSING MEDICATIONS – POLICY REQUIREMENTS (NALOXONE ACCESS ACT)

Requiring the State Board of Education to update a certain drug addiction and prevention education program to include information on the mitigating effects of naloxone or other opioid overdose-reversing medication; requiring each county board of education and certain institutions of higher education to update certain policies to include information on authorized possession of naloxone or other opioid overdose-reversing medication by certain individuals and immunity from liability; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Appropriations

HB 223 Delegate Lopez

CENTER FOR FIREARM VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION – RESOURCES, TOOLS, AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 13-5204 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 224 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Human Services)**REENTRY AND REINTEGRATION SUPPORT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing a coordinated, interagency partnership among the Department of Human Services, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, and the Maryland Department of Health to create a voluntary prerelease benefits and identification application process for covered benefits for individuals being released from State correctional facilities; requiring by April 1, 2027, the Departments to enter into a memorandum of understanding to establish a secure data sharing process for certain purposes; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HU, § 5-324 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 225 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Agriculture)**MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD – SUNSET EXTENSION**

Continuing the Maryland Horse Industry Board in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law) by extending to July 1, 2036, the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the Board.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

AG, § 2-719 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 226 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Disabilities)

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES – HOUSING PROGRAMS AND AFFILIATED FOUNDATIONS – ESTABLISHMENT

Requiring the Department of Disabilities to establish affordable and accessible housing programs; authorizing the Department to establish one or more affiliated foundations to work with certain programs and units of the Department to solicit and accept funds, partner with individuals and entities, and promote certain activities that support certain projects; and requiring the Department by September 1 each year to report to the Governor, the Legislative Policy Committee, and the Ethics Commission certain information related to the programs.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HU, § 7-114(b) - amended and § 7-117 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 227 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Environmental Service)

MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE – AUTHORIZATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS – ALTERATIONS

Expanding the authority of the Treasurer of the Maryland Environmental Service to delegate certain functions to the Deputy Treasurer of the Service; increasing the threshold amount from \$25,000 to \$50,000 or less for estimated contract costs under which the Service may use the small procurement process; and altering the process for providing notice of the establishment or adjustment of certain rates charged for Service projects, products, or services.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

NR, §§ 3-103(e) and (g)(3) and 3-108(a)(4) - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations and Environment and Transportation

HB 228 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor)**HORSE RACING – PROHIBITED ACTS – SLAUGHTER OF RACEHORSES FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES**

Prohibiting a person from slaughtering or causing the slaughter of a racehorse in the State for certain commercial purposes; prohibiting a person from purchasing, selling, transferring, offering for sale, importing into the State, or transporting a racehorse if the person knows or reasonably should know that the racehorse will be slaughtered for certain commercial purposes; requiring certain fines collected by the State Racing Commission to be distributed to the racing Special Fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

BR, § 11-402 - amended and § 11-1002 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 229 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)**MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY – REVENUE BOND LIMIT – INCREASE**

Increasing, from \$4,000,000,000 to \$5,000,000,000, the limit on the amount of certain revenue bonds that the Maryland Transportation Authority may have outstanding and unpaid on June 30 each year; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TR, § 4-306 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 230 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)

TRANSPORTATION – CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM – PRIORITIZATION (TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT PRIORITIES ACT OF 2026)

Altering the required elements of the Consolidated Transportation Program; requiring the Department of Transportation to develop a certain project-based scoring system, identify certain funds available for certain purposes, and solicit requests from certain entities for certain projects; requiring the Department to evaluate and score certain major surface transportation projects; altering the makeup, chair, frequency of meetings, and responsibilities of the Maryland Transportation Commission; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TR, §§ 2-103.1(a), (c), (e), and (m)(1)(i)1., 2-103.7, 2-203, 2-204(a) and (b), and 2-205 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations and Environment and Transportation

HB 231 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Higher Education Commission)

HIGHER EDUCATION – GUARANTEED ACCESS GRANT PROGRAM – APPLICABILITY

Delaying the decentralization of the Guaranteed Access Grant Program until the 2029–2030 financial aid award year.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 18-303.4 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations and Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 232 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Military)

MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT – NATIONAL GUARD – TUITION ASSISTANCE

Expanding the institutions to include trade, or career schools recognized by the Maryland Higher Education Commission or the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Council and the types of expenses in connection with which tuition assistance may be provided for certain eligible Maryland National Guard service members.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, § 13-405 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 233 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Public School Construction)**EDUCATION – PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION – ALTERATIONS**

