



SYNOPSIS

House Bills and Joint Resolutions
2026 Maryland General Assembly Session

February 12, 2026
Schedule 20

PLEASE NOTE: February 13 – Bill introduction deadline.

All bills must be given to the Chief Clerk by 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 12.

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

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 12, 2026

HB 1248 Delegate Wolek

PART-TIME STATE EMPLOYMENT PILOT PROGRAM –
ESTABLISHED (MARYLAND WORKFORCE RETENTION,
RECRUITMENT, AND REENTRY ACT)

Establishing the Part-Time State Employment Pilot Program in the Department of Budget and Management to promote and support the inclusivity of State employment by increasing the availability of part-time positions with benefits in State government; and requiring State agencies selected to participate in the Program to evaluate full-time position vacancies to determine whether the vacant positions could be converted to part-time positions with benefits.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SP, § 7-701 - amended and § 7-702 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

Department of Legislative Services

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Baltimore Area: 410-946-5400 — Washington Area: 301-970-5400

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HB 1249 Delegate Hill**CERTIFIED RECOVERY RESIDENCES – REFUSING SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING MEDICATION–ASSISTED TREATMENT – PROHIBITION**

Requiring that the requirements for the certification of recovery residences established by a credentialing entity prohibit a certified recovery residence from refusing services to an individual receiving medication–assisted treatment for opioid use disorder or requiring an individual to cease receiving or modify how the individual receives medication–assisted treatment for opioid use disorder as a condition to receive services from a certified recovery residence.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 19-2502 - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 1250 Delegate Qi, et al**CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PRODUCT LIABILITY – CHATBOTS**

Regulating the manner in which a developer designs and creates and an operator makes available to users in the State a chatbot, including establishing safety and privacy protections for users; establishing, an enhanced protection for users who are minors under the age of 13 years; requiring the display of certain warnings when using a chatbot; establishing that a chatbot is considered a product for certain product liability actions; applying certain provisions of the Act to governmental units; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CL, § 13-301(14)(xlvii) and HG, § 10-1502(e) - amended and CL and HG, Various Sections - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1251 Delegate Woods, et al

HEALTH FACILITIES AND HEALTH INSURANCE – PALLIATIVE CARE – REQUIRED ACCESS AND COVERAGE (EDNA G. NEAL PALLIATIVE CARE ACT)

Requiring that, on or after October 1, 2027, certain facilities provide patients with certain access to palliative care and inform patients about the availability of palliative care at certain times; requiring the Department of Health to adopt regulations establishing minimum standards for palliative care, including staffing, training and quality assurance requirements; requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide health insurance coverage for certain palliative care; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

HG, §§ 19-2701 through 19-2703 and IN, § 15-864 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 1252 Montgomery County Delegation

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – MONTGOMERY COUNTY STUDY MC 19–26

Requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development to conduct a study and make recommendations on the availability and affordability of housing in Montgomery County; and requiring the Department to issue two interim reports and its final report of the findings and recommendation by November 30, 2028, to certain entities in Montgomery County and the Montgomery County Delegation to the General Assembly.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1253 Delegate Behler, et al

GAS COMPANIES – INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS – COST RECOVERY AND CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION (BREAK STRIDE ACT)

Repealing certain provisions authorizing a gas company to file a plan to invest in eligible infrastructure replacement projects with the Public Service Commission and recover related costs through a certain surcharge; prohibiting the Commission from allowing a gas company or a combination gas and electric company to recover certain infrastructure replacement costs using an alternative form of regulation beginning on October 1, 2026; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PU, § 4-210 - repealed and §§ 4-213 and 4-214 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1254 Delegate Feldmark**EDUCATION – PUBLIC SCHOOLS – SERVICE CONTRACTS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Requiring a county board of education that seeks to enter into a service contract to submit to the State Department of Education information to justify the need for the service contract, and to submit a plan of assistance for employees adversely affected by the service contract; requiring the Department, by July 1, 2027, to design and develop a new system of professional development for paraeducators and other education support professionals; and requiring each county board to provide the new system to its employees by June 30, 2028.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, §§ 6-132 and 6-133 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1255 Delegate Young**EXPANSION OF COMMERCIAL GAMING – INTERNET GAMING REFERENDUM**

Providing that the General Assembly may authorize, by law, the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to issue certain Internet gaming licenses; requiring certain implementation legislation to include certain criteria and specifications, subject to a certain limitation; declaring the intent of the General Assembly that certain revenues be used for dedicated purposes including the funding of public education; and submitting the Act to a referendum of the qualified voters of the State.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1256 Delegate Nkongolo, et al**INCOME TAX – ANGEL INVESTOR TAX CREDIT**

Allowing a credit against the State income tax for 33% of an investment made in qualified Maryland companies, not to exceed \$250,000 except in certain counties; requiring the Department of Commerce to maintain an online portal providing information about the credit and managing applications for the credit; providing that a qualified investor shall make an investment in a qualified Maryland company within 30 calendar days after the Department issues an initial tax credit certificate; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EC, Various Sections, SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)79, and Ch. 717 of 2024, § 8(54) - amended and TG, § 10-733 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1257 Delegate Stein, et al**BALTIMORE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION – FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring the Baltimore County Board of Education to provide certain information to the Baltimore County Executive and Baltimore County Council with the annual budget; and requiring the Baltimore County Board of Education to provide certain budget, enrollment, and capital project information in a publicly available online format.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 5-101(g) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1258 Delegate Smith**CHILD PLACEMENT SERVICES – ADVERTISING BY UNLICENSED PERSON – PROHIBITION**

Prohibiting a person from advertising adoption services in the State, unless the person is a local department or child placement agency licensed by the Social Services Administration; authorizing the Administration to notify the Attorney General for a violation of the Act; and authorizing the Attorney General to bring an action for damages for a violation of the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, § 5-508 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1259 Delegate Feldmark**ZONING AUTHORITIES – OPERATION OF FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES – PROHIBITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS**

Prohibiting a local jurisdiction in the State from denying or restricting the operation of certain family child care homes if the family child care home meets the licensing requirements established by the State Department of Education; and requiring a local jurisdiction to designate the operation of certain family child care homes as a residential activity and as a permitted use.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LU, §§ 1-401(b)(18), 4-216, and 10-103(b)(17) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1260 Delegate Feldmark**COMMON OWNERSHIP COMMUNITIES – ONLINE PUBLICATION OF RESALE DISCLOSURES**

