

**HB 640 GOCPP - Support (Senate).pdf**

Uploaded by: Ainsley Moench

Position: FAV

WES MOORE  
*Governor*

ARUNA MILLER  
*Lieutenant Governor*



DOROTHY LENNIG  
*Executive Director*

## **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 640**

March 26, 2026

### **AINSLEY MOENCH, GOCPP POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE MANAGER**

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) advises the Governor on criminal justice strategies, coordinates across public safety agencies, and allocates resources statewide to support public safety. As part of its duties, GOCPP staffs various workgroups, councils, boards, task forces, and commissions.

House Bill 640 repeals as obsolete Section 8-1301 through 9-1310 of the Human Services Article, which established the Commission on Trauma-Informed Care staffed by GOCPP. The Commission was created in 2021 to "coordinate a statewide initiative to prioritize the trauma-responsive and trauma-informed delivery of State services that affect children, youth, families, and older adults." The Commission submitted its final [Annual Report](#) and [Findings and Recommendations on the Development and Implementation of an ACES Aware Program](#) to the Governor, General Assembly, and Department of Legislative Services in 2023. The final Commission meeting was held in 2024.

**GOCPP urges a favorable report on HB 640.**

# **HB640 - FAV - Written Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Gloria Brown-Burnett

Position: FAV



**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

*Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Gloria Brown Burnett, Interim Secretary*

March 26, 2026

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: TESTIMONY ON HB 640 - Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions -  
Revisions - POSITION: FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Feldman and Members of the Education, Energy, and Environment Committee:

The Maryland Department of Human Services (DHS) thanks the Committee for its consideration and respectfully submits the favorable testimony for House Bill (HB) 640.

With offices in every one of Maryland's jurisdictions, DHS provides preventative and supportive services, economic assistance, and meaningful connections to employment development and career opportunities to assist Marylanders in reaching their full potential. DHS houses the Alternative Response Advisory Council, the Two-Generation Family Economic Security Commission, the Commission on Trauma-Informed Care, and the Maryland Commission on Caregiving referenced in HB 640. DHS is also responsible for reporting requirements on public prekindergarten notification outlined in Education Article § 7-1A-02.

HB 640 would modernize multiple DHS-related state boards and commissions and update our reporting responsibilities to better align with the timing of data availability through our sister agency, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). DHS is aware that our sister-agencies - the Maryland Department of Health and the Department of Budget and Management - have amendments to HB 640 and DHS supports this legislation as amended.

The Alternative Response Advisory Council is inactive and repealing it from state statute would have no impact on DHS or our associated local department of social services (LDSS). Alternative Response is one method of low-risk child protective services investigations, and was fully implemented [over a decade ago](#) in 2014,

25 S. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-3500  
Tel: 1-800-332-6347 | TTY: 1-800-735-2258 | [www.dhs.maryland.gov](http://www.dhs.maryland.gov)

negating the need for an ongoing advisory council. The Two-Generation Family Economic Security Commission and Commission on Trauma-Informed Care are also inactive and have fulfilled their statutory goals, as outlined in a [recent report](#).

The independent Maryland Commission on Caregiving is active. The change proposed in HB 640 would amend their statutory membership to eliminate a defunct organization while retaining the same number of seats on the body. The spirit of these commissions will persist after the statutory sunset envisioned in HB 640. DHS infused a two-generation lens and a trauma-informed approach throughout our programs and service delivery. Our two-generation approach enables us to meet families where they are and acknowledge prior traumas they may bring to engagement with DHS or other government entities.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer favorable testimony to the Committee for consideration during your deliberations. If you require additional information, please contact Justin Hayes, Acting Director of Government Affairs, at [justin.hayes1@maryland.gov](mailto:justin.hayes1@maryland.gov).

In service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gloria Brown Burnett". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Gloria Brown Burnett  
Interim Secretary

**X\_HB0640\_DHCD\_SUPPORT.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jake Day

Position: FAV



WES MOORE  
Governor  
ARUNA MILLER  
Lt. Governor  
JACOB R. DAY  
Secretary  
JULIA GLANZ  
Deputy Secretary

**DATE:** March 26, 2026  
**BILL NO.:** House Bill 640  
**TITLE:** Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions  
**COMMITTEE:** Senate Education, Energy, & the Environment Committee

### Letter of Support

#### **Description of Bill:**

House Bill 640 would make numerous changes to State reporting requirements and interagency councils and workgroups. Of note to DHCD are the alterations to the Interagency Council on Homelessness. This legislation would make DHCD's Secretary the Chair of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, and it would also allow the council to both provide compensation and reimburse expenses for members of the council who are "currently experiencing homelessness or [have] lived experience of homelessness".

#### **Background and Analysis:**

In shifting the role of chair for the Interagency Council on Homelessness to the Secretary of DHCD, the State would be reflecting that the Division of Homeless Solutions is overseen by the DHCD Secretary, and that the Division spearheads many of the policy initiatives related to homelessness around the State. Allowing the DHCD Secretary to chair the interagency council would also allow him, and the agency, to better respond to policy recommendations from the council.

Currently, members with the lived experience of homelessness, or who are currently homeless, cannot be compensated for their work on the Council. Other members of the council are indirectly compensated for their time by their employer through their salaries. However, those with lived experience commonly have lower paying employment and it can pose a hardship to them to participate on the council. Their voices are necessary in this conversation, and any impediment to their participation should be mitigated. No new funding is necessary to reimburse them for incidentals like ride fees or travel meals, as it can all be covered using existing resources within the Division of Homeless Solutions.

#### **DHCD Position**

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development respectfully requests a **favorable** report on House Bill 640.



**HB0640\_DNR\_SUP\_EEE-3-26-26.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lydia McPherson

Position: FAV



Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor  
Josh Kurtz, Secretary  
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

March 26, 2026

**BILL NUMBER: HOUSE BILL 640 - THIRD READER**

**SHORT TITLE: MANDATED REPORTS, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS - REVISIONS**

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: LETTER OF SUPPORT**

### **EXPLANATION OF DEPARTMENT'S POSITION**

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The Department supports efforts to streamline and modernize statutes in order to improve the Department's efficiency and effectiveness. This omnibus legislation includes provisions that would:

1. Update the membership of the Hart-Miller-Pleasure Island Citizens Oversight Committee to ensure adequate citizen input on the future of the Island;
2. Eliminate an unnecessary requirement for the compilation and publication of a list of Park maintenance projects over a certain dollar amount; and
3. Eliminate a reporting requirement related to the invasive Nutria (*Myocastor coypu*), which was successfully extirpated from the State in 2015.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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The Hart-Miller-Pleasure Island Citizens Oversight Committee was created in the early 1980s to provide input from stakeholders to State agencies regarding the management of dredged material placement at Hart-Miller Island. The Committee continues to advise the State government on future disposition of the island and on transition plans for the return of the island's day-to-day management from the Maryland Port Administration to the Department of Natural Resources.

Provisions regarding the Park maintenance project report were added to statute by the Great Maryland Outdoors Act in order to ensure the Department was comprehensively tracking maintenance needs. Internal reforms in the Department since its passage have rendered such a report obsolete.

Nutria is a species of rodent that was introduced to Maryland in the early 20th century and which became an invasive pest, damaging wetland ecosystems across the State. DNR coordinated efforts to eradicate the pest, and the species was successfully extirpated from the State more than a decade ago.

### **BILL EXPLANATION**

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This ominous legislation eliminates a number of antiquated provisions of State law.

Contact: Lydia McPherson, Director, Legislative and Constituent Services  
[lydia.mcpherson1@maryland.gov](mailto:lydia.mcpherson1@maryland.gov) ♦ 410-260-8113 (office) ♦ 443-875-7785 (cell)

**HB 0640 - State Board & MSDE - 3.24.26.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Stefan Redding-Lallinger

Position: FAV

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**TO:** Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

**BILL:** House Bill (HB) 640 - Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions

**DATE:** March 24, 2026

**POSITION:** Letter of Support

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The Maryland State Board of Education (State Board) and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) are providing testimony in support of **HB 640**, which modernizes and streamlines the State’s statutory requirements for specific reports, advisory boards, and commissions.

**HB 640** restructures outdated, duplicative, and obsolete reporting requirements and modernizes membership structures for certain commissions that no longer reflect a clear or relevant purpose for all members. For example, the bill preserves and strengthens structures that effectively support good governance and accountability by replacing an outdated specialized intervention report with one aligned with the newly adopted statewide [Comprehensive PreK-3 Literacy Policy](#). These revisions reduce administrative burden while maintaining essential oversight and strategic planning functions.

Importantly, **HB 640** enhances clarity in State law and allows the State Board, MSDE, and our community partners to better focus resources on activities that benefit Maryland residents. By aligning statutory requirements with current needs and eliminating antiquated provisions, this bill supports a more responsive and effective government.

The State Board and the Department respectfully urge the Committee to give **HB 640** a favorable report. For further information, please contact Laurel Cratsley, Interim Executive Director of Government Affairs, at [laurel.cratsley@maryland.gov](mailto:laurel.cratsley@maryland.gov)

# **DBM FWA HB640 Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commis**

Uploaded by: Dana Phillips

Position: FWA

WES MOORE  
*Governor*

ARUNA MILLER  
*Lieutenant Governor*



YAAKOV "JAKE" WEISSMANN  
*Acting Secretary*

MARC L. NICOLE  
*Deputy Secretary*

**TITLE: HB 640 Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions**

**DATE: March 26th 2026**

**COMMITTEE: Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee**

**POSITION: Favorable with Amendments**

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** This legislation modifies certain reporting requirements, boards, and commissions for practicability and efficiency.

**EXPLANATION:** Streamlining government operations is a hallmark of the Moore Miller administration. Last year, the Governor issued an Executive Order launching the Government Modernization Initiative (GMI), a partnership between the Governor's Office of Performance Improvement and DBM. The Government Modernization team has worked across state agencies to achieve \$29 million dollars in savings and efficiencies since January 2025, with a goal of \$50 million in 2026.

In addition to that cost savings work, the Government Modernization Team jumpstarted an ongoing effort to identify outdated boards, commissions, and reporting requirements. As a result, House Bill 640 proposes repealing or modifying 20 boards and commissions and 18 mandated reporting requirements.

The identification process spanned two years and involved extensive agency engagement. Beginning in May of 2024, the Office of Legal Counsel and the Governor's Legislative Office asked Cabinet Secretaries to compile lists of the councils, task forces, committees, boards, commissions, and similar advisory entities supported by their respective agencies. They were asked for information to determine staff time, efficiency, and utility of each effort.

The recommended legislative changes, which appear in HB 640, primarily reflect modifications or repeal to address duplication, updated due dates, membership modifications and other streamlining measures. Recommendations are also summarized on the attached charts.

Since the introduction of the bill, the Government Modernization has identified two additional reporting requirement recommendations (identified in the attached charts) and one technical amendment (attached).

The Department respectfully asks for a favorable report with amendments on HB 640.

Proposed Amendments:

HG 24-1708	Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Council	<b>Amend frequency of report.</b> Require report every three years, rather than every year.
TG 10-738, 10-739, 10-752	Tax Credit for Preceptors Programs - Physicians (Medical School) Student Preceptors, Nurse Practitioner Student Preceptors, Registered Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse, and Physician Assistant Student Preceptors	<b>Amend due date.</b>
On page 25, line 11	Maryland Cannabis Administration	Amend agency reference. Substitute "Department of Social and Economic Mobility" to reflect transfer of the Office of Social Equity per Chapter 605, Acts of 2025, effective October 1, 2025.

**AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 640**  
**(Third Reading File Bill)**

**AMENDMENT NO. 1**

On page 25, in line 11, strike “Maryland Cannabis Administration” and substitute “**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY**”.

*Rationale:* To align with Chapter 605 of the Acts of 2025 (HB 1253 – Department of Social and Economic Mobility – Established), which, effective October 1, 2025, transferred the Office of Social Equity from the Maryland Cannabis Administration to the newly established Department of Social and Economic Mobility.

**AMENDMENT NO. 2**

On Page 26, Line 1, Before “19–101.” Insert:

**ARTICLE - HEALTH - GENERAL, §24–1708 (G)**  
**ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 ~~EACH YEAR,~~ EVERY THREE YEARS.**

*Rationale:* The Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Advisory Council for Physicians and Physician Assistants, which is staffed by the Department, and the Primary Care Office within the Office of Population Health Improvement (OPHI) holds a seat at the Advisory Council, has recommended in the last 2 annual reports to move annual reporting requirement from every year to every 3 years. This amendment would provide sufficient time to enable the Council to fulfill its mandates and produce robust reports from its work.

**AMENDMENT NO. 3**

On Page 30, Line 27, Before “Article – Housing and Community Development.”  
Insert:

**ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–738 (D)(2)**  
**ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.**

**ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–739 (E)(2)**  
**ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.**

**ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–739.1 (E)(2)**  
**ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.**

**ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–752 (E)(2)**  
**ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.**

*Rationale:* For effective and efficient administration and management of the Tax Credit for Preceptors Programs, the Department has previously sought to amend the annual reports of the General Assembly’s due date from January 31 to March 1. It is difficult to meet the General Assembly’s current reporting due date of January 31 due to the Tax Credit application cycle.

House Bill 640  
Recommendations Regarding Boards and Commissions  
Revised 2/20/2026

Citation	Board/Commission	Topic
AG 10-1503	Renewable Fuels Incentive Board	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Board has been inactive since 2017.
CP 10-207 through 10-210	Criminal Justice information Advisory Board	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Board has fulfilled statutory objective.
CS 3-525	Maryland Correctional Enterprises Customer Council	<b>Amend to remove the Department of Commerce.</b> Council is outside of Commerce's area of expertise.
EC 3-203	Maryland Life Sciences Advisory Board	<b>Amend to require staggered terms.</b>
EC 3-408 through 3-410	Partnership for Workforce Quality Advisory Board	<b>Repeal as unnecessary.</b> Board is inactive and unnecessary for ongoing program administration.
EC 5-2603	Maryland Aerospace and Technology Commission	<b>Amend to revise membership.</b> Remove nonparticipating members and add representatives from Maryland's commercial aerospace sector.
EN 2-1303.1	Maryland Commission on Climate Change - Just Transition Employment and Retraining Working Group	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Working Group is paused indefinitely.
EN 2-1303.2	Energy Industry Revitalization Working Group	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Working Group has fulfilled statutory objective.
EN 2-1303.3	Maryland Commission on Climate Change - Energy Resilience and Efficiency Working Group	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Working Group is paused indefinitely.
EN 2-1303.4	Maryland Commission on Climate Change - Solar Photovoltaic Systems Recovery, Reuse, and Recycling Working Group	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Working Group is paused indefinitely.
FL 5-706(l)	Advisory Council for Alternative Response	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Alternative Response has been fully implemented since July 2014.

HCD 4-2104 and 4-2105	Interagency Council on Homelessness	<b>Amend to specify the chair and allow reimbursement under certain circumstances.</b>
HG 13-4502	Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council	<b>Amend to remove the Maryland Department of Agriculture.</b> Council is outside of MDA's area of expertise.
HG 19-1409	Oversight Committee on the Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities	<b>Amend to reduce the number of Maryland Department of Health representatives.</b> MDH will have sufficient representation from two, rather than three, representatives.
HS 2-601	Two-Generation Family Economic Security Commission	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> The Commission has achieved its statutory objective.
HS 7-301	Commission on Caregiving	<b>Amend to revise the membership.</b> Remove a defunct organization and replace with an additional stakeholder seat.
HS 8-1302	Commission on Trauma-Informed Care	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> The Board has achieved its statutory objective.
SFP 14-410	Maryland Green Purchasing Committee	<b>Amend to remove the Department of Commerce.</b> Council is outside of Commerce's area of expertise.
SG 9-3203	Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board	<b>Amend to remove the Maryland Department of Health.</b> MDH can be requested to participate as needed without being a standing member.
TR 2-606	Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee	<b>Amend to remove the Maryland State Department of Education.</b> Committee is outside MSDE's area of expertise.

House Bill 640  
Recommendations Regarding Mandated Reports  
Revised 2/20/2026

Citation	Report	Topic
EC 5-2606	Maryland Aerospace and Technology Commission	<b>Amend report requirements.</b> Incorporate strategic plan.
ED 5-111.1	Specialized Intervention Services	<b>Repeal as duplicative.</b> Information is compiled through a separate process.
ED 7-506	Youth Suicide Prevention School Program	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Program has been replaced with other suicide prevention services and is no longer active.
ED 7-1A-02	Child Care Report	<b>Amend due date.</b> Align due date with data availability.
EL 3-204	Annual Report on Voter Registration Efforts In American Job Centers	<b>Repeal as unnecessary.</b> Program has been implemented for several years and there are no new substantive changes or updates.
EN 4-708	Oil Contaminated Site Environmental Cleanup Fund Annual Report	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Program has closed.
HG 7.5-802	Maryland Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Registry and Referral System Annual Report	<b>Repeal as duplicative.</b> Information is reported in annual 2-1-1 Maryland reports.
HG 13-706	Auto-Injectable Epinephrine Administration at Youth Camps	<b>Repeal as duplicative.</b> Information already required to be reported under HG 13-7A-03(a).
HG 18-204	Cancer Registry Activities and Data Utilization	<b>Repeal as unnecessary.</b> Internal process and function with limited utility for policy or decision making.
HG 18-1002	Hepatitis C Virus Prevention Activities	<b>Repeal as unnecessary.</b> Information is made publicly available on the Department of Health webpage.
HG 19-134, 20-1004, 20-1006, and	Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Annual Report	<b>Consolidate requirements.</b> Combine financial and report card requirements into the annual report.

20-1007		
HG 21-330.1	Cottage Food Businesses	<b>Repeal as unnecessary.</b> Limited utility for policy or decision making.
NR 5-210.1	DNR Maintenance Projects	<b>Repeal as unnecessary.</b>
NR 10-202.1	Nutria Management Plan Implementation	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> Eradication is complete.
SG 2-10A-15	Interagency Council on Homelessness Report	<b>Amend due date.</b>
Ch. 2(13), 2007 Special Session	Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI) Adjustment	<b>Repeal as obsolete.</b> GCEI was repealed.

# **HB640 2026 testimony - amend.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jon Morrison

Position: FWA

March 24, 2026

Senator Brian Feldman, Chair, Education, Energy and the Environment (EEE) Committee  
Senator Cheryl Kagan, Vice Chair, Education, Energy and the Environment Committee  
Members of the Committee

In regard to 2026 House Bill 640 - Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions

**Please amend to remove the exclusion of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) from the Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MBPAC).**

**Restated: Require MSDE to remain part of MBPAC by removing the edits to Transportation 2-606 from this bill.**

I am the current Chair of the Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MBPAC). House Bill 640 proposes to remove the Maryland State Department of Education (MDSE) as a legislatively mandated member of the Committee charged with advising the Administration on issues directly related to bicycling and pedestrian activity including funding, public awareness, safety and education. As outlined in Transportation 2-606 MBPAC is charged with providing guidance to State Agencies and public education is specifically mentioned in 2 of the 4 stated objectives of the Committee.

No discussion, no communication

The Administration did not provide any communication to the Committee prior to introducing this bill. The Administration did not solicit nor discuss removing MDSE from the Committee with the Chair or any other citizen member, nor any member of the General Assembly. The General Assembly set the required membership of MBPAC in 1991 and has not removed any agency or department from the required membership. In fact, the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission was added to the Committee more recently. I only became aware of this bill after it had already crossed-over to the Senate. There are no keywords on this bill for Bicycle or Pedestrian. The proposed language regarding MBPAC is buried on page 37 of a 39-page bill.

Safe Routes to School, Walk to School Day, Pedestrian Awareness

MSDE plays a significant role in Safe Routes to School – an initiative focused on safe pedestrian and bicycle access for elementary and secondary school children.

There is another bill (HB486/SB526 - Public Schools - Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day – Establishment) that is coming before EEE. That bill (from the bill synopsis requires “designating the second Wednesday in October each year as Maryland School Pedestrian Awareness Day to promote safe pedestrian routes to and from school; and requiring the State Department of Education to provide resources for a program of education for Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day and to plan Maryland School Pedestrian Awareness Day.” This demonstrates that MSDE is viewed as a key participant in pedestrian related matters.

MDSE’s own Facebook post from the current school year calls out Pedestrian Safety as Back to School Tip #3!

Recent MSDE committee activity

MSDE representation in MBPAC provides a key perspective and provides a direct channel for communicating such matters with the Department. In 2025 MBPAC, at the Administration's request, issued a recommendation in support of the Department of Education's revised Physical Education Standards and Framework. This was brought to the Committee for discussion by the MSDE representative.

For all these reasons I request that edits to Transportation 2-606 be removed from HB 640.

Sincerely,

Jonathan B. Morrison  
Brookeville, MD

[Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee - MDOT](https://www.mdot.maryland.gov/tso/pages/index.aspx?PageId=140) -

<https://www.mdot.maryland.gov/tso/pages/index.aspx?PageId=140>

[Legislation - HB0640](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/hb0640/?ys=2026rs#) -

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/hb0640/?ys=2026rs#>

[Legislation - HB0486](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/hb0486?ys=2026RS) -

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/hb0486?ys=2026RS>

[#MDBacktoSchool... - Maryland State Department of Education | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/MdPublicSchools/posts/mdbacktoschool-tip-3-pedestrian-safety-now-is-the-time-to-review-bus-schedules-w/1188611859966968) -

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**FWA\_MDH**

Uploaded by: Madalyn Farrar

Position: FWA



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

March 26, 2026

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman  
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

### **RE: House Bill 640 – Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions – Letter of Support With Amendments**

Dear Chair Feldman and Committee members:

The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments for House Bill (HB) 640 – Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions. HB 640 streamlines selected boards and commissions, as well as reporting requirements. HB 640 would reduce duplicative efforts and enhance efficiency in program administration.

The Department supports these clarifications and streamlining efforts, and submits attached amendments to HB 640 to modify report frequency for the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Advisory Council for Physicians and Physician Assistants, modify the reporting due date for the Income Tax - Credits for Preceptors in Areas With Health Care Workforce Shortages reports and align the bill with Chapter 605 of the Acts of 2025 (HB 1253), which transfers the Office of Social Equity from the Maryland Cannabis Administration to the newly established Department of Social and Economic Mobility, effective October 1, 2025.

The Department submits amendments to Article - Health - General, §24-1708 (g) to change the frequency of the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Advisory Council for Physicians and Physician Assistants report from an annual to every three (3) years, to give the Advisory Council ample time to produce a timely report with robust recommendations. Additionally, amendments are submitted to Articles - Tax-General §10-738 (d)(2), §10-739 (e)(2), §10-739.1 (e)(2), and §10-752 (e)(2) to extend the required reports on or before January 31 of each taxable year, to the General Assembly on the utilization of the credit for each Income Tax Credit for Preceptors program to March 1, to align with the closure of the tax year and application cycle.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Meghan Lynch, Director of Governmental Affairs at [meghan.lynch@maryland.gov](mailto:meghan.lynch@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D.  
Secretary of Health

**AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 640**  
**(Third Reading File Bill)**

**AMENDMENT NO. 1**

On page 25, in line 11, strike “Maryland Cannabis Administration” and substitute “**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY**”.

*Rationale:* To align with Chapter 605 of the Acts of 2025 (HB 1253 – Department of Social and Economic Mobility – Established), which, effective October 1, 2025, transferred the Office of Social Equity from the Maryland Cannabis Administration to the newly established Department of Social and Economic Mobility.

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*Rationale:* The Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Advisory Council for Physicians and Physician Assistants, which is staffed by the Department, and the Primary Care Office within the Office of Population Health Improvement (OPHI) holds a seat at the Advisory Council, has recommended in the last 2 annual reports to move annual reporting requirement from every year to every 3 years. This amendment would provide sufficient time to enable the Council to fulfill its mandates and produce robust reports from its work.

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**ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–739 (E)(2)**  
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**ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–739.1 (E)(2)**  
**ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.**

**ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–752 (E)(2)**  
**ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.**

*Rationale:* For effective and efficient administration and management of the Tax Credit for Preceptors Programs, the Department has previously sought to amend the annual reports of the General Assembly’s due date from January 31 to March 1. It is difficult to meet the General Assembly’s current reporting due date of January 31 due to the Tax Credit application cycle.