Clarifying the type of proposals and plans that require the approval of the State Superintendent of Schools; requiring a county board of education to request and receive approval from the State Superintendent before a county board may proceed with certain actions; authorizing the Interagency Commission on School Construction to adopt requirements for eligibility for certain State funding; repealing the requirement for the Commission to approve 75% of the preliminary school construction allocation by a certain date; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 234 Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – State Police)**PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE EMPLOYEES AND DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHALS – REPEAL OF PAY RATE RESTRICTION ON PROMOTION**

Repealing a requirement that a certain police employee or deputy State fire marshal is entitled to a certain pay rate on promotion to a higher rank if a certain other police employee or deputy State fire marshal in the same rank is at a lower pay rate.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

PS, § 2-405 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 235 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Housing and Community Development)**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM – LOCAL APPROVAL REQUIREMENT**

Repealing a certain requirement for approval by a political subdivision of a certain application for financial assistance under the Neighborhood Business Development Program from the Department of Housing and Community Development.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

HS, § 6-305 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 236 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor)

STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION – BLOOD TESTING OF CONTESTANTS – TIMING

Extending from 30 to 90 days the period of time before applying for a license to participate in a boxing, kick boxing, wrestling, or mixed martial arts contest and before participating in the contest during which certain blood testing may be conducted for purposes of submission of the results to the State Athletic Commission.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

BR, § 4-304.1(a) and (b) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 237 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor)

COMMERCIAL LAW – EARNED WAGE ACCESS – REVISIONS

Prohibiting a lender from accepting a tip from a consumer or giving a consumer the option to provide a tip; altering the timeline for certain refunds; subjecting certain earned wage access providers and loan lenders to certain consumer loan requirements; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CL, §§ 12-128, 12-318, and 12-1502 through 12-1504 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 238 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Planning)

MARYLAND HERITAGE AREA AUTHORITY AND HERITAGE AREAS – ALTERATIONS

Altering the voting membership of the Maryland Heritage Area Authority; increasing the number of voting members of the Authority that constitutes a quorum from 9 to 10; repealing the requirement that the Authority send copies of boundary maps to certain county clerks; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FI, §§ 13-1104(a), 13-1105, 13-1110(d) and (e), 13-1112, and 13-1113 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 239 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Housing and Community Development)**LAND USE – ZONING – LIMITATIONS (STARTER AND SILVER HOMES ACT OF 2026)**

Prohibiting local jurisdictions from adopting or enforcing certain zoning provisions relating to lot size, dimensions, setback requirements, lot coverage, and design or architectural elements for certain single-family homes; prohibiting local jurisdictions from prohibiting certain housing types in certain zones; and prohibiting local jurisdictions from prohibiting certain subdivisions of certain lot types.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LU, §§ 1-101, 1-401, 4-102, 4-103, 10-103, and 10-202 - amended and § 4-104(e) - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 240 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Planning)**LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANS – GUIDANCE MATERIALS AND NOTIFICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**

Requiring a local planning commission to notify the Department of Planning when beginning the review of the local jurisdiction's comprehensive plan; requiring the Department, within 60 days of receiving the notification, to provide guidance materials relating to State law, best practices for local comprehensive plans, and any other resources to support the plan's review; and requiring the Department to develop and maintain certain guidance materials in consultation with certain other State agencies and offices.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LU, §§ 1-207(c)(4) and (6), 1-208(b)(1), 1-415, 1-416, 1-417(a), 3-301, and 3-303(a) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 241 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor)

BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS – STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – SUNSET EXTENSIONS

Continuing the State Board of Barbers, the State Board of Cosmetologists, the State Board for Professional Land Surveyors, the State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers, Appraisal Management Companies, and Home Inspectors, and the State Board of Individual Tax Preparers in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law) by extending to July 1, 2032, the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the boards and commission; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

BOP, §§ 4-702, 5-702, 15-702, 16-802, and 21-502 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 242 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION

Altering requirements related to the confidentiality of unemployment insurance information to ensure compliance with federal law and regulations; altering existing confidentiality requirements related to inspection of employment records and claim information by agents of child support enforcement units; establishing exceptions to confidentiality requirements in accordance with federal law and regulations; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LE, §§ 8-101, 8-110, and 8-1305(c) - amended, § 8-111 - added, and §§ 8-625(d) and 8-811 - repealed