Requiring the governing body of a certain common ownership community or the management agent of a certain homeowners association to maintain certain information about the common ownership community on its website in a downloadable format and at no cost; and altering the fees that certain common ownership communities may charge for information relating to an individual unit or lot.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CA, § 5-6B-02 and RP, § 11-135(c) and 11B-106(c) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1261 Delegate Coley, et al**CONSUMER PROTECTION – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOYS (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOY SAFETY ACT)**

Establishing certain child safety and data privacy requirements for certain toys featuring artificial intelligence; requiring an artificial intelligence toy to contain certain labeling; prohibiting the manufacturer of an artificial intelligence toy from using certain data for certain marketing; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

CL, § 13-301(14)(xlvii) - amended and §§ 13-301(14)(xlix) and 14-5101 through 14-5108 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1262 Delegate Ruff, et al**PUBLIC SAFETY – LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS – RESTRICTIONS**

Establishing that a federal law enforcement officer's powers granted under a certain provision of law may be exercised only when the federal law enforcement officer is acting in accordance with State law; prohibiting a law enforcement officer or a law enforcement agency from engaging in racial profiling; prohibiting a law enforcement agency from taking retaliatory punitive action against a law enforcement officer who discloses information concerning racial profiling; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

CP, § 2-104 - amended and PS, §§ 3-535 and 3-536 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1263 Delegate Hill, et al**PUBLIC HEALTH – WORKGROUP ON POSTOPERATIVE COSMETIC CARE**

Establishing the Workgroup on Post-Operative Cosmetic Care to study the regulation of post-operative cosmetic and body-altering services provided by nonphysician practitioners with focus on patient safety, consumer protection, and continuity of care; and requiring the Workgroup to submit its final report of findings and recommendations by December 1, 2027, to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Health

HB 1264 Delegate Hill, et al**PUBLIC HEALTH – MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – TOBACCO CESSATION**

Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide, subject to the limitations of the State budget and as permitted by federal law, individual and group counseling for the purpose of tobacco cessation; and prohibiting the Program and managed care organizations from requiring prior authorization for any product or service for use in tobacco cessation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 15-103(a)(2)(xxvii) and (xxviii) - amended and §§ 15-103(a)(2)(xxix) and 15-160 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 1265 Delegate McComas, et al**ELECTION LAW – CANDIDATE TRUTHFULNESS – OATH**

Requiring a candidate to submit a certain oath or statement with the candidate's certificate of candidacy relating to the candidate's truthfulness regarding certain information while campaigning for office; and subjecting a candidate who attests to the oath to certain sanctions for a violation of the oath.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

EL, § 5-304 - amended and § 5-306 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1266 Delegate Valentine, et al**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OFFENSES – TEST KIT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Altering the deadline by which a certain law enforcement agency must submit a certain sexual assault evidence collection kit and associated reference standards to a forensic laboratory for analysis.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 11-926(g) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1267 Delegate Lehman, et al**PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE AND BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER – ZONING CLASSIFICATION (PROTECTING PATUXENT RESEARCH REFUGE ACT)**

Requiring a certain local zoning authority to designate and maintain certain property in a zoning classification that restricts the uses in a certain manner under certain circumstances; and requiring the appropriate authority to maintain certain property in a certain zoning classification that restricts the uses in a certain manner under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

LU, § 1-401(b)(19) through (33) - amended, §§ 4-217 and 25-211 - added, and § 25-211 - repealed

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Environment and Transportation

HB 1268 Delegate Behler, et al

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS – REQUIREMENTS FOR BURDEN ANALYSIS, ISSUANCE AND RENEWAL, AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (CUMULATIVE HARMS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION FOR IMPROVING SHARED HEALTH – CHERISH OUR COMMUNITIES ACT)

Requiring an application for the issuance or renewal of a covered individual environmental permit for a site or facility located within an at-risk census tract after a certain date to include in the permit application a report describing the environmental and public health burdens in the at-risk census tract; requiring the Department of the Environment to issue a determination as to whether approving a covered individual environmental permit will cause or contribute to adverse environmental or public health stressors; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EN, §§ 1-701, 1-702, and 2-404.1 - amended and §§ 1-708 through 1-715 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1269 Delegate Bhandari

COMMON OWNERSHIP COMMUNITIES – RESERVE ACCOUNTS AND RESERVE STUDIES – ALTERATIONS

Requiring the governing bodies of certain cooperative housing corporations, condominiums, or homeowners associations to adopt an annual budget that includes certain calculations for the cost to repair or replace capital components that are the responsibility of the common ownership community; providing that a certain portion of the members of a common ownership community may determine the community and its members are facing a financial hardship or that a determination of financial hardship may be extended; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CA, § 5-6B-26.1 and RP, §§ 11-109.2, 11-109.4, 11B-112.2, and 11B-112.3 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1270 Prince George's County Delegation

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – NOTICE OF LICENSE APPLICATIONS PG 322–26

Altering a certain notice requirement for alcoholic beverages license applications in Prince George's County.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ABC, §§ 26-1501(c)(5), 26-1511(c), and 26-1512(a) - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1271 Delegate Ruff, et al

REPARATIONS – BOARD, FUND, AND EXCISE TAX ON ENDOWMENTS – ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Reparations Board to make certain examinations regarding reparations payments and make recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly to provide grants to persons impacted by historic inequality; imposing an excise tax on nonpublic institutions that have an endowment of at least \$2,000,000,000; requiring the revenue from the endowment excise tax to be deposited into the Maryland Reparations Fund to provide grants to persons impacted by historic inequality; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SF and TG, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections and Ways and Means

HB 1272 Delegate Acevero, et al

FAMILY LAW – KINSHIP CARE

Requiring a local department to consider a child's feelings or views about a prospective kinship caregiver in selecting a placement that is in the best interest of the child in an out-of-home placement; including a certain unrelated individual identified by a child as an option for a kinship caregiver; and requiring a local department to consider certain factors when determining whether to approve an individual as a kinship caregiver.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, § 5-534 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1273 Delegate Miller**MARYLAND HOMEOWNER PROTECTION AND HOMESTEAD TAX CREDIT PORTABILITY ACT OF 2026**

