



SYNOPSIS

House Bills and Joint Resolutions
2026 Maryland General Assembly Session

February 20, 2026
Schedule 25

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 17, 2026

HB 1604 Delegate Kerr

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM CONTRACTS – PROHIBITED PROVISIONS

Prohibiting certain provisions from being included in public school system contracts; specifying that certain provisions are void if included in a public school system contract; specifying the applicable law and interpretation of public school system contracts; and applying the Act prospectively.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 4-148 - added

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HB 1605 Delegate Griffith

COMPENSATION FOR INDIVIDUALS ERRONEOUSLY CONVICTED – COUNTY COST-SHARING – REPEAL

Repealing the requirement that county governments are required to pay 50% of the amount of compensation to individuals erroneously convicted of a crime the individual did not commit.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SF, § 10-501(a) - amended

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

Department of Legislative Services

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HB 1606 Delegate Odom**CREDIT REGULATION – MAXIMUM INTEREST RATE FOR ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS (SERVICE MEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT)**

Prohibiting a person from charging an annual interest rate above 6% per year on a certain obligation held by an active service member or jointly by an active service member and the active service member's spouse; requiring that the active service member or the active service member's spouse provide the creditor with certain notice and documentation not later than 180 days after termination or discharge from active duty; and authorizing a court to grant a creditor relief from application of the Act after a certain finding.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

CL, § 12-102.1 - added and § 12-107 - amended

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HB 1607 Delegate Odom**COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEMS – PROHIBITED LOCATIONS – ADJACENT PARCELS**

Repealing certain prohibitions on the location of a community solar energy generating system based on the combined installed capacity of all community solar energy generating systems on adjacent parcels of land.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PU, § 7-306.2(d)(13) - amended

Assigned to: House Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE BILLS REASSIGNED FEBRUARY 16, 2026**HB 1176 Howard County Delegation****HOWARD COUNTY – BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET – MINIMUM FUNDING HO. CO. 10–26**

Prohibiting the County Executive of Howard County from submitting and the Howard County Council from approving a budget that appropriates to the Howard County Board of Education less than 58% of the general fund revenue of the county for the fiscal year or the amount that the Howard County Board requests, subject to a certain contingency; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 5-103 - amended

Reassigned to: Appropriations

HB 1204 Delegate Wivell, et al**PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION – EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Education Savings Account Program in the State administered by the State Department of Education; providing that on a quarterly basis the State shall deposit into an account of an eligible student a certain percentage of the per pupil amount of State and local funds for each education program in the resident school district for which the eligible student would be included in the enrollment count; allowing a subtraction modification under the State income tax for deposits into an education savings account; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, §§ 9.12-101 through 9.12-106 and TG, § 10-208(dd) - added

Reassigned to: Appropriations

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

Reassigned to: Appropriations