



# SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions  
2026 Maryland General Assembly Session

**February 5, 2026**  
**Schedule 15**

---

**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 February 5, 2026**

**SB 585**     **Senator Guzzone**

HUMAN-RELEVANT RESEARCH FUND – COLLECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS – RESPONSIBLE ENTITY

Requiring research facilities that are located in the State and required to submit an Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Form 7023 to pay contributions for the Human-Relevant Research Fund to the Department of Agriculture, rather than the Maryland Department of Health.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 24-2301 through 24-2303 - repealed and AG, §§ 2-2501 through 2-2503 - added

Assigned to: Finance

**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 586**     **Senator Guzzone****COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION EXPANSION PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Community Eligibility Provision Expansion Program in the State Department of Education to provide funding to eligible schools that participate in the federal community eligibility provision of the child nutrition programs; requiring schools that opt out of the Community Eligibility Provision of the Child Nutrition Program to include certain information in a certain report; and requiring the Governor in fiscal year 2028 and succeeding years to include \$10,000,000 in the annual budget bill for the Program.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-606 - added

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

**SB 587**     **Senator Guzzone****MARYLAND PATIENT SAFETY CENTER FUND – FUNDING**

Requiring, rather than authorizing, the Governor to include an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to the Maryland Patient Safety Center Fund in the annual budget bill for fiscal year 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter.

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

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

HG, § 19-112 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

**SB 588**     **Senator Simonaire****NATURAL RESOURCES – COMPLIMENTARY FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSES – ALTERATIONS**

Altering certain requirements and authorizations for the issuance of certain complimentary fishing and hunting licenses; and requiring the Department of Natural Resources to compile certain statistics relating to complimentary hunting licenses after the close of the hunting season each year.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

NR, §§ 4-607(a)(1), 4-745(e), 4-1004.1(a) and (e)(2), 10-301(1), 10-301.3, and 10-303 - amended and § 4-1004.1(e)(4) - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 589**     **Senator Kramer****BUSINESS REGULATION – COLLECTION AGENCIES – LICENSURE EXEMPTION FOR PROPERTY MANAGERS**

Exempting property managers who collect payment for rent, utilities, or fees from a residential tenant on behalf of a property owner, under certain circumstances, from the requirement to hold a license to do business as a collection agency from the State Collection Agency Licensing Board.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

BR, § 7-102 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 590**     **Senator Kramer****STUDY ON GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS ECONOMY–WIDE CAP–AND–INVEST PROGRAM (MARYLAND CLIMATE CRISIS EQUITY ACT)**

Requiring the Department of the Environment, in collaboration with the Maryland Commission on Climate Change, the Department of Transportation, and the Maryland Energy Administration, and in coordination with certain entities and persons, to complete a study and develop a report evaluating the potential design and implications of implementing an economy–wide cap–and–invest program that will help the State achieve certain emissions reductions and provide a sustainable funding source for certain initiatives.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 591**     **Senator Brooks****NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY ALLIANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES – MARYLAND CHAPTER – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland Chapter of the National Public Safety Alliance for Individuals with Disabilities in the Department of State Police; requiring the Department, in conjunction with the Department of Disabilities, to establish guidelines for the use of a certain interface and protocols and policy; establishing the National Public Safety Alliance for Individuals with Disabilities Commission; requiring the Commission to study and make recommendations regarding the establishment of a secure interface; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, §§ 2-901 through 2-904 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 592 Senator Brooks****STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – FINANCIAL LITERACY – GRADUATION REQUIREMENT**

Requiring the State Board of Education to establish a certain graduation requirement in financial literacy; requiring students, beginning with the 2030 graduating class, to successfully complete a certain personal financial literacy course; and requiring county boards, upon successful completion of the course, to award certain credit to students and to allow students to fulfill certain remaining credit requirements through certain existing courses.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-213 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 593 Senator Brooks****EDUCATION – STUDENT ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES – PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND CARDIOVASCULAR PRESCREENING**

Requiring a certain physical examination used to determine the physical fitness of a student seeking to participate in interscholastic sports to include a certain cardiovascular prescreening; requiring certain health care providers who perform certain physical examinations for students participating in interscholastic sports to include a cardiovascular prescreening as part of the examination; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-402.1- added and § 7-436 - amended and HG, § 14-501(a)(4) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 594 Senators Beidle and Gile****CANNABIS – ADVERTISING – ALTERATIONS**

Repealing certain criteria for a certain prohibition on cannabis advertising that targets minors; authorizing a standard dispensary to place certain exterior signage for certain limited purposes under certain circumstances; requiring the Maryland Cannabis Administration to accept certain advertising audience composition data and establish by regulation an alternative method for determining audience composition; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ABC, §§ 36-901 and 36-903 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 595**     **Senator Kagan****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: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 596**     **Senator Hester****LARGE LOAD CUSTOMERS – ELECTRIC SYSTEM INTERCONNECTION AND DEMAND RESPONSE PROGRAM**

Exempting certain large load customers from requirements to obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity; requiring the Public Service Commission to establish a certain process for large load customers to interconnect to the electric system; establishing requirements for a large load customer to interconnect to the electric system and contract for service; authorizing certain large load customers to receive certain prioritization; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PU, §§ 7-219.1 and 7-1008 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 597**     **Senator Hester****HIGHER EDUCATION – MARYLAND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PARTNERSHIP**

Establishing the Maryland Artificial Intelligence Partnership in the University System of Maryland to provide a single nexus for certain stakeholders in artificial intelligence initiatives to advance artificial intelligence in the State; establishing the Artificial Intelligence Incubation Lab in the University System of Maryland to assist State agencies to accelerate the responsible use of artificial intelligence; altering the Cyber Warrior Diversity Program to include training students in artificial intelligence; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, Various Sections - amended and added and SF, § 3.5-806(f) - added and amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 598**     **Senator Hester****ELECTRIC COMPANIES – COST CONTAINMENT PLANS – REQUIREMENT (SECURING AFFORDABLE, VALUABLE INVESTMENTS IN NEXT GENERATION GRID SOLUTIONS) (SAVINGS ACT)**

Requiring electric companies to submit to the Public Service Commission cost containment plans for electric distribution and transmission system planning on or before January 1, 2027, and every 3 years thereafter; requiring the plans to combine to reduce peak electric system loads in a certain manner; and requiring electric companies to submit certain progress reports on the implementation of the plan.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PU, § 7-805 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 599**     **Senator Hester****ON-FARM ORGANICS AND WASTED FOOD REDUCTION AND DIVERSION GRANT PROGRAMS – ESTABLISHED**

Establishing the On-Farm Organics Diversion and Recycling Grant Program in the Department of Agriculture to award grants to eligible entities to develop and implement on-farm organics recycling, compost use, wasted food prevention, and food rescue; and establishing the Wasted Food Reduction and Diversion Grant Program and the County Wasted Food Reduction Block Grant Program in the Department of the Environment to fund certain projects that reduce, rescue, and divert wasted food in the State and certain counties.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

AG, § 2-109 and EN, §§ 9-1725.1 and 9-1725.2 - added

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

**SB 600**     **Senator Hester****SALES AND USE TAX – DEFINITION OF RETAIL SALE – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the definition of “retail sale” for purposes of provisions of law governing the sales and use tax to exclude certain sales of technology services under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 11-101(h) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

**SB 601**     **Senator Hester****CYBERSECURITY – STANDARDS AND COMPLIANCE – ALTERATIONS**

Requiring each local school system to designate a local point of contact for certain communications, to comply with, and certify compliance with, the State minimum cybersecurity standards, and to conduct a cybersecurity maturity assessment every 2 years; repealing the requirement that county boards of education prioritize the purchase of digital devices with certain funds; requiring the Office of Security Management within the Department of Information Technology to annually update the State minimum cybersecurity standards; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 4-148 - added and ED, § 5-212 and SF, §§ 3.5-101, 3.5-2A-04(b), and 3.5-406 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 602 Senator Hester****ALGORITHMIC ADDICTION FUND – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Algorithmic Addiction Fund to be administered by the Maryland Department of Health; providing the Fund consists of all civil penalties received by the State from any source resulting, directly or indirectly, from a judgment against or settlement relating to claims concerning harm to children from the use of social media and the improper use of algorithms; requiring the Secretary to make a report to the General Assembly by November 1 each year concerning the provision of algorithmic addiction intervention services; etc.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 603 Senator M. Washington****MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Prohibiting, on and after January 1, 2035, a person from disposing of a mattress in a landfill, subject to certain exceptions; prohibiting, on and after January 1, 2035, a person from disposing of a mattress in an incinerator, subject to a certain exception; requiring certain producers of mattresses sold at retail in the State or a certain representative organization to submit a plan for the establishment of a Mattress Stewardship Program in the Department of the Environment for approval on or before July 1, 2031; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2029

EN, Various Sections - added and amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 604 Senator M. Washington****ADOPTION, FOSTER CARE, AND PUBLIC SERVICES – PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION**

Prohibiting a child placement agency from denying a prospective parent's application to adopt a child based on certain characteristics with certain exceptions; prohibiting the Social Services Administration of the Department of Human Services and certain agencies, institutions, and facilities from discriminating against a foster parent, a prospective foster parent, or a child in foster care based on certain characteristics; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

FL, §§ 5-3A-38 and 5-525(m) and HU, § 2-214 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 605**     **Senator M. Washington**

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – BROADBAND AND VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL SERVICE – OVERSIGHT (BROADBAND ACCOUNTABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY ACT)

Authorizing the Public Service Commission to exercise certain oversight of broadband service and voice over Internet protocol service; requiring the Commission to assess the adequacy of certain plans for each Internet service provider; and authorizing the Commission to conduct certain evaluations or audits and require certain remedial action under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PU, § 5-107 - added and § 8-602 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 606**     **Senator McCray**

MARYLAND E-ZPASS COMMUTER FAIRNESS AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2026

Requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority to submit a certain report on E-ZPass discount plans and unused commuter trips that contains certain data; requiring the Authority to provide recommendations for lowering the amount of unused commuter trips; requiring the Authority, under certain circumstances, to submit a certain corrective action plan or eliminate certain forfeitures; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 607**     **Senator McCray**

INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT INCOME – AMOUNT

Increasing from \$15,000 to \$20,000 over a period of 5 taxable years the amount allowed as a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain retirement income attributable to an individual's employment as a public safety employee.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-207(mm) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

**SB 608**     **Senator Mautz**

## MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN AND HEALTH INSURANCE – PHARMACOGENOMIC TESTING – REQUIRED COVERAGE

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, §§ 15-102.3(p) and 15-103(a)(2)(xxix) and IN, § 15-864 - added and HG, § 15-103(a)(2)(xxvii) and (xxviii) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 609**     **Senator Mautz**

## STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT – RETENTION PROCEEDS

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

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SF, § 13-225 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

**SB 610**     **Senator Mautz**

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES – COMMERCIAL BLUE AND FLATHEAD CATFISH FINFISH TROTLINE LICENSE – ALTERATIONS

Altering the commercial blue and flathead catfish finfish trotline license to allow a person to catch blue catfish with a gill net with a mesh size of not more than 7 inches.

EMERGENCY BILL

NR, § 4-701.2 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 611**     **Senator Mautz****MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – STUDY ON MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REIMBURSEMENT OF HOSPICE ROOM AND BOARD SERVICES**

Requiring the Division of Health Care Financing and Medicaid within the Maryland Department of Health to study the impact of requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide reimbursement for room and board services provided by a hospice house; and requiring the Department to report its findings to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health Committee by September 30, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 612**     **Talbot County Senators****TALBOT COUNTY – PUBLIC SCHOOLS – SCHOOL SCHEDULE OPTIONS**

Authorizing the Talbot County Board of Education to operate schools within the county using a school scheduling model that eliminates early dismissal days to allow for less than 180 school days if the minimal hours of attendance are met; and requiring a school operating under a certain scheduling model to provide certain employees an opportunity to make up lost wages.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 7-103(a), (f), and (g) - amended and § 7-103(f) - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 613**     **Talbot County Senators****AGRICULTURE – NOXIOUS WEEDS – PALMER AMARANTH**

Requiring the Department of Agriculture, based on a finding of Palmer amaranth on land, to issue an order to an owner of the land to eradicate the Palmer amaranth within 2 weeks after the order was issued and requiring the Department to inspect the land every 2 weeks until the Department determines that the Palmer amaranth has been eradicated.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

AG, §§ 9-404 and 9-406 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 614**     **Dorchester County Senators****CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM – DORCHESTER COUNTY**

Requiring membership in the Correctional Officers' Retirement System for certain local detention center officers of Dorchester County in the event Dorchester County becomes a participating governmental unit in the Correctional Officers' Retirement System; and providing that certain local detention center officers who join the Correctional Officers' Retirement System and receive certain service credit shall no longer be members of the Employees' Pension System.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

SP, § 31-2B-09 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

**SB 615**     **Senators West and Carozza****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: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 616**     **Senator Hester, et al****BUSINESS REGULATION – DATA BROKER REGISTRY**

Establishing a data broker registry; requiring certain data brokers to register each year with the Comptroller; requiring by January 31 each year, a business entity that acted as a data broker during the previous calendar year to submit a certain form to the Comptroller and pay a fee determined by the Comptroller; requiring the Comptroller to make the information submitted by business entities publicly available on the Office’s website; requiring the Comptroller to report certain information to the General Assembly by December 31 annually; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

BR, §§ 19-1001 through 19-1005 and SG, §§ 7-401 through 7-405 - added and RP, § 3-114(d) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 617**     **Senator Watson****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: Budget and Taxation

**SB 618**     **Senators Watson and Salling****PUBLIC ETHICS – MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY – STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT EXEMPTION**

Exempting a member of the General Assembly, a filed candidate for election to the General Assembly, or a member–elect of the General Assembly from the prohibition against receiving earned income from an executive unit or political subdivision of the State under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, § 5-514(a) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 619**     **Senator Watson, et al****ENVIRONMENT – SOLID WASTE CONTAINERS – CLEANING AND SANITIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

Establishing requirements for the cleaning and sanitization of certain solid waste containers; requiring the owner of a solid waste container to contract with a professional cleaning service to clean and sanitize the container at least once per month and maintain documentation of each cleaning and sanitization service rendered; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

EN, § 9-264 - added and § 9-268 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 620**     **Senators Watson and West****CRIMINAL LAW – WEARING, CARRYING, OR TRANSPORTING A HANDGUN – PRIOR CONVICTIONS**

Altering the list of convictions that subject a defendant to enhanced sentencing for wearing, carrying, or transporting a handgun to include certain extra-jurisdictional crimes.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CR, § 4-203(c) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 621**     **Senators Watson and Salling****PUBLIC SAFETY – STATE FIRE PREVENTION CODE – TRASH AND RECYCLABLE MATERIALS**

Requiring the State Fire Prevention Commission to adopt regulations that incorporate by reference sections 30.7.5 and 31.7.5 of the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code (2024 Edition) and authorize the placement of trash and recycling in corridors and exits in accordance with the NFPA Life Safety Code.

EMERGENCY BILL – VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

PS, § 6-206(a) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 622**     **Senator Watson, et al****MARYLAND STRATEGIC ENERGY INVESTMENT FUND – REQUIRED USES – BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION AND TRANSPORTATION ELECTRIFICATION**

Requiring the use of the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund for providing loans and grants for building electrification and transportation electrification.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SG, § 9-20B-05(f)(13) and (14) - amended and § 9-20B-05(f)(14) - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 623**     **Senators Watson and Harris****RETAIL TOBACCO BUSINESSES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A PREMIUM CIGAR LOUNGE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE (MARYLAND PREMIUM CIGAR LOUNGE ACT OF 2026)**

Establishing a Class C–PCL (premium cigar lounge) alcoholic beverages license for use in conjunction with a certain tobacco products retailer license; authorizing a local licensing board to issue the license; prohibiting a county clerk from issuing a certain tobacco products retailer license if the location is adjacent to a health care facility or a child care facility; exempting a holder of a certain tobacco products retailer license from the Clean Indoor Air Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 2, 2026

ABC, § 4-1002 - added and BR, § 16.5-204(b) and HG, § 24-505 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 624**     **Senator Feldman****PUBLIC SAFETY – SHORT–TERM RENTAL UNITS – FIRE SAFETY (JILLIAN AND LINDSAY WIENER SHORT–TERM RENTAL FIRE SAFETY ACT)**

Requiring certain short–term rental units to post certain evacuation diagrams and certain emergency telephone numbers in the unit and to provide certain fire extinguishers and smoke alarms in the unit; requiring a certain short–term rental host to replace a smoke alarm under certain circumstances; requiring certain booking services to notify certain short–term rental hosts about certain fire safety requirements; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

PS, §§ 9-1101 through 9-1105 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 625**     **Senator Feldman****CARBON REMOVAL TECHNOLOGY AND PRACTICES –  
REGULATIONS AND USE OF FUNDING**

Requiring the Department of the Environment, by January 1, 2028, to adopt regulations governing the permitting of certain carbon removal technology and practices; and requiring each State agency to use available funding sources to fund carbon removal projects that utilize certain carbon removal technology and practices.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EN, § 2-1213 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 626**     **Senator Lam****CERTIFICATES OF BIRTH, LICENSES, AND IDENTIFICATION CARDS  
– SEX DESIGNATION (BIRTH CERTIFICATE MODERNIZATION ACT)**

Altering the circumstances under which the Secretary of Health is required to make a new certificate of birth due to the change of a sex designation of an individual; establishing requirements and a prohibition related to the making of new certificates of birth; and altering the options for indicating an individual's sex designation on a license, identification card, or moped operator's permit issued by the Motor Vehicle Administration.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

HG, § 4-211 and TR, § 12-305(a) and (b) - amended

Assigned to: Finance and Judicial Proceedings

**SB 627**     **Senators Lam and Hester****KOREAN AMERICAN DAY**

Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim January 13 as Korean American Day; and requiring the proclamation to urge educational and cultural organizations to observe Korean American Day properly with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

GP, §§ 7-401 through 7-421 - renumbered and § 7-401 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 628**     **Senator Kramer**INSTITUTIONS     OF     POSTSECONDARY     EDUCATION     –  
INSTITUTIONAL DEBT – REPORT

Requiring institutions of postsecondary education to submit a report on institutional debt to the Maryland Higher Education Commission by October 1 each year, beginning in 2027; authorizing the Commission to assess a civil penalty, up to \$10,000 per violation, against an institution for failure to submit a report or knowingly including inaccurate information in a report; and establishing certain notice and hearing procedures that the Commission must follow before assessing a civil penalty.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 11-212 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 629**     **Senator Kramer**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – STATE AND HIGHER EDUCATION  
E-MAIL – REQUIREMENTS

Establishing that certain provisions of law governing information technology plans apply to certain public institutions of higher education; establishing a certain policy of the State relating to State and higher education employee e-mail systems and resources are intended to support State business and may not serve as a public forum; and requiring certain policies, plans, and standards to include certain provisions to implement systems that automatically filter spam email from certain email accounts.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SF, §§ 3.5-302(c) and 3.5-305 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 630**     **Senators West and Hester****OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINES AND EMINENT DOMAIN –  
PROPERTY VALUE – DAMAGES**

Authorizing the owner of property used for residential purposes to bring an action to recover damages incurred as a result of the value of the property being diminished from the use of eminent domain to take property and construct an overhead transmission line within 300 feet of the property owner's residence; and requiring that reasonable fees be awarded to counsel for the defendant in a condemnation proceeding and the costs be charged against the plaintiff under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

RP, § 12-104(h) - added and §§ 12-105(b) and 12-107(b) - amended

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

**SB 631**     **Senators West and Waldstreicher****CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS – REVISIONS**

Requiring the State Department of Assessments and Taxation to notify a person who files a charter document if the Department does not accept the document; requiring the Department to accept a corrected charter document under a certain circumstance; authorizing certain governing bodies of certain corporations to take certain actions without a meeting of the governing body subject to certain conditions; repealing the authority of certain persons to maintain a suit in a State court; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CA, §§ 1-201, 2-408, 3-301, 7-301, 7-302, 9A-103, and 10-302 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 632**     **Senators West and Hester**

## STATE GOVERNMENT – STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS – PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

Establishing the Office of State Elected Officials Information Privacy in the Department of Legislative Services; authorizing a certain protected individual or the Office to request that a governmental entity or person not publish personal information of the protected individual on the Internet, social media, or social networks or that the governmental entity or person remove the information from any existing publication; specifying certain procedures for the protection of personal information of a protected individual; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

RP, § 3-114 and SG, § 2-1206 - amended and SG, §§ 10-1801 through 10-1804 and 10-1901 through 10-1907 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

**SB 633**     **Senator Ready**

## CONDOMINIUMS – UNIT OWNER RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION

Providing that a certain unit owner is responsible for the full cost of repair, replacement, and under certain circumstances, restoration, of certain portions of a condominium if the cause of the damage or destruction to the portion originates from the owner's unit.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

RP, § 11-114(g) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 634**     **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)**

## OFFICE OF THE STATE PROSECUTOR – INVESTIGATION OF THREATS – JUDGES

Authorizing the Office of the State Prosecutor to investigate a threat made against a judge or judge-elect.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP § 14-107 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 635**     **Senator Waldstreicher****RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY – NOTICE OF LANDLORD ENTRY – TENANT CONSENT**

Authorizing a landlord to enter a leased premises without providing certain written notice on written request of a tenant to complete a repair or perform maintenance within 7 days after the tenant's request or if a repair is in progress and is being completed in a timely manner.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

RP, § 8-221(b) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 636**     **Senator M. Washington (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)****BALTIMORE CITY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES – REVISIONS**

Repealing the deadline by which a certain fee must be paid by the holder of a Class A beer and light wine license or a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license to exercise certain Sunday sales privileges; and altering the deadline by which a license holder must present to the Board certain proof that all of the license holder's personal property taxes due to Baltimore City and the State have been paid.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ABC, §§ 12-2003(a), 12-2004(a), and 12-2103 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 637**     **Senator Jackson****MARYLAND AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FUND – FUND PRODUCER MINIMUM COMMISSION RATE – REPEAL**

Repealing the minimum commission rate of 10% of the total premium that the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund is required to pay to a fund producer of a policyholder to whom a policy is issued for private passenger auto insurance.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

IN, § 20-512 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

**SB 638**     **Senator Corderman, et al****NATURAL RESOURCES – MARYLAND HERITAGE AREAS  
AUTHORITY – FUNDING AND GRANTS**

Authorizing the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority to award grants and loans to certain entities for the management of certified heritage areas under certain circumstances; decreasing from 10% to 7% the percentage of Program Open Space funds transferred to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Financing Fund that may be used for certain operating expenses; repealing a provision of law authorizing the distribution of up to \$300,000 to the Maryland Historical Trust; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

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

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

**SB 639**     **Senators Corderman and Lewis Young****SPORTS WAGERING – WAGERS ON HISTORICAL HORSE RACES –  
AUTHORIZATION**

Altering the definition of “sporting event” for purposes of provisions of law governing sports wagering to include historical horse races; authorizing certain sports wagering facility licensees to accept wagers on historical horse races that are made by an individual physically present and subject to certain limitations; providing for the distribution of proceeds from sports wagering on historical horse races; submitting the Act to a referendum of the qualified voters of the State; etc.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

EC, § 5-1501(c)(1) and SG, §§ 9-1A-28(b)(1), 9-1E-01(i), 9-1E-09(a) and (b), and 9-1E-12 - amended and §§ 9-1E-09(f) and 9-1E-09.1 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

**SB 640**     **Senator Corderman, et al****CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – POSTCONVICTION RELEASE – CRIMES  
RESULTING IN DEATH OF YOUNG VICTIM**

Prohibiting the release of a defendant pending sentencing or exhaustion of appellate review after conviction of a specified crime resulting in the death of a victim under the age of 14 years.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

CP, § 5-301 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

**SB 641**     **Senator Corderman**

## STATE PROCUREMENT – EXCEPTIONS – HISTORIC PRESERVATION SERVICES

Establishing certain exceptions to State procurement requirements for certain contracts with nonprofit entities related to historic preservation, archaeology, and conservation service opportunities; and requiring certain contracts to include certain clauses.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2026

SF, § 11-203(a)(1)(xviii) and (xix) - amended and §§ 11-203(a)(1)(xx) and (b)(5) and 13-218(f) - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

**SB 642**     **Senator Ferguson**

## BALTIMORE CITY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – 46TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to authorize the transfer of a Class B–D–7 license from an area in the 40th alcoholic beverages district into the 46th alcoholic beverages district; authorizing a license holder in a certain area in the 46th alcoholic beverages district to keep and allow individuals to consume alcohol donated by a manufacturer or wholesaler under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

ABC, § 12-1604(k) - added

Assigned to: Finance