Reducing the maximum homestead tax credit percentage for State, county, municipal, and bicounty commission property tax to 105%; and establishing a homestead portability adjustment for certain homeowners.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TP, § 9-105(e) - amended and § 9-105.2 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1274 Delegate Miller**EDUCATION – POSTHUMOUS DIPLOMA AWARDS – AUTHORIZED**

Authorizing local school systems to award standard high school diplomas, posthumous honorary diplomas, and in memoriam diplomas to deceased students, subject to certain requirements.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-206 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1275 Delegates Wims and Coley**PUBLIC SCHOOLS – INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS – ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

Requiring the standards of participation for student participation in interscholastic athletics established by a county board of education to include a process for a student to appeal a determination that the student is academically ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics; and establishing certain requirements for a certain appeal process, including a certain provisional eligibility period.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-137 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1276 Delegate Wolek, et al

WEST NORTH AVENUE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY –
NEIGHBORHOOD SOCIAL CONNECTION AND DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT (WNADA NEIGHBORHOOD SOCIAL
CONNECTION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT)

Establishing the Neighborhood Development and Social Connection Program within the West North Avenue Development Authority to provide technical support and grants to certain organizations to implement programs that foster social connections and activities in the West North Avenue Corridor; requiring the Authority to set aside not more than \$500,000 for grant activities; authorizing the Authority to award grants to implement the Program; requiring the Authority to report annually on its activities; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EC, § 12-715 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1277 Delegate Smith

EDUCATION – MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR LITERACY AND EQUITY
– ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Maryland Institute for Literacy and Equity organized as a partnership between the University of Maryland, College Park Campus and Morgan State University to serve as a State-funded research and technical assistance center to promote literacy in the State; and requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill certain appropriations to the University of Maryland, College Park Campus, Morgan State University, and the Institute. This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, §§ 24-1401 through 24-1405 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations and Ways and Means

HB 1278 Delegate Smith**MARYLAND POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND FUND – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland Positive Youth Development Commission in the State Department of Education to make grant awards to certain eligible organizations that provide positive youth development programming to certain youth; establishing the Maryland Positive Youth Development Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; and requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-455 - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(iii)212. and 213. - amended and 214. - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1279 Delegate Ruff, et al**CATALYTIC REVITALIZATION PROJECT TAX CREDIT – ALTERATIONS**

Altering eligibility for and the manner for claiming a certain credit against the State income tax that certain persons may claim for certain construction and rehabilitation costs for certain catalytic revitalization projects in the State; altering certain limitations on the Secretary of Housing and Community Development to accept certain applications and award certain tax credit certificates; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

HS, §§ 6-901, 6-902, and 6-903(b) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1280 Delegate Wims, et al**SUPPORTING OUR CAREGIVER INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM – FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Requiring the Office of the Comptroller, with assistance from the Department of Human Services, to conduct a feasibility study for establishing and operating the Supporting Our Caregiver Infrastructure Program; and requiring the Office to submit a final report of its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly by July 1, 2027.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Health

HB 1281 Delegate Ciliberti, et al**HEALTH – ABORTION – ULTRASOUND AND WAIT TIME**

Prohibiting a qualified provider from performing or inducing an abortion on a pregnant woman within 24 hours after the woman receives certain ultrasound imaging; establishing certain requirements related to the performance of a certain transabdominal ultrasound; and providing that a woman is not required to accept anything offered during certain transabdominal ultrasound imaging.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 20-209 - amended and § 20-210 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 1282 Delegate Young, et al**TOBACCO PRODUCTS, OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES – ADVERTISING TO MINORS – PROHIBITION**

Prohibiting a person who is licensed to sell tobacco products, other tobacco products, or electronic smoking devices from directly or indirectly advertising or marketing tobacco products, other tobacco products, electronic smoking devices, or vaping liquid to individuals under 21 years of age; and providing that certain advertisements or promotions are a violation against the prohibition on advertising or marketing to certain individuals.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

BR, §§ 16-3B-02, 16.5-217.2, and 16.7-213.4 - added and § 16.7-213.4 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1283 Delegate Terrasa, et al**MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY – VIDEO TOLLS – COLLECTION**

Authorizing the Maryland Transportation Authority to waive delinquent tolls due or penalties assessed without recalling the debt from the Central Collection Unit; authorizing the Central Collection Unit to reduce specified fees; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 21-1414(h) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1284 Delegate Guzzone**RESIDENTIAL SERVICE AGENCIES – PRIVATE DUTY NURSING – ON-SITE NURSE TRAINING PROGRAMS**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to adopt regulations that authorize a residential service agency to provide training to a licensed nurse that provides private duty nursing services after employment; authorizing a residential service agency to employ a licensed nurse who does not meet certain requirements under certain circumstances; and requiring a residential service agency to provide training and a competency evaluation for certain nurses.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 19-4A-03 - amended and § 19-4A-03.2 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 1285 Delegate Guzzone**HEALTH – OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSAL DRUGS – POSSESSION, STORAGE, AND ADMINISTRATION PAST EXPIRATION DATE**

Altering certain provisions of law relating to an opioid overdose reversal drug to allow for the possession, storage, or administration of an expired opioid overdose reversal drug within 1 year after the expiration date.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, §§ 7-426.5(b), 11-1202, and 13-518(a) and HG, §§ 8-408, 13-3101, 13-3501, and 21-2A-01(g) - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 1286 Delegate Behler, et al**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – BARBERSHOP AND BEAUTY SALON LICENSE**

Authorizing a holder of a barbershop and beauty salon license in Anne Arundel County to provide 1.7 ounces of liquor for on-premises consumption in addition to beer and wine.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ABC, § 11-1002 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1287 Delegate A. Johnson**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY – BURDEN ANALYSIS (CHERISH OUR COMMUNITIES ACT)**

Requiring that an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for certain generating stations located within a certain at-risk area to include with the application a baseline understanding of risk, disparities, and environmental needs (BURDEN) report describing and including information on certain environmental and public health burdens; altering the contents of a certain notice that must be provided on receipt of an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PU, § 7-207(a), (c), and (d)(1)(i) - amended and § 7-207(b-1) and (d-1) - added
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1288 Delegate A. Johnson**COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – APPOINTED MEMBERS IN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS – PROHIBITION**

Prohibiting appointed members of a county board of education from serving in certain leadership positions on the county board; requiring the State Department of Education to send a certain notice to a county board if the county board allows an appointed member to serve in a certain leadership position; and specifying certain penalties that may be imposed on a county board and an appointed member if the member continues to serve in a leadership position after receiving notice.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 3-106 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1289 Delegate Terrasa**TASK FORCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROVAL VOTING AND RANKED-CHOICE VOTING**

Establishing the Task Force on the Implementation of Approval Voting and Ranked-Choice Voting; and requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2027.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1290 Delegate Woods, et al**CHILD IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE – PROCEEDINGS – CHILD’S RIGHT TO BE PRESENT**

Authorizing a child who is the subject of a child in need of assistance proceeding to be present at the proceeding; and authorizing the court to exclude the child from a proceeding under certain circumstances and after considering certain alternatives.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, § 3-831 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1291 Delegate Roberts, et al**PUBLIC HEALTH – MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – CONTINUITY OF CARE**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to adopt regulations to establish a procedure to provide for the temporary continuation of services and maintain the continuity of care for certain Maryland Medical Assistance Program recipients over the age of 65 facing a lapse in services due to an administrative or technical error; prohibiting the Department from altering appeal and hearing rights to accommodate the temporary continuation of services procedures; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 15-160 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 1292 Delegates Bagnall and Cullison**CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS – CONTINUITY OF CARE STANDARDS FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS AND REPORTS OF VIOLATIONS**

Requiring that standards established by the Maryland Statewide Organization for Child Advocacy Centers require an individual employed by or contracted with a child advocacy center providing medical or mental health services in a child advocacy center to be licensed or certified, if applicable, and provide services within the scope of the license or certification and require each child advocacy center to establish a certain continuity of care plan; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 11-928 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 1293 Delegate Ruff, et al**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS – RESIDENTS AT INPATIENT FACILITIES – SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY COMPLIANCE**

Requiring behavioral health programs that own, lease, operate, or control an inpatient facility to take certain affirmative and reasonable steps to determine whether a resident is required to register under the Maryland Sex Offender Registry; and requiring a behavioral health program to take certain steps to ensure a resident's compliance with the sex offender registry law.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 7.5-404 - added and amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 1294 Delegate Wilson**CRIMINAL LAW – CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SOFTWARE**

Altering the term “child pornography” to be “child sexual abuse material” for purposes of certain criminal offenses; and defining “computer-generated image” to include images created through the use of artificial intelligence software as the term pertains to provisions of law related to child sexual abuse material.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CJ, CR, CP, and ED, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1295 Delegate Ziegler, et al**VEHICLE LAWS – FULLY AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES**

Establishing certain standards and requirements for the operation of fully autonomous vehicles on highways in the State; and establishing that certain data collected by fully autonomous vehicles is subject to the Online Data Privacy Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CL, § 14-4702 - amended and TR, § 15-901(f) - amended and §§ 21-1501 through 1510 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1296 Delegate Terrasa, et al**PRELIMINARY SUBDIVISION AND SITE PLANS – SAFE SCHOOL ROUTE REPORTS – REQUIREMENT**

Requiring a certain developer to prepare and submit a certain report concerning safe school routes, subject to certain requirements, as part of a preliminary subdivision or site plan; and prohibiting a local jurisdiction from granting a preliminary subdivision or site plan approval except under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LU, §§ 1-401 and 10-103 - amended and §§ 5-501 through 5-505 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Ways and Means

HB 1297 Delegate Palakovich Carr**INCOME TAX – STUDENT LOAN DEBT RELIEF TAX CREDIT – ALTERATIONS**

Altering certain provisions of law governing the recapture of certain amounts of the credit against the State income tax for certain individuals with student loan debt to require the recapture of the unused amount of the credit rather than the total amount; authorizing the Maryland Higher Education Commission to extend the period of time that an individual who claims the credit has to prove that the individual used the credit to repay the individual's student loan debt under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-740 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1298 Delegate A. Johnson**THIRD-PARTY LITIGATION FINANCING – LICENSING AND REGULATION**

Prohibiting a certain litigation financier from providing certain litigation financing unless licensed under the Maryland Consumer Loan Law or provisions of law relating to installment loans; providing that litigation financing shall be considered a loan for certain purposes; requiring a certain disclosure of a litigation financing contract in certain civil actions; and providing that certain information is a permissible subject of discovery in certain civil actions.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FI, §§ 12-1301 through 12-1306 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1299 Delegate Taylor, et al**REAL PROPERTY – RESIDENTIAL SALES – COMMUNICATIONS
DURING APPRAISAL PROCESS**

Requiring an appraiser to provide a certain notice to certain parties to a residential real property appraisal under certain circumstances; authorizing certain persons to submit certain additional data to an appraiser before an appraisal is finalized for a certain purpose; and requiring an appraiser to include certain information in an addendum to a certain report.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

RP, §§ 14-1001 through 14-1005 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1300 Delegate Hill, et al**MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR WOMEN – ALTERATIONS**

Repealing the authority of the Secretary of Human Services to appoint the Executive Director of the Maryland Commission for Women; providing that the Executive Director of the Commission is not a special appointee; and altering the duties of the Commission.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HU, §§ 2-405 and 2-406 - amended

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1301 Delegate McComas, et al**LAND USE – HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION – RIGHT OF
APPEAL**

Authorizing a local jurisdiction to authorize any person aggrieved by a decision of a historic preservation commission to appeal the decision to the board of appeals of the local jurisdiction or the appropriate circuit court.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LU, § 8-308 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1302 Delegate Hornberger, et al**PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – DISABLED PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUDICIAL OFFICERS, SURVIVING SPOUSES, AND COHABITANTS – ELIGIBILITY**

Altering eligibility for the property tax credit for dwellings owned by a disabled public safety officer or judicial officer or a surviving spouse or a cohabitant of a fallen public safety officer or judicial officer by repealing a certain requirement that the officer, surviving spouse, or cohabitant be domiciled in the State within 5 years of a certain event under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, § 9-210 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1303 Delegate Amprey, et al**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – CLASS A LICENSE – RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS (ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2026)**

Authorizing a certain establishment that operates as a food retailer, pharmacy, or retail service station that sells gasoline and diesel fuel or has on-site electric charging capabilities for a minimum of six motor vehicles simultaneously to offer to purchase a Class A license from a Class A license holder under certain circumstances; and authorizing certain retail establishments to apply to a local licensing board for a Class A license under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ABC, §§ 4-205 and 4-303 - amended and § 4-205.1 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1304 Delegate R. Long**NATURAL RESOURCES – FISHING WITHOUT A LICENSE – ENFORCEMENT**

