



SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2026 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 29, 2026
Schedule 10

PLEASE NOTE: February 9 – Bill introduction deadline.

All bills should be given to the Secretary of the Senate's office by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, February 9.

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

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED January 29, 2026

SB 404 **Senator M. Washington (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)**

MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION – ACCESS TO DIGITAL RECORDS – BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to make a digital photographic image or signature available to the Special Investigations Unit of the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development or its successor.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

TR, § 12-111 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Department of Legislative Services

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

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

Other Maryland Areas: 1-800-492-7122 — Maryland Relay Service: 1-800-735-2258

SB 405 Senator M. Washington (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)**SALES AND USE TAX – DISTRIBUTION – CITY OF BALTIMORE**

Altering the distribution of sales and use tax revenues to require the Comptroller to pay to the City of Baltimore one-third of the revenues from sales and use taxes collected and remitted from sales that occur within the City of Baltimore.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 2-1303 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 406 Senators Gile and Attar**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: Judicial Proceedings

SB 407 Senator Gile, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – SEXUAL OFFENSE BY A PERSON IN A POSITION OF AUTHORITY**

Altering the penalties for the misdemeanor of sexual offense by a person in a position of authority; prohibiting a certain person in a position of authority from committing a certain violation involving a child at least 6 years younger than the person in a position of authority; prohibiting a person who has been previously convicted of a certain crime from committing a certain violation; adding sexual offense by a person in a position of authority as a predicate crime for sexual solicitation of a minor; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CR, §§ 3-308 and 3-324 - amended and § 3-308.1 - added and CP, § 11-701(o) and (q) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 408 Anne Arundel County Senators**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS – ELECTION OFFICIAL CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM**

Requiring the Anne Arundel County Board of Education and the State Board of Elections, in consultation with the State Department of Education, to establish a career and technical education pilot program in the county schools to prepare students for a career as an election official.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 21-211 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 409 Anne Arundel County Senators**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION – MEMBER COMPENSATION AND STUDENT MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP – INCREASE**

Increasing the compensation of the president, vice president, and other members of the Anne Arundel County Board of Education to be \$25,000, \$24,000, and \$23,000, respectively; and increasing the scholarship award to \$23,000 for a student member of the board who completes a full term on the board for a term that begins on or after July 1, 2029.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

ED, § 3-2A-07 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 410 Senator King**PUBLIC LIBRARIES – STATE LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTER – FUNDING**

Altering the calculation of certain funding for the State Library Resource Center for fiscal year 2028 and each fiscal year thereafter.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 23-205(c) and (d) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 411 **Senator Augustine, et al****HOSPITALS – CLINICAL STAFFING COMMITTEES AND PLANS – ESTABLISHMENT (SAFE STAFFING ACT OF 2026)**

Requiring certain hospitals licensed in the State to establish and maintain a clinical staffing committee and to implement a clinical staffing plan; requiring each clinical staffing committee to develop a clinical staffing plan; requiring, on or before July 1 each year, each hospital's clinical staffing committee to conduct a review of the clinical staffing plan for certain purposes; requiring, on or before January 1, 2028, each hospital to implement a clinical staffing plan and assign personnel in accordance with the plan; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 19-393 through 19-397 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 412 **Senator Augustine****MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – COMMUNITY FORENSIC AFTERCARE PROGRAM – ESTABLISHED**

Establishing the Community Forensic Aftercare Program in the Maryland Department of Health to monitor committed persons on conditional release and individuals with mental illness or intellectual disability who are required to be monitored under certain circumstances; requiring the Program to establish a community monitoring board to make certain recommendations and decisions related to conditional release and out-of-state; requiring the Board to maintain a written record of its findings, recommendations, and decisions; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 3-122(a) - amended and HG, §§ 13-5901 through 13-5904 - added

Assigned to: Finance and Judicial Proceedings

SB 413 Senator Beidle**STATE BOARD OF MORTICIANS AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS –
BOARD OPERATIONS AND REGULATION OF CREMATORIES AND
REDUCTION FACILITIES**

Transferring the authority to regulate certain crematories and reduction facilities from the Office of Cemetery Oversight to the State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors; renaming the Board to be the State Board of Morticians, Funeral Directors, and Crematories; altering the circumstances under which the Governor may remove an appointed member of the Board; altering the quorum of the Board; and specifying that the Board may take action with a simple majority vote of the quorum.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

BR, Various Sections - amended and § 5-803 - repealed and HO, Various Sections - amended and added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 414 Senator Beidle**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES –
CONSUMPTION-ONLY NONPROFIT SWIM CLUB LICENSE**

Establishing a consumption-only nonprofit swim club license in Anne Arundel County which authorizes the license holder to allow members of the swim club and their guests to bring beer, wine, and liquor onto the licensed premises for on-premises consumption during designated events; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County to issue the license to a nonprofit swim club in Anne Arundel County; and providing for an annual license fee of \$100.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ABC, § 11-1006.3 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 415 Senator Beidle**BUSINESS REGULATION – MARYLAND FRANCHISE REGISTRATION AND DISCLOSURE LAW – ALTERATIONS (FRANCHISE REFORM ACT)**

Altering the period of time within which the Securities Commissioner in the Office of the Attorney General may exercise a power under certain provisions of law governing the sale of franchises; requiring the Securities Commissioner to require that a certain franchise registration exemption be indexed to inflation or deflation based on a certain index; altering the period of time within which an action for liability under a certain provision of law pertaining to franchise offers for sale must be brought; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

BR, §§ 14-210, 14-214, 14-227, and 14-233 - amended and §§ 14-219.1 and 14-233 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 416 Senator Lam**HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS – PAYMENTS TO NONPARTICIPATING PROVIDERS – REIMBURSEMENT RATE**

Altering the reimbursement rate at which health maintenance organizations are required to pay certain nonparticipating health care providers for services.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 19-710.1 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 417 Senator Lam**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: Finance

SB 418 Senator Simonaire**PROFESSIONAL LICENSING PORTABILITY – MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE AND SPOUSES**

Authorizing members of the Foreign Service and spouses of members of the Foreign Service, for the duration of the assignment or detail, to practice in the State under an occupational or professional license issued in another jurisdiction under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SG, AG, BOP, BR, ED, EN, FI, HG, HO, IN, LE, NR, PS, PU, and TR, Various Sections - added and amended

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

SB 419 Senators Simonaire and Augustine**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: Finance

SB 420 Senator M. Washington**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: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 421 **Senator M. Washington****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: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Finance