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: October 13, 2026

Re: **Synopses of Regulations received from 9/25/2026 through 10/12/2026**

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

Critical Area Commission for the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-187
Critical Area Commission for the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays:
Criteria For Local Critical Area Program Development:
Variances: COMAR 27.01.12.02, .04, and .07

According to the commission, the purpose of this action is to amend Regulations .02, .04, and .07 under COMAR 27.01.12 Variances to incorporate updates to the Natural Resources Article, §8-1808 as a result of House Bill 247 during the 2026 Maryland General Assembly Legislative session. The updates to the regulations are verbatim from the statute.

Assessments and Taxation, Department of

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-201
Department of Assessments and Taxation: Exemptions:
Disabled Veteran, Surviving Spouse, Disabled Active Duty Service Member:
COMAR 18.06.03.01 and .02

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to clarify the definition of primary residence for the purposes of a married couple where both individuals receive a 100% Disability Rating from the VA, and the process by which a second property may be granted the exemption following a divorce. Also clarifies that the definition of "curtilage" for the purposes of the Disabled Veterans' Exemption is in line with that for the Homestead Tax Credit.

Natural Resources, Department of

Proposed Regulation
DLS Control No. 26-188
Department of Natural Resources: Fisheries Service:
Nuisance and Prohibited Species: COMAR 08.02.19.08

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to establish regulations that allow the Department to conduct pilot projects for nuisance organisms. Natural Resources Article, §4-201.5, Annotated Code of Maryland states that the Secretary may adopt regulations to conduct pilot projects to demonstrate and evaluate new approaches for the management and control of nuisance organisms. The proposed action establishes the rules for both the Department and participants.

Proposed Regulation
DLS Control No. 26-189
Department of Natural Resources: Fisheries Service:
Nuisance and Prohibited Species: COMAR 08.02.19.04

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to update the nuisance species list to reflect changing understandings of which species may present a danger to Maryland's native species and ecosystems. These changes are based on risk assessments conducted by the Department to determine the potential for certain species to have significant negative impacts. The proposed action: (1) removes candiru from the list of species that a person may not import, transport, purchase, possess, propagate, sell, or release into State waters; (2) expands the listing of swamp eels to apply to an entire family of fish rather than a specific species; (3) adds both Chinese pond mussel and waterwheel as species which a person may not import, transport, purchase, possess, propagate, sell, or release into State waters; and (4) makes a number of technical updates based on information that has developed since the last update to these lists.

Technology Development Corporation, Maryland

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-198
Independent Agencies:
Maryland Technology Development Corporation:
Maryland Venture Fund: COMAR 14.04.06.07
Investment Committee: COMAR 14.04.07.03 and .04

According to the commission, the purpose of this action is to adopt amend regulation COMAR 14.04.07.03 and .04 Investment Committee. Amendments to COMAR 14.04.07 Investment Committee contain a few clean-up changes and also require TEDCO and the Committee to adopt a process for considering remedies, including divestment, for investments in a business that no longer meets the definition of a qualified business. Amendments to COMAR 14.04.06.07 Maryland Venture Fund are to make the regulations consistent with the changes in COMAR 14.04.07. Amended regulations are in compliance with Maryland 2026 Ch. 380 and §10-408 and §10-470 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Maryland Department of Health

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-183
Maryland Department of Health:
Maryland Health Care Commission:
Health Information Technology Funding Applications: COMAR 10.25.13.01 – .05

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to repeal COMAR 10.25.13 Health Information Technology Funding Applications that is now obsolete, as it applied to a funding opportunity for health information technology in 2006, and replace with new regulations under COMAR 10.25.13 Grants, that clarify the process and procedures for awarding grants under the Commission's grant authority established in Health-General Article, §19-109(a)(5), Annotated Code of Maryland. The Commission has the authority to award funds received from any person or government agency provided it uses a competitive process, publishes information about applying for funding on its website, and evaluates proposals using a panel consisting of internal and external evaluators. The proposed regulations outline the process that the Commission's Executive Director will follow to award grant funds.

The process and parameters outlined in this chapter are consistent with the Commission's existing grant processes. The regulatory text ensures that grant-making expectations, standards, and processes as established in the statute are clearly defined and described in regulation and will improve transparency and public accountability in MHCC grant-making.

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-184
Maryland Department of Health: Diseases:
Communicable Diseases and Related Conditions of Public Health Importance: COMAR 10.06.01.01, .02, and .17
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection and Aquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS):
HIV and CD4+ Investigations and Case Reporting: COMAR 10.18.02.01 – .09
HIV Counseling and Testing Procedures: COMAR 10.18.08.02 and .07 – .10

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to update regulations pursuant to Health-General Article, §18–307, Annotated Code of Maryland.

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-185
Maryland Department of Health: Health Enterprise Zone Initiative:
Health Enterprise Zone Tax Credits: COMAR 10.61.01.01 – .06

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to repeal existing regulations for the Health Enterprise Zone Program which sunset on June 30, 2017. The tax credit is no longer available to employers who provide health care services in health enterprise zones.

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-186
Maryland Department of Health: Health Occupation Board:
General Continuing Education Requirements: COMAR 10.31.03.01 – .06

According to the department, according to the department, the purpose of this action is to update and clarify continuing education requirements for individuals regulated by health

occupations boards in the State, including requirements surrounding implicit bias and structural racism training programs pursuant to HB 783 Health Occupations - Implicit Bias and Structural Racism Training (2025), human trafficking awareness training pursuant to HB 771 Health Occupations - Human Trafficking Awareness Training (2026), and training on women's health conditions pursuant to HB 1365 Health Occupations, Public Health, and Insurance - Menopause - Provider Training Coverage Requirements, Policy Initiatives, and Access to Care and HB 1118 Health, Health Insurance, and Health Occupations - Perinatal Behavioral Health Conditions.

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-191
Maryland Department of Health: Board of Pharmacy:
Drug Therapy Management: COMAR 10.34.29.01 – .04

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to clarify and update regulations directly related to drug therapy management and the treatment of opioid use disorder using controlled dangerous substances in accordance with SB 562 State Board of Pharmacy – Prescriber-Pharmacist Agreements – Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders (2026).

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-192
Maryland Department of Health:
Board of Nursing - Certified Nursing Assistants:
Certification of Nursing Assistants: COMAR 10.39.01.02, .05 – .07, and .10
Nursing Assistant Training Programs: COMAR 10.39.02.09

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to clarify language and expand certification and renewal standards to Certified Nursing Assistants under the Maryland Board of Nursing's jurisdiction based on recommendations from the Board.

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-193
Maryland Department of Health: Board of Dental Examiners:
Dental Assistants: COMAR 10.44.01.05 – .08, .12, .16, .18, .20, .22, and .24

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to add language to the existing regulations to align with Chapters 23 and 24, Acts of 2025, and to make language clarifications.

Labor, Maryland Department of

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-194
Maryland Department of Labor: Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects:
General Regulations: COMAR 09.28.01.05
Fees: COMAR 09.28.03.01 – .03
Continuing Professional Competency Requirements:
COMAR 09.28.04.01, .02, and .05

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to update the regulations of the Board of Professional Landscape Architects to match the statutory amendments made to the Board's statute during the 2026 legislative session. Specifically, this action updates the name of the Board throughout the regs to the Board of Professional Landscape Architects from the Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects and creates a fee for the newly created emeritus status license for retired landscape architects.

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-195
Maryland Department of Labor: Office of Cemetery Oversight:
Crematories — Definitions: COMAR 09.34.05.01 and .02
Crematories-Permit and Registration Process and Fees: COMAR 09.34.06.01 – .14
Crematories — Inspections, Complaints, and Discipline: COMAR 09.34.07.01 – .06
Crematories — [Cremation] Crematory Procedures: COMAR 09.34.08.01 – .12
Crematories — Code of Ethics: COMAR 09.34.09.01 and .02

According to the department, the purpose of this action is to repeal the existing regulations related to crematory facilities. Regulatory authority was consolidated under the Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors in CH188/SB413/HB698 (2026). The Office of Cemetery Oversight no longer regulates crematory facilities.

Education, State Board of

Proposed Regulations
DLS Control No. 26-190
State Board of Education: Special Instructional Programs:
Expenditure of Community Schools Program Funds: COMAR 13A.05.15.01 – .09

According to the board, the purpose of this action is to govern the conditions under which a county board of education with Community Schools and an eligible Community School may expend Program Funds under the Concentration of Poverty School Grant Program established by Education Article, §5-223(g), Annotated Code of Maryland.