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 243 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Planning)

LAND USE – COMPREHENSIVE AND GENERAL PLANS – ALTERATION OF ELEMENTS

Altering the required elements of comprehensive and general plans for charter counties and other local jurisdictions; establishing requirements and guidelines for each element; and requiring certain State agencies to provide charter counties and other local jurisdictions with assistance and information relevant to the preparation of each element.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 244 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Natural Resources)

NATURAL RESOURCES – VESSEL TRANSFERS – TRANSFER-ON-DEATH BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION

Authorizing an individual who is the sole owner of a certain vessel to apply to the Department of Natural Resources to designate a beneficiary to take ownership of the vessel on the death of the owner; requiring a designated beneficiary who survives the owner of a vessel to apply to the Department for a new certificate of title for the vessel; and requiring an application for a certificate of title for a vessel to contain certain information.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

NR, § 8-715(e) - amended and § 8-720.1 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 245 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Energy Administration)

MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION – JANE E. LAWTON CONSERVATION LOAN PROGRAM AND MARYLAND STRATEGIC ENERGY INVESTMENT FUND

Transferring the Jane E. Lawton Conservation Loan Program from the Maryland Energy Administration to the Maryland Clean Energy Center; repealing the authority of the Maryland Energy Administration to adopt regulations to implement the Program; and altering reporting requirements for the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EC, Various Sections - renumbered and amended and SG, §§ 9-20A-01 through 9-20A-10 - transferred and § 9-20B-12 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 246 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)

VIDEO TOLLS – CLASS G (TRAILER) VEHICLES – LIABILITY

Establishing that the registered owner of a Class G (trailer) vehicle is liable to the Maryland Transportation Authority for payment of a video toll assessed at the time of passage through a toll collection facility, subject to certain standards and procedures for the transfer of liability.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027

TR, § 21-1414 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 247 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Critical Area Commission)

CHESAPEAKE AND ATLANTIC COASTAL BAYS CRITICAL AREA PROTECTION PROGRAM – VARIANCES – ALTERATIONS

Altering certain standards and requirements for variances from land use requirements under the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area Protection Program.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

NR, § 8-1808(d)(3) and (5) - amended and § 8-1808(d)(10) - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 248 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)

MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION – IDENTIFICATION CARDS, LICENSES, AND PERMITS – REPEAL OF COLOR PHOTOGRAPH REQUIREMENT

Repealing the requirement that the photograph included on an identification card, a driver's license, or a moped operator's permit issued by the Motor Vehicle Administration be in color.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, §§ 12-301(g)(2)(v), 16-111.1(d)(2)(iv), and 16-122(d)(3)(v) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 249 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)

VEHICLE LAWS – AUTOMATED ENFORCEMENT – RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS, ARRANGEMENTS, AND DECLARATIONS

Altering the policy of the State regarding reciprocal vehicle registration agreements, arrangements, and declarations; and authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administrator to enter into reciprocal agreements, arrangements, or declarations to provide for reciprocal enforcement of violations recorded by traffic control signal monitoring systems and speed monitoring systems.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 12-402 - amended and § 12-411.1 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 250 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Environment)

ENVIRONMENT – WATER RESOURCES AND WETLANDS – ENFORCEMENT

Authorizing the Department of the Environment to impose an administrative penalty for certain violations related to the appropriation or use of water and dam safety; repealing a certain limitation on the Department's authority to issue certain orders and send certain notices related to dam safety; authorizing the Department to impose an administrative penalty of up to \$5,000 for each violation, not to exceed \$100,000, for certain violations related to wetlands construction, modification, or development; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EN, §§ 5-514 through 5-516, 9-320(b), and 16-502 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 251 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)

VEHICLE LAWS – TRANSFER OF USED VEHICLES – REPEAL OF NOTARIZED BILL OF SALE REQUIREMENT

Repealing the requirement that a notarized bill of sale be submitted to the Motor Vehicle Administration when transferring ownership of a certain used vehicle.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 13-809 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 252 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Environment)

ENVIRONMENT – LEAD PAINT ABATEMENT SERVICES – PERFORMANCE BOND AND LIABILITY INSURANCE

Authorizing regulations adopted by the Department of the Environment to include requirements for any person who is accredited by the Department to provide lead paint abatement services to be covered by a reasonable performance bond or reasonable liability insurance.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EN, § 6-1003 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 253 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)

VEHICLE LAWS – HEAVY WEIGHT PORT CORRIDOR PERMITS – REGULATIONS

Altering the requirements for regulations related to the issuance of a heavy weight port corridor permit.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TR, § 24-113.3 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 254 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Natural Resources)

SUPPORTING INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY ADAPTATION ACT

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to facilitate community participation in project planning and development; establishing the Resilience Through Restoration Capital Grant Fund to provide funding for nature-based restoration projects intended to reduce the State's climate change vulnerability; requiring, by October 1, 2027, the Department to develop a website, guidance, and training for certain tools and resources; requiring, by December 31, 2035, the Department to take certain actions relating to climate change; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

NR, Various Sections - added and amended & SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)212. and 213. - amended and § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)214. and 215. - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 255 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Natural Resources)

NATURAL RESOURCES – PAMELA J. KELLY TREE-MENDOUS MARYLAND PROGRAM – ALTERATIONS

Altering the stated purpose of the Pamela J. Kelly Tree-Mendous Maryland Program to include the advancement of forest health and resilience through the promotion and maintenance of native trees and shrubs.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

NR, § 5-435 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 256 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)

MOTOR VEHICLES – SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS – SAFETY CORRIDORS (VULNERABLE ROAD USER PROTECTION ACT OF 2026)

Authorizing the State Highway Administration to implement a program of safety corridor speed monitoring systems for use in areas determined to be of high risk to vulnerable road users; authorizing a local jurisdiction to use speed monitoring systems in safety corridors under certain circumstances; authorizing the Comptroller to distribute revenue from the fines collected under the program to the State Highway Administration and the Transportation Trust Fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, §§ 12-118(f), 21-101(t-1), and 21-810.1 - added and CJ, GP, IN, and TR, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 257 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Environment)

ENVIRONMENT – FLOOD-RELATED WATERSHED STUDIES AND COMPREHENSIVE FLOOD MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Requiring, by January 1, 2028, and every 5 years thereafter, and after consultation with local jurisdictions and State agencies, the Department of the Environment to designate priority watersheds for the purpose of requiring subdivisions to conduct flood-related watershed studies; requiring a subdivision that contains a designated priority watershed to conduct a watershed study and submit the study to the Department for review and approval; specifying the required contents of a flood-related watershed study required under the Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EN, §§ 5-801 through § 5-803 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 258 Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Critical Area Commission)

CHESAPEAKE AND ATLANTIC COASTAL BAYS CRITICAL AREA PROTECTION PROGRAM – STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

Altering and updating the standards and procedures governing the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area Protection Program related to the approval of regulations, local program comprehensive reviews, locational standards for growth allocation, correcting mapping mistakes, and tree replanting.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

NR, §§ 8-1806(a) and (b)(1)(xiv)2., 8-1808.1(c)(2), 8-1809(j) and (r), and 8-1815.1(b) and (e) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 259 Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor)

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS – MARYLAND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT VENTURE FUND AND REGULATION OF ENTITIES – REVISIONS

Repealing certain fees charged to certain banking institutions by the Commissioner of Financial Regulation; altering certain provisions relating to the Maryland Community Investment Venture Fund, including the purpose and administration of the Fund; altering the date by which the Commissioner may match certain investments in the Fund from June 30, 2028, to June 30, 2030; altering and providing for certain assessment offset credits for certain banking institutions and credit unions; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

FI and SF, Various Sections - amended and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)214. - added
Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 260 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – State Board of Elections)

PUBLIC FINANCING ACT – FAIR CAMPAIGN FINANCING FUND – DISTRIBUTIONS

Altering, from January 1 of the year of the election to July 1 of the year before the election, the earliest date on which the State Board of Elections may begin making distributions from the Fair Campaign Financing Fund.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EL, § 15-107(a) - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 261 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – General Services)**STATE PROCUREMENT – COMPETITIVE PROOF OF CONCEPT PROCUREMENT**

Establishing competitive proof of concept procurements as an authorized procurement method; providing that a competitive proof of concept procurement may have multiple phases of evaluation; requiring a unit of State government to obtain the approval of the Chief Procurement Officer or a designee before conducting a certain competitive proof of concept procurement; altering the required contents of a competitive proof of concept procurement solicitation; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

