Department of Legislative Services

General Assembly of Maryland

Dates of Interest

2026 SESSION

449th Session

JANUARY						
				1 H	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 H	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 H	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

January	**14**	**GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES** *(noon, Wednesday)*
	21	Final date for Governor to introduce budget bill
	21	Final date for the Governor to introduce the capital budget bill
	23	*10th Day* – **SENATE AND HOUSE BILL REQUEST GUARANTEE DATE**
	26	*13th Day* – Administration bills introduced in the Senate after this date referred to Senate Rules Committee
	28	*15th Day* **–** Final date for introduction of Governor's Salary Commission, General Assembly Compensation Commission, and Judicial Compensation Commission recommendations. Legislative action must be taken within 50 days after introduction of the joint resolutions of the Governor's Salary Commission and the Judicial Compensation Commission.
February	**9**	*27th Day* — **SENATE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE** Senate bills introduced after this date referred to the Senate Rules Committee Deadline for members to send LBI requests to DLS to guarantee preparation by 55th day.
	11	Governor delivers the State of the State Address (noon)
	12	Day before House Bill Introduction Date; "Hopper" will close at 5:00 P.M.
	13	*31st Day* — **HOUSE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE** House bills introduced after this date referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee Deadline for members to send LBI requests to DLS to guarantee preparation by the 55th day.
	22	*40th Day* — "Green Bag" appointments submitted by Governor *(Delivered on Friday, February 20)*
March	**9**	*55th Day* — Final date for introduction of bills and LBIs without suspension of Rules
	17	*63rd Day* — Committee Reporting Courtesy Date Each Chamber's committees to report their own bills by this date
	23	69*th Day* — Opposite Chamber Bill Crossover Date Each Chamber to send to other Chamber those bills it intends to pass favorably. Opposite Chamber bills received after this date subject to referral to Rules Committees (Senate Rule 32(c), House Courtesy Date)
April	**6**	*83rd Day* — Budget bill to be passed by both Chambers
	13	*90th Day* — **ADJOURNMENT "SINE DIE"** *(Monday)*
May	**13**	Final date for an extended session (Wednesday)

POST-SESSION

May	**3**	20th Day after adjournment — Final date for presentment of bills to Governor
June	**1**	Other than emergency bills and as otherwise provided, earliest date for bills to take effect
June	**2**	30th Day after presentment–Governor to sign/veto bills by this date
July	**1**	Budgetary, tax, and revenue bills to take effect
October	**1**	Usual effective date for bills

HOLIDAYS AND OTHER OBSERVANCES

January	**1**	New Year's Day*	**March**	**25**	Maryland Day
	19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*	**April**	**2**	Passover
February	**12**	Lincoln's Birthday		**3**	Good Friday
	16	President's Day*		**5**	Easter
	22	Washington's Birthday	**May**	**25**	Memorial Day*

**State Holiday*

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2026 Session Dates

Session dates are established by the Maryland Constitution, statute, rule, and custom as follows:

Convening

Article III, Section 14 of the Maryland Constitution requires the General Assembly to convene on the "second Wednesday of January."

Budget

Article III, Section 52(3) of the Maryland Constitution requires the Governor to submit the proposed budget for the next fiscal year to the General Assembly by the "third Wednesday in January."

Compensation Commission

Article II, Section 21A(d) of the Maryland Constitution requires the recommendations of the Governor's Salary Commission to be introduced as a "joint resolution" in each chamber of the General Assembly not later than the 15th day of the session. Within 50 days after its introduction, the General Assembly may amend the joint resolution to decrease the salaries, but may not amend the joint resolution to increase salaries.

Article III, Section 15(3) of the Maryland Constitution requires the recommendations of the General Assembly Compensation Commission to be introduced as a "formal resolution" within 15 days after the beginning of the session. The General Assembly may reduce or reject, but may not increase any item in the resolution.

Section 1-708(d)(1) of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article requires the recommendations of the Judicial Compensation Commission to be introduced as a "joint resolution" in each chamber of the General Assembly not later than the 15th day of the session. Within 50 days after its introduction, the General Assembly may amend the joint resolution to decrease the salaries, but may not amend the joint resolution to increase the salaries.

Green Bag Appointments

Article II, Section 13 of the Maryland Constitution requires the Governor to submit nominations of civil officers (Green Bag appointments) to the "Senate within forty days" from the beginning of each regular session.

Introduction of Legislation

The introduction of legislation is governed by Constitutional provision, rule, and custom. Article III, Section 27 of the Maryland Constitution prohibits the introduction of legislation "during the last thirty-five calendar days" of a regular session, unless permitted by two-thirds vote of the members. This allows 55 days for the normal introduction of bills.

Senate Rule 32(b) and (d)(1) and House Rule 32(b) materially alter the 55/35 day situation. Senate Rule 32(b) requires Senate bills and joint resolutions introduced "after the twenty-seventh calendar day" of the session to be referred to the Senate Rules Committee. Senate Rule 32(d)(1) provides that Senate bills and joint resolutions introduced after the "13th calendar day" of session on behalf of the Administration, i.e., the Governor, be referred to the Senate Rules Committee. House Rule 32(b) requires that all House bills and joint resolutions introduced "during the last fifty-nine calendar days" of the session (after the thirty-first day) be referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee. The Senate Rules and House Rules contain further provisions concerning the requirements for forcing legislation out of these committees.

Adoption of Budget Bill

Article III, Section 52(10) of the Maryland Constitution specifies that, if the budget bill has not been acted upon by the legislature at least "seven days before the expiration" of a regular session, the Governor is required to issue a proclamation extending the session for whatever period in the Governor's judgment is necessary for the passage of the bill. Section 52(10) further stipulates that no matter other than the budget bill is to be considered during the extended session, except a provision for the cost of the extended session.

Reorganization of Executive Branch

Article II, Section 24 of the Maryland Constitution permits the Governor to reorganize the Executive Branch of the State Government through Executive Orders submitted to the General Assembly "within the first ten days" of a regular session. The Executive Orders become effective on the date designated in the Orders, unless the majority of all members of either Chamber specifically concurs in a resolution of disapproval "within fifty days" after the Orders are submitted.

Limitation on Length of Session

Article III, Section 15(1) of the Maryland Constitution permits the General Assembly to continue its session for a period "not longer than ninety days" each year. The General Assembly or the Governor may extend the session for up to thirty days.

Presentment and Signing of Bills

Article III, Section 30 of the Maryland Constitution requires all bills passed during a regular or special session to be presented to the Governor for approval "no later than 20 days after adjournment." The Governor is required to sign a bill within a maximum of "30 days after presentment" if the Governor approves it.

Effective Date of Bills

Article III, Section 31 of the Maryland Constitution requires, unless otherwise provided, that laws passed by the General Assembly take effect on June 1 after the session during which the laws passed. June 1 is the effective date for bond bills, and July 1 is the effective date for budgetary, tax, and revenue bills. By custom, October 1 is the usual effective date for legislation.

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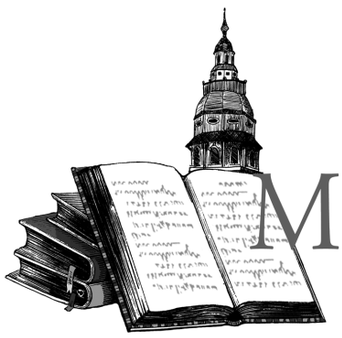

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