

# **Decision Document**

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**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee  
2024 Session**



**C00A00**  
**Judiciary**

**Amount**  
**Change**

**Position**  
**Change**

**Agency Response Hearing Notes**

**Senate**  
**Decisions**

**House**  
**Decisions**

1. Add the following language:

Concur.

Provided that \$5,600,000 in general funds made for the purpose of operating expenses is reduced. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs within the Judiciary.

**Explanation:** This action reduces the fiscal 2025 general fund appropriation for operating expenses to more closely align with actual spending. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.

2. Add the following language:

Disagree.

Provided that \$8,800,000 in general funds made for the purpose of employee merit increases is reduced. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.

**Explanation:** This action deletes the fiscal 2025 general fund appropriation for employee merit increases to \$0. Funding for employee merit increases in the Judiciary is budgeted in the Statewide Program in the Department of Budget and Management.

3. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Concur.

Provided that \$500,000 in general funds made for the purpose of providing attorneys for required representation at initial appearances before District Court commissioners is reduced.

**Explanation:** This reduction is made in order to fund the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond consistent with actual expenditures seen in fiscal 2023. In fiscal 2023, \$8,621,155 was utilized for this purpose, and \$628,845 was unused.

**C00A00**  
**Judiciary**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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4. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation: Concur.

Further provided that \$8,750,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of providing attorneys for required representation at initial appearances before District Court commissioners consistent with the holding of the Supreme Court of Maryland in DeWolfe v. Richmond may be expended only for that purpose. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert back to the General Fund.

**Explanation:** This language restricts the use of \$8.75 million of the Judiciary’s general fund appropriation for the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond to that purpose only.

5. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

**Appointed Attorney Program Costs and Utilization:** The committees remain interested in the costs and operations of the Appointed Attorney Program. The committees request a report, to be submitted by October 1, 2024, detailing the fiscal 2024 costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program. This report should include the number of appearances before District Court commissioners where attorneys were appointed to represent indigent defendants and the outcomes of those appearances.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Appointed Attorney Program costs and utilization	Judiciary	October 1, 2024

**C00A00**  
**Judiciary**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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6. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Annual Court Performance Measures:** The committees remain interested in evaluating the performance of the circuit and District courts. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, with annual court performance measures data for the circuit and District courts.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Annual court performance measures report	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

7. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur in part.

**Problem-Solving Court (PSC) Performance and Funding:** The committees are interested in the work of the Judiciary’s PSCs. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, showing the funding allocated for fiscal 2024 and 2025 and actual expenditures for the operation of each type of PSC in fiscal 2024 and anticipated for fiscal 2025.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
PSC funding and expenditures report	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

8. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Status Report:** The committees remain interested in the Judiciary’s MITDPs. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, detailing the MITDPs being undertaken by the Judiciary.

**C00A00  
Judiciary**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
MITDP status report	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

9. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

**Land Records Improvement Fund (LRIF) Balance Report:** The committees are interested in the status of the LRIF. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, showing the fiscal 2024 revenues and expenditures for the fund, along with forecasted revenues and expenditures for fiscal 2025 through 2029. The report should also include a breakdown of the expenditures for circuit court offices.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
LRIF balance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

10. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

**Judgeship Need for Fiscal 2026:** The committees remain interested in the judgeship needs at the Judiciary. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, detailing the fiscal 2026 judgeship needs.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Judgeship needs for fiscal 2026	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

**C00A00**  
**Judiciary**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
11. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:					Concur.	
<p><u>JUDICIARY</u> <u>FY 2024 Deficiency Appropriation</u> <u>C00A00.04 District Court</u></p> <p><u>To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to reduce the appropriation for fiscal 2024 for the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond.</u></p> <p><u>General Fund Appropriation... – \$500,000</u></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> This language is a technical action to implement the fiscal 2024 reduction for the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond.</p>						
12. Reduce funding for the Appointed Attorney Program in fiscal 2024 in order to better align the funding with fiscal 2023 expenditures of \$8.6 million. With this action, \$8.75 million remains available.	-\$ 500,000	GF			Concur.	

**C80B00**  
Office of the Public Defender

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language:						
<p><u>Provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$1,704,514 in general funds, \$386 in special funds, and \$9,852 in federal funds to align with increased turnover expectancy among existing positions at the agency. The Office of the Public Defender is authorized to allocate this reduction across the agency's programs.</u></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> This reduction is made in order to increase the turnover rate for existing positions within the Office of the Public Defender from 5.88% to 7.50%.</p>						
2. Add the following language:						
<p><u>Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$816,719 in general funds to align with increased turnover expectancy among new positions at the agency. The Office of the Public Defender is authorized to allocate this reduction across the agency's programs.</u></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> This reduction is made in order to increase the turnover rate for new positions within the Office of the Public Defender from 5.90% to 25.00%.</p>						
3. Adopt the following narrative:						
<p><b>Hiring, Separation, and Caseloads Report:</b> The committees are concerned with ongoing vacancy issues within the Office of the Public Defender (OPD). The committees request a report detailing the number of attorneys hired by OPD in each year from fiscal 2019 to 2024 including the total number of employees hired for each position and the reasons for separations of attorneys from OPD. This report should also include the average annual caseloads for attorneys in each division in fiscal 2024 compared to the standards utilized by OPD.</p>						
<b>Information Request</b>		<b>Author</b>		<b>Due Date</b>		
Attorney hiring, separation, and caseloads report		OPD		December 1, 2024		