SF, §§ 13-102(a), 13-116, 14-302(a)(2), 14-502.1(b) and 14-602(b) - amended
Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 262 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – Information Technology)**STATE GOVERNMENT – COUNCIL FOR OPEN DATA – MEMBERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Renaming the Council on Open Data to be the Council for Open Data; altering the membership and member terms of the Council; and altering the Council's responsibilities to include advising on data initiatives and priorities, and identifying and exploring ways in which partnerships may be developed and strengthened to connect Maryland data with communities and social service organizations.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SG, §§ 10-1501(b) and (c), 10-1503, and 10-1504 - amended
Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 263 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – State Board of Elections)**ELECTION LAW – EARLY VOTING CENTERS – BUS STOPS**

Requiring buses operating on fixed local routes funded by a county or municipal corporation and operated by a county or municipal corporation or a contractor for a county or municipal corporation to allow passengers to embark and disembark at the entrance of early voting centers located within one-half mile of the route.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027

EL, § 10-301.1(e) - added and § 10-301.1(e), (f), and (g) - amended
Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 264 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – Information Technology)

MARYLAND DATA PRIVACY AND PROTECTION ACT OF 2026

Limiting the personal information that may be collected, maintained, processed, and retained by units of State government under certain circumstances; requiring certain personal information to be deleted or de-identified under certain circumstances; requiring each unit to post a certain privacy notice on its Internet website and establishing certain requirements for privacy notices and privacy policies; requiring each unit of State government to designate a Privacy Officer; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, § 4-501, SF, § 13-115, and SG, § 10-1301(c) and 10-1702 - amended and SF, § 3.5-319 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 265 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – Secretary of State)

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS – ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM – DESIGNATION OF CONTACT PERSON

Requiring the State Board of Elections to designate a contact person for the Address Confidentiality Program; and providing the contact person acts as the contact for inquiries about the Program from local boards of elections and Program participants on matters related to the implementation of the Address Confidentiality Program.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

SG, § 7-309 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 266 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – Information Technology)

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT FUND – USES

Authorizing the Information Technology Investment Fund, at the discretion of the Secretary of Information Technology, to be used to support State-owned communication sites, communication facilities, and telecommunications equipment used in connection with certain technology agreements.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SF, § 3.5-309(l) - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 267 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – State Board of Elections)

ELECTION LAW – CAMPAIGN FINANCE ENTITIES – OVERSIGHT AND CONTROL OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS

Altering the manner in which the chair of a campaign finance entity is appointed; providing that the treasurer is the financial steward of a campaign finance entity; altering requirements for assets received by or on behalf of a campaign finance entity and disbursements made by or on behalf of a campaign finance entity; repealing the authority of the chair of a campaign finance entity to approve a disbursement on behalf of the campaign finance entity under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027

EL, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 268 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – Information Technology)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE DATA AND STATE CHIEF DATA OFFICER AND COLLABORATION WITH AGENCY DATA OFFICERS

Establishing the position and responsibilities of the State Chief Data Officer; establishing the Office of Enterprise Data in the Department of Information Technology and the responsibilities of the Office; and requiring certain units of State government and authorizing certain units of State government to appoint an Agency Data Officer and establishing the responsibilities of Agency Data Officers.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SF, § 3.5-319 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 269 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – State Ethics Commission)

MARYLAND PUBLIC ETHICS LAW – FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS – STATE OFFICIALS OF AND CANDIDATES TO BE A STATE OFFICIAL OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

Requiring the Administrative Office of the Courts or another body designated by the Supreme Court of Maryland to administer and implement certain provisions of law relating to financial disclosure statements for State officials of the Judicial Branch and candidates to be a State official of the Judicial Branch and maintain and make available to the public the records and statements of State officials of the Judicial Branch and candidates to be a State official of the Judicial Branch; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

GP, §§ 5-104 and 5-606 - amended and § 5-610(c) - repealed

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 270 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – Veterans and Military Families)

MILITARY FAMILY INCLUSION ACT

Altering the membership of the Maryland Trust Fund Board of Trustees, the Maryland Veterans Commission, the Maryland Commission on Caregiving, and the Maryland Youth Advisory Council.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HU, § 7-303(a)(1) and SG, §§ 9-914(b), 9-914.1, 9-917, and 9-2701(c)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 271 Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request – Departmental – General Services)