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to suspend for certain periods of time the commercial or recreational fishing privileges of certain persons charged with fishing without a license under certain circumstances; authorizing a person whose fishing privileges are suspended under the Act to apply for a new fishing license during the term of suspension; and applying certain provisions of the Act retroactively.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

NR, § 4-1201(i) - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1305 Delegate Kaiser, et al

STATE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM – REPORTING

Requiring the State Department of Education to include certain information in a certain report; and requiring the State Department of Education, in cooperation with the Department of Human Services, to develop and submit a certain report to the General Assembly on improving outcomes for students in the State child welfare system.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, § 5-1312(c) and (d) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1306 Delegate Phillips, et al

ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT – SURRENDER OR SEIZURE OF FIREARMS

Requiring a court, under certain circumstances, to order a respondent who has been ordered to comply with assisted outpatient treatment to surrender to law enforcement any firearm in the respondent's possession and not to purchase or possess any firearm for the duration of the assisted outpatient treatment order; and establishing procedures related to the surrender or seizure of a firearm to law enforcement under the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 10-6A-02(b) - amended and § 10-6A-08.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary and Health

HB 1307 Delegate Wilson

STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT – EMPLOYERS RECEIVING STATE PUBLIC FUNDS – UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES

Requiring certain employers that receive \$250,000 or more in State public funds as part of a single transaction or contract with the State, as a condition of receiving the funds, to agree not to engage in certain unfair labor practices and to make other related agreements and acknowledgements; authorizing the State to recapture the State public funds received by an employer who violates certain agreements; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

SF, § 2-902 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1308 Delegate Hornberger, et al**HOMEOWNERS' PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – ELIGIBILITY AND CALCULATION – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the calculation of the homeowners' property tax credit and altering certain limitations on eligibility for the credit relating to a homeowner's net worth and combined gross income.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, § 9-104(a)(14), (e)(1), (g), and (j)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1309 Delegate Crutchfield, et al**COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND ASSESS RACIAL DISPARITIES IN THE STATE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Commission to Review and Assess Racial Disparities in the State Criminal Justice System to study and make recommendations on certain matters involving the disparate treatment of African Americans, Hispanics, and other non-White individuals in the State's criminal justice system and other criminal justice issues in the State; and requiring the Commission to submit a final report of its findings and recommendations on or before September 1, 2028.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1310 Delegate Coley, et al**PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS – STUDENT TRANSCRIPTS – TRAUMATIC LOSS NOTATION**

Providing that a certain high school student who experiences a certain traumatic loss may request the inclusion of a traumatic loss notation on the student's official transcript; requiring a local school system to print a certain traumatic loss notation on a certain student's official transcript under certain circumstances; requiring the State Department of Education to develop standard language for a traumatic loss notation; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-213 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1311 Delegate Embry, et al**HIGHER EDUCATION – STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS – ALTERATIONS**

Requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to assist incarcerated individuals in accessing certain student financial assistance; and requiring incarcerated individuals who meet eligibility criteria for certain student financial assistance to have access to student financial assistance.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

CS, § 2-701 - amended and ED, § 18-116 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations and Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1312 Delegate Pruski**LEGAL TENDER – SPECIE – ESTABLISHMENT**

Authorizing certain persons to use specie for the payment of certain debts, taxes, fees, or other obligations; and prohibiting a person from being required to accept specie as payment.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

FI, §§ 12-1301 through 12-1304 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1313 Delegate Embry, et al**HIGHER EDUCATION – TUITION EXEMPTION – INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS**

Establishing that incarcerated individuals are exempt, subject to certain conditions, from paying tuition at public institutions of higher education in the State.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 15-106.12 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations and Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1314 Delegate Ivey**NATURAL RESOURCES – CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST – URBAN TREES PROGRAM**

Continuing the Urban Trees Program administered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust; and making permanent a requirement that the Governor include \$10,000,000 in the annual budget bill for the Urban Trees Program.

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

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

NR, § 8-1911(h)(1) - amended and § 8-1911 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1315 Delegate Pruski**DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT – VESSEL–BASED MICROPLASTIC PARTICLE REMOVAL TECHNOLOGIES – STUDY**

Requiring the Department of the Environment, in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources, to conduct a study of technologies installed or used on vessels to capture or remove microplastic particles in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1316 Delegate Ruth, et al**PUBLIC HEALTH – UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM – STUDY AND COMMISSION**

Requiring the Hilltop Institute at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing a universal health care program through a single–payer system in the State; and establishing the Advisory Commission on Universal Health Care to assist the Institute in the development of final findings and recommendations based on a certain study.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

HG, §§ 13-5901 through 13-5904 - added

Assigned to: Health

HB 1317 Delegate Ivey

STATE GOVERNMENT – DATA-SHARING AGREEMENTS AND PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION – PROHIBITION AND REPORTING (MARYLAND DATA PRIVACY AND FEDERAL SHIELD ACT)

Requiring the Attorney General to submit a certain report on data-sharing agreements between the State or a unit of local government and the federal government; and prohibiting certain individuals or agencies from providing certain information or assisting in the establishment or maintenance of a certain registry under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SG, §§ 6-112 and 10-1703 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1318 Delegate Wivell, et al

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES – SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – ERROR REDUCTION

Requiring the Department of Human Services to develop a certain process to address Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program administrative errors.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HU, § 5-501 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 1319 Delegate Grammer, et al

PUBLIC SAFETY – MILITIA – ACTIVE DUTY COMBAT (DEFEND THE GUARD)

Prohibiting the Governor from ordering the militia or a member of the militia into active duty combat unless the U.S. Congress has passed an official declaration of war or taken a certain official action; and establishing that this prohibition does not limit or prohibit the Governor from deploying the militia or a member of the militia under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, § 13-702 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1320 Delegate Rosenberg**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – VICTIM NOTIFICATION – REQUEST AT THE TIME OF CHARGING**

Requiring a law enforcement officer or a District Court commissioner to inform a victim or a victim's representative of the victim's or victim's representative's ability to request a certain notification; and providing a process for a victim or a victim's representative to receive a certain notification.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 11-104(b), (d), and (e) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1321 Delegate Palakovich Carr**CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – ENROLLMENT AND COPAYS – ALTERATIONS**

Prohibiting an enrollment freeze in the Child Care Scholarship Program from including certain individuals; requiring the State Department of Education to establish a waitlist for the Program; requiring the Department to give priority for enrollment to certain individuals on the waitlist; requiring the Department to identify, inform, and assist Program applicants who qualify for enrollment in publicly funded prekindergarten subject to certain conditions; and limiting certain copays for certain individuals under the Program.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

ED, §§ 9.5-111 and 9.5-113 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Appropriations

HB 1322 Delegate Grammer, et al**HIGHER EDUCATION – FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ON CAMPUS – PROTECTION (MARYLAND CAMPUS AREA FREE EXPRESSION ACT)**

Specifying that certain areas on campuses of public institutions of higher education are public forums subject to certain restrictions and requirements; authorizing members of the campus community to engage in certain expressive activity on campus; authorizing the Attorney General or a person aggrieved by a certain violation to bring an action against a public institution of higher education and certain employees; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 15-141 - added

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 1323 Delegate Rosenberg**HEALTH CARE DECISIONS ACT – SURROGATE DECISION MAKING
– HOSPITAL SURROGATE COMMITTEE**

Requiring hospitals to establish a surrogate committee to provide surrogate decision making for an unrepresented patient; authorizing the surrogate committee to make treatment decisions for unrepresented patients under certain circumstances; and establishing requirements for the composition, training, and procedures of a surrogate committee.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 5-601(x) and (z) and 5-604.2 - added and §§ 5-601(x) and 5-605 - amended

Assigned to: Health

HB 1324 Delegate Rosenberg**BALTIMORE CITY – NATURAL RESOURCES – SUNDAY DEER
HUNTING AND ARCHERY HUNTING SAFETY ZONES**

Authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person to hunt deer on each Sunday of the deer bow hunting season in Baltimore City; and adding Baltimore City to the list of jurisdictions in which the safety zone for archery hunters extends 50 yards from a dwelling house, residence, church, or any other building or camp occupied by human beings.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

NR, §§ 10-410(a) and (g)(3)(i) and 10-906(b)(3)(i) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1325 Delegate McComas, et al**WORKERS' COMPENSATION – EVALUATION OF PERMANENT
IMPAIRMENTS – LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER–CLINICAL**

Authorizing a licensed certified social worker–clinical to provide evaluation services for workers' compensation claims related to permanent impairments involving a behavioral or mental disorder; and requiring a licensed certified social worker–clinical to meet certain requirements to perform the evaluation services.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LE, § 9-721(c) - amended and § 9-721(d) - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1326 Delegate Wilson**CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT – DISCLOSURE OF REPORTS AND RECORDS**

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HU, § 1-202(c) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1327 Delegate Bhandari**KEY BRIDGE HEROES COMMEMORATION DAY AND MEMORIAL TRIBUTE CEREMONY**

Establishing March 26 as Key Bridge Heroes Commemoration Day in recognition of the service and sacrifice of certain workers; and requiring a certain ceremony to honor and remember the sacrifices and contributions of certain workers.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2026

GP, §§ 7-405 through 7-421 - renumbered and § 7-405 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1328 Delegate Feldmark**PUBLIC SAFETY – DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE – SCHOOL MAPPING DATA PROGRAM**

Repealing certain provisions of law relating to the School Mapping Data Program and providing that the School Safety Subcabinet may provide funding from the Safe Schools Fund to a public safety agency; establishing the School Mapping Data Program in the Department of State Police to provide oversight of and technical assistance to a public safety agency for the production of certain school mapping data to facilitate efficient and effective emergency response by public safety agencies; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, §§ 5-310.1 and 7-1510.1 - repealed and § 7-1512(h) - amended and PS, §§ 2-801 through 2-803 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Judiciary

HB 1329 Delegate Miller, et al**EDUCATION – PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION – FUNDING**

Codifying certain provisions of law that specify the intent of the General Assembly that the State provide at least a certain amount of funding for public school construction each year; and increasing the annual public school construction funding goal to at least \$550,000,000 beginning in fiscal year 2027.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 5-303(m) - added and Chapter 32 of the Acts of 2022, § 4, as amended - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 1330 Delegates Hornberger and Wims**HOMEOWNERS' PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – YEAR-ROUND APPLICATION**

Altering, beginning in taxable year 2027, the homeowners' property tax credit application cycle to be year-round for each taxable year; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2027.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

TP, § 9-104(j)(1), (l), (o), and (u)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1331 Delegate Grammer, et al**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES – PUBLIC BENEFITS – ELIGIBILITY AND PROHIBITIONS**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to enter into certain data-sharing agreements with certain agencies to conduct certain reviews related to eligibility for and use of certain public benefits; establishing requirements related to redeterminations of eligibility, a waiver for a certain lockout period, retroactive eligibility, and work requirements under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

HG, §§ 15-123.1, 15-123.2, 15-123.3, and 15-123.4 and HU, § 5-503.1 - added and HU, § 5-501 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations and Health

HB 1332 Delegate Fisher

CALVERT COUNTY – COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – PROHIBITED AGREEMENTS

Prohibiting the County Commissioners of Calvert County from entering into a nondisclosure agreement or a confidentiality agreement with another person.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PLL of Calvert Co, Art. 5, § 2-202 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1333 Delegate Bhandari

PUBLIC SAFETY – MARYLAND LAW ENFORCEMENT PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL

Establishing the Maryland Law Enforcement Public Service Medal; establishing eligibility requirements for the medal and procedures for nomination, selection, and the awarding of the medal; and requiring the Governor to award the medal to certain law enforcement officers at a certain ceremony.

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, §§ 3-801 and 3-802 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1334 Delegate Miller, et al

EDUCATION – ENGAGEMENT POLICIES AND SCHOOL COMPACT (MARYLAND PUBLIC EDUCATION PARENTAL PARTNERSHIP ACT)

Requiring each county board of education to develop a parent and family engagement policy on or before the start of the 2027–2028 school year; requiring each public school in the State to develop a Parent–School Compact beginning in the 2028–2029 school year; and requiring the State Department of Education to provide certain guidance and technical assistance to county boards and public schools in developing a certain parent and family engagement policy and Parent–School Compact.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 4-148 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1335 Delegate Kaiser, et al

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, AND COMPENSATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CYBERSECURITY PROFESSIONALS – INDEPENDENT STUDY

Requiring the Department of Information Technology to procure the services of a third-party entity to conduct a certain independent study related to the recruitment, retention, and compensation of information technology and cybersecurity professionals in the State; and requiring the Department of Information Technology to submit a study to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2027.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1336 Delegate Wilson

PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS AND CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS – PAYMENTS

Making certain provisions of law governing construction contracts applicable to certain local government owners; altering certain provisions of law relating to the payment of contractors and subcontractors in procurement contracts and construction contracts; requiring certain notification if all or part of a payment is withheld; and altering certain provisions of law relating to the accrual of interest for unpaid amounts.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

RP, §§ 9-301(d) and 9-302 and SF, §§ 11-101, 15-103, and 15-104 - amended and SF, § 15-105 - repealed

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1337 Delegate Fair

FREDERICK COUNTY – WELL AND SEPTIC SERVICE – PLAN APPROVAL

Requiring the local health department in Frederick County to approve, without change or comment, plans for well or septic service related to lots that were subdivided and recorded in the Frederick County land records during the period between January 1, 1976, and December 31, 2019, both inclusive, unless the local health department issues a formal written finding of imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EN, § 9-1115 - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1338 Delegate Ruth**MOTOR VEHICLES – DRIVER’S LICENSES – ELIGIBILITY**

Altering the eligibility standards and requirements for the issuance of provisional driver’s licenses and original driver’s licenses.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, §§ 16-103(c), 16-105(d), and 16-111 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1339 Delegate Embry**HANDGUN ROSTER REFORM**

Altering provisions of law relating to the handgun roster, including requiring the Attorney General, or the Attorney General’s designee, to conduct a certain legal review of a petition to place a handgun on the handgun roster and to make a certain determination before a handgun is placed on the handgun roster; requiring the Maryland State Police, or a certain accredited laboratory, to conduct certain testing on a handgun; altering the responsibilities of the Handgun Roster Board; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, §§ 5-401, 5-404, and 5-405 - amended, § 5-403 - repealed, and §§ 5-403 and 5-403.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1340 Delegates Amprey and Ruff**STATE GOVERNMENT – PRISON EDUCATION DELIVERY REFORM COMMISSION – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Prison Education Delivery Reform Commission as an independent unit of State government; and requiring the Commission, by January 1 each year, to submit a report of the Commission’s activities, findings, and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

SG, §§ 9-4201 and 9-4202 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1341 Delegate Ebersole, et al**PUBLIC SCHOOLS – SCHOOL SECURITY PERSONNEL –
IMMIGRATION INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

Prohibiting public school security personnel from engaging in certain federal immigration investigation and enforcement functions; and prohibiting public school security personnel from producing or sharing certain student or employee information for purposes of federal immigration investigation and enforcement, except under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-1508.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary and Ways and Means

HB 1342 Delegate Young**AGRICULTURE – CONTROLLED-ENVIRONMENT AND
HYDROPONIC AGRICULTURE**

Authorizing grants to controlled-environment or hydroponic farmers under the Urban Agriculture Water and Power Infrastructure Grant Fund; requiring the Department of Agriculture to establish a certain one-stop portal as a centralized source of certain information about the permitting and licensing of controlled-environment or hydroponic agriculture in the State; establishing the Maryland Controlled-Environment and Hydroponic Agriculture Program Fund to provide grants; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

AG, EC, LU, SF, and TP, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1343 Delegate Young

INTERNET GAMING – AUTHORIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Authorizing the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to issue certain licenses to certain qualified applicants to conduct or participate in certain Internet gaming operations in the State; requiring the Commission to regulate Internet gaming and the conduct of Internet gaming in the State; requiring an Internet gaming licensee to require individuals to provide proof of the registration in order to participate in Internet gaming; submitting the Act to a referendum; etc.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EC, ED, LE, and SG, Various Sections - amended and SG, §§ 9-1F-01 through 9-1F-13 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1344 Delegate Young, et al

MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION – LOCALLY OPERATED TRANSIT SYSTEMS – STUDY

Requiring the Maryland Transit Administration to study the locally operated transit systems throughout the State; requiring the study to include certain information regarding cost shares, ridership, and historical cost increases; requiring the Administration to identify best practices for funding and governance; and requiring the Administration to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly by December 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1345 Delegates Cardin and Taylor

MARYLAND TRUST ACT – IN TERRORUM CLAUSE

Establishing that, under the Maryland Trust Act, a certain in terrorem clause contained in a trust is void under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ET, § 14.5-113 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1346 Delegate AmpreySTATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION –
EXPEDITED DOCUMENT PROCESSING AND FEES

Establishing expedited processing fees for certain documents filed with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation; and requiring the Department to process documents filed at least 1 hour before the Department's close of business within 1 hour after the documents are received, and documents filed at least 30 minutes before the Department's close of business within 30 minutes after the documents are received.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CA, §§ 1-203 and 1-203.2 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1347 Delegate Baker, et alTASK FORCE TO STUDY POSTRELEASE SERVICES AND
REQUIREMENTS (BRI'S LAW)

Establishing the Task Force to Study Postrelease Services and Requirements; and requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before July 1, 2027.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1348 Delegate EmbryHUMAN TRAFFICKING – REPORTS TO REGIONAL NAVIGATORS
AND PROSECUTIONS – AUTHORIZATION

Authorizing mandated reporters to report suspected labor trafficking or sex trafficking of a child to a regional navigator; and authorizing the Attorney General or a State's Attorney to investigate and prosecute human trafficking.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, § 5-704(a) - amended, and CR, § 3-1104 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1349 Delegate Wivell, et al**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN TO CONVERT FORMERLY OPERATIONAL FOSSIL FUEL GENERATING STATIONS**

Requiring the Public Service Commission to develop an implementation plan to convert formerly operational fossil fuel generating stations in the State to natural gas generating stations; requiring the Commission to conduct a public stakeholder process to solicit input when developing the implementation plan; and requiring the Commission, by January 1, 2027, to provide its implementation plan and recommendations to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1350 Delegate McComas, et al**FAMILY LAW – CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT – REPORTING**

Altering certain provisions of law relating to the reporting of child abuse and neglect and the reporting of certain information regarding certain children at risk of harm to require reporting to the Department of Human Services instead of to the local department of social services or the appropriate law enforcement agency; requiring the Department to establish a centralized intake system for reports, assess reports for validity, and assign reports to the appropriate local department to investigate; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, § 5-703.1 - added and Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 1351 Delegates Amprey and Ruff**HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS – DISASTER MITIGATION SERVICES – REGULATION AND PROHIBITION**

Altering the definition of “home improvement” to include the provision of certain disaster mitigation services for purposes of licensing and regulations of home improvement contractors; authorizing a certain owner to rescind a home improvement contract for disaster mitigation services under certain circumstances; and authorizing the governing body of a county to impose certain limitations on in-person solicitation of a victim of a disaster by a contractor offering disaster mitigation services.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

BR, §§ 8-101 and 8-501(c)(1)(viii) and (ix) - amended and §§ 8-501(c)(1)(x), 8-501.1, and 8-507 - added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1352 Delegate Wilson**STATE PROCUREMENT – WORKER RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring certain contractors to ensure that at least 35% of apprenticeship hours on certain projects are performed by State residents; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to enforce certain residency requirements; providing that a contractor that fails to meet certain requirements is liable for an amount twice the number of apprenticeship hours at the apprentice rate by which the contractor failed to meet the applicable requirement; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SF, §§ 16-203 and 17-602 - amended and §§ 17-6B-01 through 17-6B-06 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1353 Delegate Fair, et al**HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS – FEE AND EXAMINATION EXEMPTIONS**

Prohibiting the Maryland Department of Health from collecting a fee for a copy of a vital record issued to a homeless individual; establishing that a vehicle owned by a homeless individual is exempt from vehicle registration fees; altering the period of time after which an unaccompanied homeless youth who holds a learner’s instructional permit and is under a certain age may take certain examinations for a provisional driver’s license; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 4-217(c) and TR, §§ 13-903, 16-105(d)(3), 16-111.2, and 23-206.2 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation and Health

HB 1354 Delegate Hornberger, et alSTATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS –
VETERINARIANS, VETERINARY TECHNICIANS, AND VETERINARY
ASSISTANTS

Requiring the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to expand a certain expedited process for authorizing a certain veterinary practitioner licensed to practice veterinary medicine in another state or jurisdiction to become licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State to include a similar expedited process for veterinary technicians and veterinary assistants; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

AG, §§ 2-305.1, 2-306(a), and 2-309 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 1355 Delegate AmpreyFINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS – PAYMENT STABLECOIN SERVICES –
ESTABLISHMENT AND REGULATION (MARYLAND STABLECOIN
ACT)

Altering the examination fee for a new commercial bank charter; requiring a certain nondepository trust company to include certain disclosures in its articles of incorporation; exempting from certain provisions of law a certain nondepository trust company authorized to provide certain services by the Commissioner of Financial Regulation; authorizing a certain nondepository trust company to request that the Commissioner reduce the capital stock requirements under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027

FI, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1356 Delegate Lopez, et al

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – CIVIC AND RELATED ACTIVITIES – PROTECTION (MARYLAND EMPLOYEE CIVIC ACTIVITY AND LAWFUL EXPRESSION PROTECTION ACT)

Authorizing an employer to require an applicant to disclose the applicant's engagement in certain actions only if the disclosure is related to certain job requirements; prohibiting an employer from taking certain adverse action against an employee if the employee engages in certain activity; and providing that adverse action taken against an employee within 120 days after the employee engages in activity protected under the Act creates a rebuttable presumption of retaliation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

LE, §§ 3-1901 through 3-1908 - added

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

HB 1357 Delegate Kaiser, et al

CONSUMER PROTECTION – MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS – LABELING REQUIREMENTS

Requiring manufacturers of menstrual hygiene products to include a list of ingredients on each package of menstrual hygiene products sold in the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Health

HOUSE BILLS REASSIGNED FEBRUARY 11, 2026**HB 752 Delegate Toles, et al**

CRIMINAL LAW – THEFT AND FRAUD CRIMES – VALUATION AND FORGERY OF GIFT CARDS

Providing for the valuation of a gift card for the purpose of determining value for crimes involving theft; prohibiting a person, with the intent to defraud another, from altering or tampering with a gift card or its packaging; and providing that a violation of the Act is a misdemeanor punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to 18 months or a fine not to exceed \$500, or both.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CR, §§ 7-103(h) and 8-409 - added

Reassigned to: Judiciary

HB 910 Delegate McCaskill**CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – PRIORITY FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS**

Requiring the State Department of Education, for applications received after July 1, 2026, to establish a framework to prioritize the children of individuals who provide care for children in licensed child care centers, registered family child care homes, and registered large family child care homes for scholarships under the Child Care Scholarship Program.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 9.5-113(c)(1) - amended

Reassigned to: Appropriations and Ways and Means

HB 973 Delegate Miller**OPEN MEETINGS ACT – ENHANCED REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL ENTITIES AND RETENTION REQUIREMENTS**

Making certain enhanced Open Meetings Act requirements applicable to the Maryland State Department of Education, Accountability and Implementation Board, and county boards of education; and requiring certain entities subject to enhanced Open Meetings Act requirements to retain certain meeting minutes and recordings for 15 years after the date of the session.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, § 3-307 - amended

Reassigned to: Ways and Means

HB 1008 Delegates Queen and Spiegel**FIDUCIARY INSTITUTIONS – EXPLOITATION OF SENIORS AND VULNERABLE ADULTS – PROTECTIONS AND REQUIRED REFERRAL (VULNERABLE ADULT BANKING PROTECTION ACT)**

Authorizing a fiduciary institution, under certain circumstances, to delay or deny a disbursement from the account of a certain individual or the account on which a certain individual is a beneficiary; requiring a fiduciary institution, under certain circumstances, to provide certain financial records to certain entities; authorizing a fiduciary institution, under certain circumstances, to contact certain individuals; and providing certain fiduciary institutions immunity from certain liability.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FI, § 1-307 - added

Reassigned to: Economic Matters

HB 1064 Delegate Bagnall, et alMARYLAND OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL –
ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Maryland Office of the Inspector General; transferring the Maryland Office of the Inspector General for Education and the Maryland Office of the Inspector General for Health to be within the Maryland Office of the Inspector General; providing for the appointment, qualifications, salary, and term of office of the Inspector General; providing for the employment of certain staff by the Inspector General; establishing provisions related to the powers and duties of the Inspector General; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, §§ 9.10-102 and 9.10-103(f) - amended and § 9.10-104(j) - repealed and
HG, SG, and SP, Various Sections - added and amended

Reassigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections