



THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1991

JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE, EXECUTIVE, AND LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

Memorandum

To: Members of the AELR Committee
Standing Committee Chairs

From: Georgeanne Carter, AELR Committee Counsel
Kathleen P. Kennedy, AELR Committee Counsel
Kelvin V. Lucas, AELR Committee Counsel

Date: September 25, 2026

Re: **Synopses of Regulations received from 9/11/2026 through 9/24/2026**

Enclosed please find synopses of regulations received by the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR) during the weeks noted above.

The Office of Policy Analysis prepares analyses of the regulations to determine if there are any problem areas, to ensure that the regulations comply with statutory authority and legislative intent, and to assess the fiscal impact of the regulations. If any regulation is of particular interest to you, please feel free to contact us at 410-946-5350 and we will supply you with a copy of the regulation along with the legal and fiscal analysis.

GC/KPK/KVL/bal

cc: Sally Robb
Michelle Firmin
Erin Hopwood

Agriculture, Department of

Proposed Regulations

DLS Control No. 26-175

Department of Agriculture: Pesticide Use Control:

Use and Sale of Pesticides, Certification of Pesticide Applicators and Pest Control

Consultants, and Licensing of Pesticide Businesses:

COMAR 15.05.01.02, .04, .07 – .09, and .12 – .14

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to (1) effectuate legislation: (a) establishing requirements for commercial application of general and restricted use pesticides, and the private application of restricted use pesticides; and (b) requiring certified private applicators to ensure that persons working under their supervision meet certain requirements; and (2) implement certain certification and training requirements pursuant to a State Certification Plan approved by EPA. The requirements include establishing: (a) knowledge and competency standards that a pest control applicator, pest control consultant, and a public agency applicator must demonstrate to be certified in certain categories of pest control; (b) examination standards for persons seeking certifications in pest control categories, and (c) standards for recertification. See 40 CFR Part 171.303 (providing that a State may certify applicators of restricted use pesticides only in accordance with a State certification plan approved by EPA that meets certain requirements).

Environment, Department of the

Proposed Regulations

DLS Control No. 26-177

Department of the Environment:

Regulation of Water Supply, Sewage Disposal, and Solid Waste:

Quality of Drinking Water in Maryland:

COMAR 26.04.01.01, .01-1, .06-2, , .07, .07-1, .19, .20, .20-1, .20-2, .21, and .37

Water Pollution:

Certification of State Water Quality Laboratories: COMAR 26.08.05.02

According to the department, these proposed regulations include four new federal rules or amendments that Maryland, and every state, must adopt for primacy.

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act's existing Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), community water systems and non-transient non-community water systems are required to collect water samples for lead, copper and corrosivity, provide lead public education and notification, treat source water, replace water system-owned lead service lines, and control corrosivity. In January 2021 and October 2024, the EPA revised federal regulations, known as the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) and Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI), respectively, to further minimize lead Action levels at the tap, require water systems to conduct an inventory of their

service lines, identify and replace service lines containing lead, and to monitor for lead in drinking water at schools and child care facilities. These proposed revisions to COMAR will ensure that Maryland's LCR regulations are the same as EPA's.

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, community water systems are currently required to publish an annual report on water quality, known as the Consumer Confidence Report, or CCR. In May 2024, EPA revised federal regulations for CCRs to improve the readability, clarity, understandability, accuracy, and risk communication. These proposed revisions to COMAR will ensure that Maryland's CCR regulations are the same as EPA's.

This regulation also establishes state drinking water standards for PFAS for community and non-transient non-community water systems, which are identical to federal regulations. Consistent with State law, MDE proposes to adopt regulations based on the 2024 federal rule to ensure the State has primary enforcement responsibility (primacy). If the federal PFAS drinking water rule is amended, it is MDE's intent to adopt the updated rule consistent with State law.

This regulation also improves consistency with Code of Federal Regulations, specifically for definitions, incorporation by reference, and record maintenance.

Transportation, Department of

Proposed Regulations

DLS Control No. 26-110

Department of Transportation: Transportation Service Human Resources System:

Leave Benefits: COMAR 11.02.03.11 and .19

According to the department, these emergency regulations establish new paid family and medical leave benefits for employees within the Department of Transportation, generally mirroring the benefits available under the Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) Program. The regulations remove outdated provisions related to parental leave and establish conditions and procedures for requesting and approving benefits.

Proposed Regulation

DLS Control No. 26-181

Department of Transportation:

Motor Vehicle Administration — Administrative Procedures:

Motor Vehicle Fees: COMAR 11.11.05.04

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to reduce the fee for the issuance of a nonresident permit for a member of the uniformed services and is serving on active duty in this State or an adjoining state or the District of Columbia.

Children, Office for

Proposed Regulations

DLS Control No. 26-180

Independent Agencies: Office for Children:

Maryland After-School and Summer Opportunity Fund Program:

COMAR 14.31.10.01 – .11

Facilities for Children's Competency Attainment: COMAR 14.31.11.01 – .11

According to the office, the purpose of this action is to establish regulations—in accordance with Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article, §3–8A–17.12, Annotated Code of Maryland—which create a regulatory scheme for the provision of child competency attainment services through the Facility for Children's Competency Attainment Program (FFC).

Maryland Department of Health

Proposed Regulation

DLS Control No. 26-178

Maryland Department of Health: Laboratories:

Medical Laboratories - Testing for Hereditary and Congenital Disorders in

Newborn Infants: COMAR 10.10.13.15

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to reduce the mandatory retention period for blood-spot specimens from twenty-five (25) years to one (1) year for blood specimens that have not been confirmed with a disorder listed in COMAR 10.10.13.12. This change aligns with industry understanding as the integrity of the specimen is questionable for many biochemical analytes after one (1) year even with refrigerated storage. Fewer years of retention for blood-spot specimens will result in less need for secure space, refrigeration, inventory management and staff time to maintain and track specimens without jeopardizing the effectiveness of the Newborn Screening program. Shorter retention will also reduce the number of specimens subject to decades of retention and Division resources can be reallocated from long-term specimen housing to screening, follow-up and lab quality functions.

Labor, Maryland Department of

Proposed Regulations

DLS Control No. 26-182

Maryland Department of Labor: Commissioner of Financial Regulation:

Money Transmitters: COMAR 09.03.14.01, .16, and .17

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to exclude payroll processors from the definition of money transmitter under certain circumstances pursuant to Ch. 20 (H.B. 0118), Acts of 2026.

This action establishes the reporting procedure by adding: (1) definitions for certain undefined terms for what a “Qualified Payroll Services Provider” is, and (2) an exclusion for a “Qualified Payroll Services Provider” from money transmission.

Insurance Administration, Maryland

Proposed Regulations

DLS Control No. 26-173

Maryland Insurance Administration: Health Insurance - General:

Minimum Loss Ratio with Respect to Specified Disease Policies:

COMAR 31.10.14.02 and .05 – .07

According to the administration, the purpose of this action is to the statutory changes under Senate Bill 813 from the 2026 Legislative Session. These regulations clarify that "carrier" includes dental plan organizations and adds references to "dentist" to the existing assignment of benefits regulations.

Proposed Regulations

DLS Control No. 26-179

Maryland Insurance Administration: Health Insurance - General:

Coordination of Benefits: COMAR 31.10.53.01 – .11

According to the administration, the purpose of this action is to adopt the NAIC Coordination of Benefits Model Regulation, which a majority of other states have already done. In Maryland, coordination of benefits provisions in health insurance contracts filed with the MIA for approval have historically been reviewed for consistency with the NAIC Model, but the Model has not been formally adopted to date. Adopting the NAIC standards in Maryland regulations will promote greater uniformity in how carriers process claims when an individual is covered by more than one plan, and will facilitate MIA enforcement of those standards. Any differences between the proposed regulations and the NAIC Model are solely intended to ensure that the language conforms to the Division of State Documents style manual and that the regulations comply with existing Maryland-specific laws related to coordination of benefits.