STATE PROCUREMENT – STREAMLINING CONTRACT MODIFICATIONS

Authorizing the approval of certain contract modifications to State contracts if the modification does not materially change the scope of the work and does not increase the contract by more than a certain amount; altering the definition of “contract modification” for certain State procurements; and requiring a procurement officer to document certain contract modifications.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SF, § 11-101(h) through (aa) - renumbered, §§ 11-101(h) and 15-112.1 - added, and § 13-201 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 272 Chair, Health Committee (By Request – Departmental – Health)

FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS – LAVATORY REQUIREMENT AND ON-FARM FOOD SERVICE FACILITY LICENSE

Altering the type of toilet that certain food establishments may use to comply with the requirement to provide a convenient lavatory; requiring that the fee for an on-farm food service facility license be determined by the Maryland Department of Health based on certain factors and prohibiting the fee from exceeding \$100; establishing the term of an on-farm service facility license; and requiring the Department, in consultation with certain other departments, to adopt regulations governing on-farm service facility licenses.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

HG, §§ 21-309(a), (b), and (c) and 21-325(d) - amended and § 21-309.3 - added
Assigned to: Health

HB 273 Chair, Health Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Insurance Administration)

HEALTH INSURANCE – SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH OPTIONS PROGRAM (SHOP) ENROLLMENT – EFFECTIVE DATES

Altering the effective dates of enrollment in a Small Business Health Options (SHOP) Exchange plan for individuals who enroll during certain special enrollment periods.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

IN, § 15-1208.1(f)(1)(v) and (g) - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 274 Chair, Health Committee (By Request – Departmental – Health)

STATE BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS – SUNSET EXTENSION

Continuing the State Board of Environmental Health Specialists, in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law), by extending to July 1, 2032, the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the Board.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

HO, § 21-502 - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 275 Chair, Health Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Insurance Administration)

MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT POLICIES – ISSUANCE – REQUIREMENTS

Requiring a carrier that issues Medicare supplement policies to issue a Medicare supplement policy to an individual who meets certain criteria during certain special enrollment periods.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

IN, § 15-909(b) - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 276 Chair, Health Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems)

STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD – PUBLIC ACCESS AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR PROGRAM – REVISIONS

Altering the Public Access Automated External Defibrillator Program, including by establishing requirements regarding an automated external defibrillator (AED) coordinator, repealing certain provisions of law regarding regional council AED committees, and exempting certain law enforcement agencies from being required to obtain a certificate for an AED deployed in a patrol vehicle of the law enforcement agency; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, § 13-517 and HG, § 21-330.3(c) - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 277 Chair, Health Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Insurance Administration)

INSURANCE – THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATORS – ENFORCEMENT

Altering the grounds on which the Maryland Insurance Commissioner may deny an applicant for registration as or refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke the registration of a third party administrator; and altering the violations for which the Commissioner may impose civil penalties against a third party administrator.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

IN, §§ 8-309(a) and 8-320(c) - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 278 Chair, Health Committee (By Request – Departmental – Aging)

HUMAN SERVICES – DEPARTMENT OF AGING AND COMMISSION ON AGING (THE LONGEVITY READY MARYLAND ACT)

Requiring the Secretary of Aging to lead implementation of the Longevity Ready Maryland Plan which is a multisector plan on aging that transforms programs, services, policies, institutions, and systems to address the growing population of older adults in the State; repealing, adding, and altering certain duties of the Secretary to enable the implementation, reporting, and evolution of the Longevity Ready Maryland Plan; and requiring the Department of Aging to staff the Commission on Aging.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HU, §§ 10-101, 10-204, 10-206, and 10-208 - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 279 Chair, Health Committee (By Request – Departmental – Public Safety and Correctional Services)

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – MEDICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE – ADMINISTRATION OF PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION TO AN INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL

Authorizing the establishment of a medication review committee within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services that convenes to determine whether to approve the administration of psychotropic medication to a certain incarcerated individual under certain circumstances; providing that psychotropic medication may not be administered to an incarcerated individual who refuses the medication except under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

CS, § 9-619 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 280 Chair, Health Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Insurance Administration)**HEALTH INSURANCE – MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS – CODIFICATION OF FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS**

Codifying in State law certain provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations related to mental health parity and clarifying the authority of the Maryland Insurance Administration to enforce certain laws; requiring health insurance carriers to collect and report on data in a certain manner; requiring health insurance carriers to provide certain benefits under certain circumstances; requiring health insurance carriers to explain differences in access to care under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

IN, § 15-144(a), (c)(1) and (3)(ii), (d), (e), (i)(1), (k), and (l)(1) - amended and § 15-144(c)(7) - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 281 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Departmental – Public Safety and Correctional Services)**FAMILY LAW – CHILD CARE PROVIDERS – CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS**

Altering provisions relating to criminal background investigations for certain individuals who care for or supervise children; requiring certain facilities to apply to the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository for a national and State criminal history records check for each employee, employer, individual, or volunteer; and altering provisions relating to the process under which a certain State or local law enforcement agency conducts a certain name-based check on certain individuals.

EMERGENCY BILL

FL, §§ 5-551(a) and (b), 5-555, and 5-559 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 282 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Departmental – Human Services)

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES – MODIFICATIONS

Altering provisions relating to the reporting and investigation of abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable adults; and requiring the local department of aging to complete an investigation and make an indicated, not indicated, or undetermined finding within 60 days.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, §§ 14-101, 14-302, and 14-303 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 283 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Insurance Administration)

PROPERTY INSURANCE – SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS AND NOTICES

Establishing the method for calculating the measure of the actual cash value recovery in the settlement of a first-party claim under a residential or commercial property insurance policy issued or renewed on or after October 1, 2026; and requiring an insurer that renews a policy of homeowner's insurance or renter's insurance to notify the insured, in advance of the renewal, of certain differences between the expiring policy and the renewal policy.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

IN, §§ 19-118, 19-217, 27-303(11), and 27-304(19) - added and §§ 27-303(9) and (10) and 27-304(17) and (18) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 284 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Departmental – State Police)

PUBLIC SAFETY – LICENSED FIREARMS DEALERS – NOTIFICATION REGARDING POTENTIAL COMPROMISE OF SECURITY FEATURES

Requiring a certain licensed firearms dealer to notify the Secretary of State Police within 24 hours after discovering that certain security features may have been compromised.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, § 5-145.1 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 285 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Departmental – Public Safety and Correctional Services)

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – HOME DETENTION – MONITORING AND SECURITY

Transferring the monitoring and security of the home detention programs of the Division of Correction to the Warrant Apprehension Unit of the Intelligence and Investigative Division within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CS, §§ 3-403, 3-412, and 10-702 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 286 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)

VEHICLE LAWS – IGNITION INTERLOCK SYSTEM PROGRAM – REQUIRED PARTICIPATION

Requiring an individual to be a participant in the Ignition Interlock System Program as a condition of modification of a suspension or revocation of a license or issuance of a restricted license if the individual violated certain alcohol restrictions.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 16-404.1(d)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 287 Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Departmental – Public Safety and Correctional Services)

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – LIFETIME SEXUAL OFFENDER SUPERVISION – CONDITIONS, VIOLATIONS, AND PETITIONS FOR DISCHARGE

Requiring inclusion of certain conditions for lifetime sexual offender supervision; requiring a sexual offender management team to report a certain violation of a condition of lifetime sexual offender supervision to the office of a certain State's Attorney; requiring a certain judge to conduct a certain hearing; requiring a certain sentencing court to adjudicate rather than hear and adjudicate a certain petition; altering the period before a certain petition may be renewed after being denied; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, §§ 11-723 and 11-724 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 288 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Education)

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS – PROLONGED STATE OF EMERGENCY – AUTHORITY TO DECLARE

Authorizing the State Superintendent of Schools to declare a prolonged state of emergency for an event that prevents regular, in-person attendance at a public school for at least 14 consecutive school days.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, §§ 7-14A-01(c) and 7-14A-02 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 289 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Lottery and Gaming Control Agency)

VIDEO LOTTERY FACILITY PAYOUTS – INTERCEPTS FOR RESTITUTION PAYMENTS, CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS, AND DEBTS OWED TO THE STATE

Authorizing the Central Collection Unit and the Child Support Administration to certify certain information about restitution or child support obligors to a video lottery operator for purposes of enforcing a requirement to intercept certain prize payouts; requiring a video lottery operator to provide certain notice to a debtor that wins a prize to be paid by the licensee and withhold all or part of the prize; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

CP, FL, and SF, Various Sections - amended and SF, § 3-308 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 290 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Commerce)

INCOME TAX – CYBERSECURITY TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICE TAX CREDIT – ALTERATIONS

Establishing the Buy Maryland Cybersecurity Tax Credit; stating the purpose of the credit is to promote the cybersecurity industry in the State by helping Maryland businesses and nonprofits purchase cybersecurity technology services from Maryland companies; altering eligibility for the credit; increasing from \$200,000 to \$1,000,000 the aggregate amount of credits that may be issued for certain cybersecurity purchases; making the credit refundable; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-733.1 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 291 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Lottery and Gaming Control Agency)

SPORTS WAGERING PROCEEDS – PROMOTIONAL PLAY EXCLUSION – LIMITATION

Authorizing the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to establish a certain limit, by regulation, on the amount of money given away as free promotional play by a sports wagering licensee that may be excluded from sports wagering proceeds.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SG, § 9-1E-01(h) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 292 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Assessments and Taxation)

STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION – LOCAL REIMBURSEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATION COSTS – ALTERATIONS

Altering the schedule by which a county and Baltimore City must reimburse the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for the Department's administrative costs.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, § 2-106 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 293 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center)

MARYLAND LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM CENTER – EXTERNAL DATA SHARING WITH THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTERS FOR MULTISTATE REPORTING – AUTHORIZATION

Authorizing the Governing Board of the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center to provide certain student and workforce data to a third-party data center under certain circumstances; requiring each third-party data center to agree to comply with certain requirements relating to the data the center receives; requiring the Center to enter into a written data sharing agreement with certain third-party data centers; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, §§ 24-703(f) and 24-704(g) - amended, § 24-703.2(e) - repealed, and § 24-703.4 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 294 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Assessments and Taxation)

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX – EXEMPTIONS FOR LOW ASSESSMENT – ALTERATION

Altering exemptions from the personal property tax for business personal property that has a total original cost below \$20,000 by repealing provisions of law that prohibit the State Department of Assessments and Taxation from collecting information or requiring the submission of a personal property tax return from certain businesses that qualify for the exemptions; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, §§ 7-227(c) and 7-245 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 295 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Lottery and Gaming Control Agency)

GAMING – PROHIBITION ON INTERACTIVE GAMES AND REVENUE FROM ILLEGAL MARKETS

Prohibiting a person from operating, conducting, or promoting interactive games; requiring gaming license applicants and license holders to report to the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission annually any business relationship with certain persons known to support, operate, conduct, or promote certain interactive games; requiring the Commission to deny certain license applications and revoke certain licenses under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

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: Ways and Means

HB 296 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor)

EDUCATION – CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) COMMITTEE AND CTE SKILLS STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – REVISIONS AND REPEAL

Altering the purpose, composition, and duties of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee; repealing the CTE Skills Standards Advisory Committee; and requiring State agencies and certain workforce development and education programs to use a certain list of occupations as a guideline for curriculum alignment, credentialing, and career advancement.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, §§ 7-205.1(g)(1)(iii) and 21-209 - amended, § 21-210 - repealed, and §§ 21-210 and 21-211 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 297 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor)

ADULT EDUCATION – HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA PATHWAYS – GED OPTION PILOT PROGRAM AND MDIPLOMAWORKS PATHWAY

Establishing the GED Option Pilot Program to expand the GED Option Program to students beyond English language learners to ensure a pathway for students to obtain a high school diploma and prepare for postsecondary education or the workforce; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to establish criteria to select certain local school systems for participation in the Program; establishing the MDiplomaWorks pathway as an alternative method of earning a high school diploma in the State; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LE, § 11-808(b) - amended and §§ 11-808.1 and 11-810 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 298 Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Assessments and Taxation)

STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION – COUNTY SUPERVISOR RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT AND LOCATION OF COUNTY ASSESSMENT OFFICES – ALTERATION

Repealing the requirement that a county supervisor of real property assessments reside in the county for which the supervisor is appointed; and repealing the requirement that the county assessment office be located in the county seat.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TP, §§ 2-105 and 2-106 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED JANUARY 14, 2026

HJ 1 Delegate Pippy

HONORING CHARLIE KIRK

Honoring Charles “Charlie” James Kirk.

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HJ 2 Delegate Wu, et al

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA – NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK

Urging the U.S. Congress to pass H.R. 5356 to establish a national infrastructure bank to finance urgently needed infrastructure projects.

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations