



SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2026 Maryland General Assembly Session

February 19, 2026
Schedule 22

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED *February 14, 2026*

SB 971 Senator Hayes

NATURAL RESOURCES – ESTABLISHMENT OF GWYNNS FALLS STATE PARK

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish Gwynns Falls State Park as a partnership park between the Department and Baltimore City; altering the authorized uses of a certain part of the Park System Capital Improvements and Acquisition Fund; prohibiting the Department from charging an entrance fee to the State Park; requiring the Governor to include in the budget bill for fiscal year 2028 \$2,888,354 for the establishment of the Park and an additional appropriation of \$280,000 for the hiring of a certain consultant; etc.

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

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2026

NR, § 5-221(l) and (n) - amended and § 5-1012(f-2) - added

Assigned to: Senate Rules

Department of Legislative Services

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SB 972 **Senator Hayes****BALTIMORE CITY – 40TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT – CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSES**

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to issue Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses for the odd side of the 1000 block of West Baltimore Street and the even side of the 800 block of North Charles Street in the 40th alcoholic beverages district, subject to certain limitations.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ABC, § 12-1603(c)(25) and (26) - amended and § 12-1603(c)(27) and (28) - added

Assigned to: Senate Rules

SB 973 **Senator Ready****INCOME TAX – CREDIT FOR LONG-TERM CARE PREMIUMS**

Altering a limitation on claiming the income tax credit for eligible long-term care insurance premiums for more than 1 year with respect to the same insured individual; altering the amount of the credit from a one-time \$500 credit to a maximum of \$250 for a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2026; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2026.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

TG, § 10-718 - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

SB 974 **Caroline County Senators****CAROLINE COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – INSPECTOR**

Specifying that the inspector for the Board of License Commissioners for Caroline County is the county codes administrator or an individual the Board appoints as inspector.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ABC, § 15-206 - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

SB 975 Senator CordermanDEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY –
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Renaming the Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs to be the Office of Small, Minority, Disability, and Women Business Affairs; renaming the Special Secretary of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs to be the Special Secretary of Small, Minority, Disability, and Women Business Affairs; expanding the duties of the Special Secretary to include matters concerning individuals with disabilities; altering the purpose of the Department of Social and Economic Mobility Special Fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

HU, § 7-703 - transferred and SF, §§ 14-106 and 14-108 and SG, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

SB 976 Senators Carozza and MautzWICOMICO COUNTY – ORPHANS’ COURT JUDGE – ANNUAL
SALARY

Increasing, from \$11,600 to \$16,000, the annual salary of a judge of the Orphans’ Court in Wicomico County.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ET, § 2-108(v)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Senate Rules

SB 977 Senator HarrisMARYLAND 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: Senate Rules

SB 978 **Senator A. Washington****COMMUNITY COLLEGES – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING –
DEFINITION OF SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEE**

Defining, for purposes of collective bargaining in community colleges, the term “supervisory employee” to mean an employee who is authorized to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline employees, direct employees for 50% of the employee’s working hours, and address employee complaints; and excluding from the definition a department head or an employee in a comparable position or any faculty member below the level of assistant dean.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

ED, § 16-701(q) - added

Assigned to: Senate Rules