**C81C**  
**Office of the Attorney General**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language:						Disagree.
<u>Provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$984,763 in general funds, \$223 in special funds, and \$5,692 in federal funds to align with increased turnover expectancy among existing positions at the agency. The Office of the Attorney General is authorized to allocate this reduction across the agency's programs.</u>						
<b>Explanation:</b> This reduction is made in order to increase the turnover rate for existing positions within the Office of the Attorney General from 7.49% to 9.50%.						
2. Adopt the following narrative:						Concur.
<b>Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) Quarterly Reports:</b> The committees remain interested in the progress of the implementation of the ACE program. The committees request quarterly reports on the progress of the rollout of the ACE program. The first report should be submitted no later than October 15, 2024. Each report should provide, at a minimum, the following information:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● quarterly expenditures by purpose of expense;</li><li>● a list of legal services providers participating in the program in each county;</li><li>● the number of cases with representation by attorneys in the program;</li><li>● the amount of funds paid to legal services providers; and</li><li>● the number of tenants rejected by the program and the reason for rejection.</li></ul>						

**C81C**  
**Office of the Attorney General**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<b>Information Request</b>		<b>Author</b>		<b>Due Date</b>		
ACE quarterly reports		Maryland Legal Services Corporation		October 15, 2024 January 15, 2025 April 15, 2025 July 15, 2025		

**C82D00**  
**Office of the State Prosecutor**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

**C85E00**  
**Maryland Tax Court**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

**C90G00**  
**Public Service Commission**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

**C91H00**  
**Office of the People's Counsel**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

**C94I00**  
**Subsequent Injury Fund**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

**C96J00**  
**Uninsured Employers' Fund**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation: Concur.

, provided that since the Uninsured Employers' Fund (UEF) had unresolved repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$150,000 of this agency's administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) UEF has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2024; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2025.

**Explanation:** Due to serious repeat audit findings regarding a lack of oversight of UEF's third-party administrator, a portion of its budget will be withheld pending the adoption of corrective action by the agency and a determination by OLA that each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit reports to the budget committees on the status of UEF's response.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Status of corrective actions related to the most recent fiscal compliance audit	OLA	45 days before the release of funds



**C98F00**  
**Workers' Compensation Commission**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.				Concur.		

**CHESBAY\***  
**Chesapeake Bay Overview**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Nonbudgeted.				Concur.		

**D13A13**  
**Maryland Energy Administration**

<u>Amount</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Position</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate</u> <u>Decisions</u>	<u>House</u> <u>Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenue, Spending, and Fund Balance:** The committees are interested in ensuring transparency in Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) revenue assumptions and spending included in the budget as well as available fund balance and planned usages of revenues. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) provide an annual report on the revenue from the RGGI carbon dioxide emissions allowance auctions, set-aside allowances, and interest income in conjunction with the submission of the fiscal 2026 budget as an appendix to the Governor’s Fiscal 2026 Budget Books. The report shall include information on the actual fiscal 2024 budget, the fiscal 2025 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2026 allowance. The report shall detail:

- revenue assumptions used to calculate the available SEIF from RGGI auctions for each fiscal year, including the number of auctions, the number of allowances sold, the allowance price in each auction, and the anticipated revenue from set-aside allowances;
- interest income received on the SEIF;
- amount of the SEIF from RGGI auction revenue available to each agency that receives funding through each required statutory allocation, dues owed to RGGI, Inc, and transfers or diversions made to other funds; and
- fund balances for each SEIF subaccount, reflecting funds available to spend for the fiscal 2024 actual, the fiscal 2025 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2026 allowance.

**D13A13**  
**Maryland Energy Administration**

<u>Amount</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Position</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate</u> <u>Decisions</u>	<u>House</u> <u>Decisions</u>
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<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on revenue assumptions, fund balance, and usage of SEIF revenues sourced from RGGI program auctions	DBM	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2026 Budget Books

2. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

**Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Funding for Energy-related Purposes:** The committees are interested in tracking federal funds available to the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) from the IIJA and the IRA for energy-related purposes, and the status of implementation of programming using these funds. The committees request that MEA submit a report that includes a list of all IIJA and IRA programs for which it has submitted or anticipates submitting an application, the amount of funding available from each program (if funding allocations have been announced), the status of each application submitted or date funding was awarded, and the planned uses for funding from each program.

Additionally, the committees request that MEA provide an update on the implementation of the two home energy rebate programs through IRA funding, the Home Energy Performance-Based, Whole-House Rebate Program and the High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program. The report should include the status of approval of MEA's application for funding by the U.S. Department of Energy, program design and implementation activities completed, including outreach to the contractor community, and, if initial rebate awards have been made at the time of report submission, the number of rebates awarded under both programs, the average amount per rebate, and the total amount of rebates awarded. If initial rebate awards have not yet been made at the time of report submission, the report should include an anticipated timeline of when rebates under both programs will be available to the public.

**D13A13**  
**Maryland Energy Administration**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on federal IJA and IRA funding and implementation of home energy rebate programs	MEA	December 31, 2024

3. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

**Usage of Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenues Transferred to the Dedicated Purpose Account (DPA):** The fiscal 2025 allowance reflects the transfer of \$90 million of SEIF fund balance to the DPA to be used for implementation of unspecified provisions of Chapter 38 of 2022 (the Climate Solutions Now Act) and Maryland’s Climate Pollution Reduction Plan, released in December 2023. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA), and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) jointly submit a report outlining the sources, uses, and planned uses of this funding.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on the usage of SEIF revenues transferred to the DPA	DBM MDE MEA	December 31, 2024

**D21**  
**Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>						
<p>1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:</p> <p><u>, provided that \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation for the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) made for the purposes of general administration may not be expended until, prior to providing fiscal 2025 awards and no later than August 1, 2024, GOCPP reports to the budget committees on:</u></p> <p>(1) <u>each proposed grant award, including those that will be competitively awarded;</u></p> <p>(2) <u>the amount of Victims of Crime Act funding held in reserve.</u></p> <p><u>In addition to the official report, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.</u></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> The language restricts funds pending the submission of a report by GOCPP detailing proposed Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) awards for the fiscal 2025 grant cycle.</p>			<p>Disagree. GOCPP reports that the information requested by this report, due August 1, 2024, would not be needed if the VOCA program is administered through a competitive process, as the agency intends. The agency proposed an alternative reporting requirement for only one report to be submitted on November 1.</p>								
<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>Information Request</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>Author</b></th> <th style="text-align: left;"><b>Due Date</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Report on proposed VOCA grant awards</td> <td>GOCPP</td> <td>August 1, 2024</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	Report on proposed VOCA grant awards	GOCPP	August 1, 2024					
<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>									
Report on proposed VOCA grant awards	GOCPP	August 1, 2024									

**D21**  
**Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
2. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:						
<u>Further provided that \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation for the purposes of administration may not be expended until the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) submits a report by November 1, 2024, regarding the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding. The report shall include:</u>						
(1) <u>total active VOCA grant awards as of January 1, 2024, including grant number, implementing agency, project title, start date, end date, amount of award, jurisdiction of implementation, and the brief description/abstract of the grant;</u>						
(2) <u>for each VOCA grant award in item (1) and for any other VOCA grant awards made subsequently, a description of whether for fiscal 2025, the award was continued, competitively awarded, or otherwise funded, including the grant number, implementing agency, project title, start date, end date, amount of award, jurisdiction of implementation, and the brief description/abstract of the grant;</u>						
(3) <u>for each VOCA grant award in items (1) and (2), identification of any decrease or other change in victim services funding between items (1) and (2), the justification for each grant award change, and the impact on the continuity of crime victim services;</u>						
(4) <u>the amount of unexpended funds for each open three-year VOCA grant and the reason funds are unexpended, including whether they are held in reserve for future grants;</u>						
(5) <u>identification of the respective amount of funds expended for the purpose of direct provision of services, administration, and that which went unobligated for the federal fiscal 2020 and 2021 three-year funding cycles;</u>						
				Concur in part. GOCPP would not need to submit a report in August with proposed awards and a report in November with awards if the VOCA program funds are awarded through a competitive process, as the agency intends. Rather than submit two reports and a letter (see Items 1 and 3), the agency requests to submit one comprehensive annual report, due November 1, 2024. In that report, the agency would include the following information: a list of awards made on July 1, 2024, for fiscal 2025 that includes the subrecipient name, award amount, grant dates, and funding source (VOCA federal or general funds); a list of awards made in fiscal 2024 that includes the subrecipient name, award amount, grant dates, and funding source (VOCA federal or general funds); the total amount awarded from VOCA federal and general funds on July 1, 2024; and the total funds available from prior years and the amount of funding held in reserve for each prior year.		

**D21**  
**Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
(6)	<u>comparison of aggregate-level performance measures or outcome measures of the State’s VOCA program for fiscal 2018 through 2024 or as many recent years that GOCPP is able to provide;</u>					
(7)	<u>identification of the legislative appropriation for VOCA and the actual level of spending for each State fiscal year, beginning with State fiscal 2017 through 2024; and</u>					
(8)	<u>identification of any decrease or other change between the legislative appropriation for VOCA and the actual level of spending for VOCA for each State fiscal year identified in item (7), and the reason for any and all disparities that may exist between the legislative appropriation and the actual spending level.</u>					

In addition to the official report, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

**Explanation:** The language restricts \$500,000 pending the submission of information for all active VOCA grants as of January 1, 2024. The report should detail whether each of the grant recipients received the same level of VOCA funding during the fiscal 2025 VOCA grant cycle and the information on each of the grant programs receiving such funds. For each open three-year grant cycle (federal fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024), GOCPP should report the amount of currently unexpended funds, the reason these funds remain unspent, and whether they will be held in reserve. The report should provide further detail regarding the expenditure of funds for the two most recently completed funding cycles – federal fiscal 2020 and 2021. The report should provide a comparison of the program’s aggregate outcomes or performance measures in recent fiscal years. Finally, the report should identify any differences between the legislative appropriation and actual spending levels for each



**D21**  
**Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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closed out fiscal year, beginning with State fiscal 2018: State fiscal 2018; 2019; 2020; 2021; 2022; 2023; and 2024. For any differences between the authorized and actual spending levels during the aforementioned State fiscal years, the report should identify and discuss the reasons for these disparities.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report of VOCA funding and expenditures	GOCPP	November 1, 2024

3. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation made for the purposes of administration may not be expended until the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) publishes the total amount of funding from federal Victims of Crime Act funds on GOCPP’s website, including funds available from prior years and including the specific amounts held in reserve from each federal three-year award. GOCPP shall provide the budget committees with a letter, no later than November 1, 2024, indicating that this data has been made available on its website and provides the web address to this data. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Disagree. GOCPP reports that the information requested by this letter, due November 1, 2024, could be incorporated into its proposed reporting requirements for the VOCA program.

**Explanation:** An additional \$500,000 shall be restricted pending submission of a letter, no later than November 1, 2024, confirming that data related to available Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) fund reserves is published to GOCPP’s agency website.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Letter on VOCA data publication	GOCPP	November 1, 2024

**D21**  
**Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
4. Increase turnover expectancy for 16 new positions to 25% to be consistent with budgeted turnover for new positions.	-\$ 170,947	GF		Concur.		
5. Reduce the general fund appropriation for State Aid for Police Protection enhancement funding to the level provided in fiscal 2023 and 2024.	-\$ 5,000,000	GF		Disagree. Providing additional resources through the State Aid for Police Protection enhancement enables greater flexibility for local law enforcement agencies than more targeted grant programs.		
6. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:  <u>, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration may not be expended until the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy submits the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Fiscal 2024 Annual Report to the budget committees. The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2024, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.</u>				Concur in part. The agency agrees with the recommendation to submit the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Fiscal 2024 Annual Report by November 1, 2024. This report is required by existing statute but does not have a set due date. GOCPP disagrees with the restriction of funds for the report.		

**Explanation:** Though the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) is required to submit this report on the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) and Fund each year, no due date is prescribed in existing statute.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
CICB Fiscal 2024 Annual Report	GOCPP	November 1, 2024

**D23**  
**Maryland Cannabis Administration**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.				Concur.		

**D29**

**Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

**D40W01**  
**Department of Planning**

	<b><u>Amount</u></b> <b><u>Change</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b> <b><u>Change</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Response</u></b> <b><u>Hearing Notes</u></b>	<b><u>Senate</u></b> <b><u>Decisions</u></b>	<b><u>House</u></b> <b><u>Decisions</u></b>
1. Delete funds budgeted in fiscal 2025 for the Maryland250 Commission. Approximately \$457,000 in funding appropriated in prior years is still available for this purpose.	-\$ 250,000	GF	Disagree.		

**D52**  
**Maryland Department of Emergency Management**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund:** The committees are interested in the ongoing funding structure planned for the Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund (RMRLF). The committees are also concerned about how local project funding applications are submitted and approved by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM). Therefore, the committees request that MDEM submit an update on the status of the RMRLF, including:

- the status of Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM) Act and any other funding contributing to the RMRLF along with the balance of the RMRLF;
- descriptions of activities and communications at and between MDEM and local emergency management departments regarding funding opportunities;
- a list of project funding applications submitted for the next round of STORM Act funding, including total estimated cost and amounts requested for each project and by jurisdiction; and
- the special fund revenue and repayment schedules associated with existing loans made through the RMRLF.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on the RMRLF	MDEM	December 1, 2024

**D52**  
**Maryland Department of Emergency Management**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**State and Local Cybersecurity Efforts:** The committees are interested in the grant allocation schedule, funding availability, and local application process for the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP). As of January 2024, the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) expects to open the application process in February 2024 and issue notices of award in May 2024. The committees request that MDEM submit a report providing an update on the status of SLCGP grant allocation, showing federal and general fund allocations separately, including:

- SLCGP grants awarded by jurisdiction and remaining unallocated balance;
- nonfederal match expenditures by use;
- descriptions of requested projects and requested funding amounts;
- a plan for use of remaining unallocated funds in fiscal 2025; and
- a description of the need for further State-match funding beyond fiscal 2025.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Status of SLCGP and Local Cybersecurity Support Fund	MDEM	November 1, 2024

**D55P00**  
**Department of Veterans Affairs**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Quarterly Reports on Charlotte Hall Veterans Home (CHVH) Facility Operations, Staffing, and Federal Ratings:** The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) oversees the operation of CHVH, the only assisted-living and skilled-nursing care for veterans and their spouses in the State. The committees are interested in how the new management contractor operates CHVH and its efforts on increasing staffing and residency numbers. Additionally, the committees are concerned with the low ratings from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) surrounding nursing home facility performance. The committees request that MDVA submit quarterly reports in collaboration with the CHVH contractor on the progress of CHVH’s operations, census numbers, staffing levels, efforts to increase census and staffing numbers, the number of resident complaints and resident complaints by type of complaint, as well as any report, rating, or fine from CMS. In each quarterly report, the report should note the period covered by the data and corresponding dates.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Request on status of CHVH operations, staffing, and federal ratings	MDVA	July 1, 2024 October 1, 2024 January 1, 2025 April 1, 2025



**D70J00**  
**Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

**Quarterly Financial Statements for Insured and Uninsured Divisions:** Annually, the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto) provides end-of-year financial statements including revenue, expenditure, and surplus figures for the closed-out, preceding year; estimates for the current year beginning at closeout; and projections for the immediate year ahead. Most revenue is derived from premiums in the Insured Division and a mandated appropriation of uninsured motorist fines under Section 17-106 of the Transportation Article for the Uninsured Division. However, both divisions derive revenue from investment dividends, which depend on investment portfolio decisions as well as stock market conditions. Comparisons of estimates to closeout and projections to end-of-year estimates suggest limited ability to forecast financial conditions for the full year. Given ongoing concerns about the financial stability of the agency and surplus levels in both divisions, the committees request quarterly updated financial statements for both divisions. The first report should cover data for the first two quarters of calendar 2024, and each subsequent report should cover the prior quarter.

Concur in part. The agency requests shifting the due dates to the following to accommodate the quarterly and full year closeout process: July 31, 2024; October 31, 2024; March 15, 2025; and May 15, 2025.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Quarterly financial statements for Insured Division and Uninsured Division	Maryland Auto	July 15, 2024 October 15, 2024 January 15, 2025 April 15, 2025

**D80Z01**  
**Maryland Insurance Administration**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Insurance Tracking System (ITS) Project Status:** After significant delays beginning in calendar 2020, active design and development of the ITS project has resumed. A project blueprint was delivered to the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) and approved by the Commissioner in September 2023. As of January 2024, MIA had received a detailed Design and Requirements proposal and new cost quotes. The fiscal 2025 allowance includes \$4 million for continued ITS project development. In order to continue monitoring this project and to be informed of any further delays or cost increases, the committees request that MIA submit initial and follow-up reports to update the committees, including:

- a summary of progress made on the project in the previous two quarters and projected tasks to be completed in the following two quarters, including a list of all identified project development benchmarks and target dates and actual completion dates for each major benchmark;
- actual project spending over the previous two quarters; and
- any updates to the estimated total project cost or anticipated project timeline.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
ITS Major Information Technology Development Project status	MIA	July 10, 2024 January 10, 2025

**D99A11**  
**Office of Administrative Hearings**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

**E00A**  
**Comptroller of Maryland**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Reduce funding for increased health insurance costs as a technical correction. These expenditures are double budgeted as funding is already budgeted in the Statewide Account within the Department of Budget and Management for this purpose.	-\$ 1,037,484 GF -\$ 157,991 SF				Concur.	
2. Adopt the following narrative:					Concur.	

**Performance Measures for Tax Filing by Tax Year:** Each year, the Comptroller submits data on electronic and paper tax filing volume and timeliness in its Managing for Results (MFR) performance submission. The Comptroller has historically reported this data on a fiscal year basis but reported that timeframe can distort taxpayer and Comptroller activity that is based on the tax year cycle. For the fiscal 2026 MFR submission, the committees request that the Comptroller submit performance data related to tax filings on a tax year basis and on a fiscal year basis separately to allow comparison to prior years with the fiscal 2026 budget.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Authors</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
MFR tax filing data on a tax year and fiscal year basis	Comptroller of Maryland	With submission of the fiscal 2026 budget

**E17**  
**Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

**Managing for Results (MFR) Measures for Cannabis Violations:** As of fiscal 2024 and the Cannabis Reform Act (Chapters 254 and 255) of 2023, the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission (ATCC) now carries out inspections of retail businesses selling cannabis products to identify violations of licensing and registration laws for cannabis business in Maryland. The existing MFR measures include indicators for the number of tobacco and alcohol retailer inspections and violations of law found by ATCC agents in the given fiscal year. While ATCC has added a MFR measure for the number of unlicensed cannabis inspections, no measures were added as indicators for violations found. The inclusion of such measures would be useful for the General Assembly and the public as one indicator of the level of illegal cannabis sale and use taking place in the State. The committees request that ATCC include additional measures related to enforcement, consistent with those reported for tobacco and alcohol, in the MFR submission with the fiscal 2026 budget.

Concur in part. The agency notes that data on cannabis enforcement may be incomplete as a result of legal action in the Circuit Court of Washington County, putting enforcement activities on pause.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
MFR measures for cannabis violations	ATCC	With submission of the fiscal 2026 budget

**E75D**  
**State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.				Concur.		

**J00\***  
**Maryland Department of Transportation Overview**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Add the following language:

Concur.

Provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that projects and funding levels appropriated for capital projects, as well as total estimated project costs within the Consolidated Transportation Program, shall be expended in accordance with the plan approved during the legislative session. The department shall prepare a report to notify the budget committees of the proposed changes in the event that the department modifies the program to:

- (1) add a new project to the construction program or development and evaluation program meeting the definition of a “major project” under Section 2-103.1 of the Transportation Article that was not previously contained within a plan reviewed in a prior year by the General Assembly and will result in the need to expend funds in the current budget year; or
- (2) change the scope of a project in the construction program or development and evaluation program meeting the definition of a “major project” under Section 2-103.1 of the Transportation Article that will result in an increase of more than 10% or \$1,000,000, whichever is greater, in the total project costs as reviewed by the General Assembly during a prior session.

For each change, the report shall identify the project title, justification for adding the new project or modifying the scope of the existing project, current year funding levels, and the total project cost as approved by the General Assembly during the prior session compared with the proposed current year funding and total project cost estimate resulting from the project addition or change in scope.

Further provided that notification of project additions, as outlined in paragraph (1) above; changes in the scope of a project, as outlined in paragraph (2) above; or moving projects from the development and evaluation program to the construction program shall be made to the General Assembly 45 days prior to the expenditure of funds or the submission of any contract for approval to the Board of Public Works.

**J00\***  
**Maryland Department of Transportation Overview**

<b><u>Amount Change</u></b>	<b><u>Position Change</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u></b>	<b><u>Senate Decisions</u></b>	<b><u>House Decisions</u></b>
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**Explanation:** This annual budget bill language requires the department to notify the budget committees of proposed changes to the transportation capital program that will add a new project that was not in the fiscal 2024 to 2029 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) or will increase a total project’s cost by more than 10%, or \$1 million, due to a change in scope. Reports are to be submitted with the draft and final versions of the CTP with each using the 2024 session CTP as the basis for comparison. In addition, notification is required as needed throughout the budget year if certain changes to projects are made.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Capital budget changes from one CTP version to the next	Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)	With draft CTP With final CTP
Capital budget changes throughout the year	MDOT	45 days prior to the expenditure of funds or seeking Board of Public Works approval



**J00A01**  
**MDOT – The Secretary’s Office**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation: Concur.

, provided that no more than \$5,509,125 of this appropriation may be expended for operating grants-in-aid, except for:

- (1) any additional special funds necessary to match unanticipated federal fund attainments; or
- (2) any proposed increase either to provide funds for a new grantee or to increase funds for an existing grantee.

Further provided that no expenditures in excess of \$5,509,125 may occur unless the department provides notification to the budget committees to justify the need for additional expenditures due to either item (1) or (2) above, and the committees provide review and comment or 45 days elapse from the date such notification is provided to the committees.

**Explanation:** This annual language caps the level of special funds provided for operating grants-in-aid. The cap may be increased to match unanticipated federal dollars or to provide new or expanded grant funding upon notification to the budget committees.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Explanation of need for additional special funds for operating grants-in-aid	Maryland Department of Transportation	45 days prior to expenditure

**J00A0103**  
**MDOT – Secretary’s Office – PAYGO Capital**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:					
<p><u>, provided that no funds may be expended by the Secretary’s Office for any capital project or grant with a total project cost in excess of \$500,000 that is not currently included in the fiscal 2024 to 2029 Consolidated Transportation Program, except as outlined below:</u></p> <p>(1) <u>the Secretary shall notify the budget committees of any proposed capital project or grant with a total cost in excess of \$500,000, including the need and justification for the project and its total cost; and</u></p> <p>(2) <u>the budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment on the proposed capital project or grant.</u></p>			Concur.		

**Explanation:** This language provides legislative oversight of capital projects and grants exceeding \$500,000 that are not listed in the current Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP).

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Notification of the intent to fund a capital project or grant exceeding \$500,000 that is not listed in the current CTP	Maryland Department of Transportation	45 days prior to expenditure

**J00A0104**  
**MDOT – WMATA – Operating Budget**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

**J00A0105**  
**MDOT – WMATA – Capital Budget**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.		Concur.		

**J00A04**  
**MDOT – Debt Service Requirements**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1.	Add the following language:				
	<p><u>Consolidated Transportation Bonds may be issued in any amount, provided that the aggregate outstanding and unpaid balance of these bonds and bonds of prior issues may not exceed \$2,850,050,000 as of June 30, 2025. The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance of nontraditional debt, defined as any debt instrument that is not a Consolidated Transportation Bond or a Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle bond issued by the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), exclusive of debt for the Purple Line Light Rail Project, may not exceed \$887,865,000 as of June 30, 2025. The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance on debt for the Purple Line may not exceed \$2,219,374,000 as of June 30, 2025. Provided, however, that in addition to the limits established under this provision, MDOT may increase the aggregate outstanding unpaid and principal balance of Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt so long as:</u></p> <p>(1) <u>MDOT provides notice to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee stating the specific reason for the additional issuance and providing specific information regarding the proposed issuance, including information specifying the total amount of Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt that would be outstanding on June 30, 2025, and the total amount by which the fiscal 2025 debt service payment for all Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt would increase following the additional issuance; and</u></p> <p>(2) <u>the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee have 45 days to review and comment on the proposed additional issuance before the publication of a preliminary official statement. The Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee may hold a public hearing to discuss the proposed increase and shall signal their intent to hold a hearing within 45 days of receiving notice from MDOT.</u></p>				Concur.

**J00A04**  
**MDOT – Debt Service Requirements**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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**Explanation:** Section 3-202 of the Transportation Article requires the General Assembly to establish the maximum debt outstanding for Consolidated Transportation Bonds each year in the budget bill. The level is based on the outstanding debt as of June 30, 2023, plus projected debt to be issued during fiscal 2025 in support of the transportation capital program. No Consolidated Transportation Bond debt issuance is planned for fiscal 2024. For nontraditional debt, this language limits the amount of debt outstanding at the end of fiscal 2025, exclusive of debt issued for the Purple Line Light Rail Transit project, to the total amount that was outstanding from all previous nontraditional debt issuances as of December 31, 2023, plus anticipated issuances of \$75 million for a new fare collection system for the Maryland Transit Administration and \$235 million for the Concourse A/B Connector and Baggage Handling System Replacement project at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. Debt outstanding for the Purple Line Project is capped at the projected maximum debt outstanding level that will occur during the construction phase of the Purple Line Project. The language allows MDOT to increase the amount of Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt outstanding in fiscal 2025 by providing notification to the budget committees regarding the reason that the additional debt is required.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Justification for increasing Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt outstanding	MDOT	45 days prior to publication of a preliminary official statement

**J00A04**  
**MDOT – Debt Service Requirements**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
2. Add the following language:					

Concur.

MDOT shall submit with its annual September and January financial forecasts information on:

- (1) anticipated and actual nontraditional debt outstanding as of June 30 of each year; and
- (2) anticipated and actual debt service payments for each outstanding nontraditional debt issuance from fiscal 2024 through 2034.

Nontraditional debt is defined as any debt instrument that is not a Consolidated Transportation Bond or a Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle bond; such debt includes, but is not limited to, Certificates of Participation; debt backed by customer facility charges, passenger facility charges or other revenues; and debt issued by the Maryland Economic Development Corporation or any other third party on behalf of MDOT.

**Explanation:** The General Assembly is interested in monitoring the use of nontraditional debt by MDOT. The information provides the budget committees with additional information on the usage and annual costs of nontraditional debt.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Nontraditional debt outstanding and anticipated debt service payments	MDOT	With the September forecast With the January forecast

**J00B01**  
**MDOT – State Highway Administration**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.				Concur.		



**J00D00**  
**MDOT – Maryland Port Administration**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.				Concur.		

**J00D0002**

**MDOT – Maryland Port Administration – PAYGO Capital**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

**J00E00**  
**MDOT – Motor Vehicle Administration**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.				Concur.		

**J00E0007**

**MDOT – Motor Vehicle Administration – PAYGO Capital**

	<b><u>Amount Change</u></b>	<b><u>Position Change</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u></b>	<b><u>Senate Decisions</u></b>	<b><u>House Decisions</u></b>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

**J00H01**  
**MDOT – Maryland Transit Administration**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Concur. Would prefer narrative.

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration may not be expended until the Maryland Transit Administration submits six bimonthly construction status reports for the Purple Line project to the budget committees. The status reports shall provide:

- (1) the completion percentages for the project as a whole and for each major category of work;
- (2) the running total amount expended for construction; and
- (3) an explanation of any material change to the total construction cost estimate or construction schedule as set forth in the revised public-private partnership agreement as amended to add Maryland Transit Solutions as the replacement design-build contractor for the project.

The first status report shall be submitted by July 1, 2024, and subsequent reports shall be submitted every second month thereafter, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the final report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

**Explanation:** This language restricts funds pending regular construction progress reports for the Purple Line light rail project.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Reports on Purple Line construction progress	Maryland Transit Administration	July 1, 2024, and bimonthly thereafter ending with the May 1, 2025 report

**J00H0105**

**MDOT – Maryland Transit Administration – PAYGO Capital**

	<b><u>Amount Change</u></b>	<b><u>Position Change</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u></b>	<b><u>Senate Decisions</u></b>	<b><u>House Decisions</u></b>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

**J00I00**

**MDOT – Maryland Aviation Administration**

**Amount  
Change**

**Position  
Change**

**Agency Response Hearing Notes**

**Senate  
Decisions**

**House  
Decisions**

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

**J00I0003**

**MDOT – MD Aviation Administration – PAYGO Capital**

	<b><u>Amount Change</u></b>	<b><u>Position Change</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u></b>	<b><u>Senate Decisions</u></b>	<b><u>House Decisions</u></b>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		



**J00J00**  
**MDOT – Maryland Transportation Authority**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Nonbudgeted.				Concur.		

**J00J0042**

**MDOT – Maryland Transportation Authority – PAYGO Capital**

	<b><u>Amount Change</u></b>	<b><u>Position Change</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u></b>	<b><u>Senate Decisions</u></b>	<b><u>House Decisions</u></b>
1. Nonbudgeted.			Concur.		

**K00A**  
**Department of Natural Resources**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur in part. The Office of Outdoor Recreation is working on many of the issues/actions identified in the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic Commission report and will submit a plan for implementation of the recommendations and other priority actions with strategies, timelines, status and Managing for Results metrics by June 30, 2024.

**Office of Outdoor Recreation Reporting Requirement:** The committees are interested in understanding more about the work of the Office of Outdoor Recreation and the impact of this work. Therefore, the committees request that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) quantify the goals of the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic (MORE) Commission and develop Managing for Results (MFR) input, output, and outcome measures that correspond to these numerical goals to be submitted with the fiscal 2026 budget submission. In addition, the committees request that DNR submit a plan for the Office of Outdoor Recreation’s implementation of the recommendations of the MORE Commission. The plan should include the following: the status of implementation of the commission’s five main recommendations; strategies for implementing the recommendations that have not already been completed; an updated analysis of the value that outdoor recreation generates in Maryland as a whole and, if available, by county using Bureau of Economic Analysis data; the state of outdoor recreation and heritage tourism in Maryland using information from the updated Maryland Land Recreation and Preservation Plan; and the opportunities that a Chesapeake Bay National Recreation Area creates for Maryland. The plan is requested to be submitted by October 1, 2024.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
MFR input, output, and outcome measures for commission goals	DNR	Fiscal 2026 budget submission
Office of Outdoor Recreation Plan for meeting commission goals	DNR	October 1, 2024

**K00A**  
**Department of Natural Resources**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur. The Administration will continue to provide the requested data with the Governor’s fiscal 2026 allowance.

**Summary of Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending:** The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) provide a report on Chesapeake Bay restoration spending. The report shall be drafted subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) in terms of both electronic format to be used and data to be included. The scope of the report is as follows: Chesapeake Bay restoration operating and capital expenditures by agency, fund type, and particular fund source based on programs that have over 50% of their activities directly related to Chesapeake Bay restoration for the fiscal 2024 actual, fiscal 2025 working appropriation, and fiscal 2026 allowance to be included as an appendix in the fiscal 2026 budget volumes and submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Summary of Chesapeake Bay restoration spending for programs that have over 50% of their activities directly related to Chesapeake Bay restoration	DBM DNR MDE	Fiscal 2026 budget submission

**K00A**  
**Department of Natural Resources**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
3. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur in part. The Administration is willing to submit a report summarizing Maryland’s Chesapeake Bay funding and restoration progress to date, current status, and future plans by December 1, 2024, but requests that the scope of the requested report be scaled back.		
<p><b>Historical and Projected Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending:</b> The committees are interested in the status of Chesapeake Bay restoration. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) provide a report by December 1, 2024, on recent and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending and associated impacts and the overall framework to meet the calendar 2025 requirement of having all best management practices (BMP) in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay. The report is requested to include the following:</p>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● fiscal 2024 annual spending by fund, fund source, program, and State government agency; associated nutrient and sediment reductions; and the impact on living resources and ambient water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen, water clarity, and “chlorophyll a” for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries to be submitted electronically in disaggregated form to the Department of Legislative Services (DLS);</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● projected fiscal 2025 to 2026 annual spending by fund, fund source, program, and State government agency; associated nutrient and sediment reductions; and the impact on living resources and ambient water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen, water clarity, and “chlorophyll a” for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries to be submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS;</li> </ul>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● an overall framework discussing the needed regulations, revenues, laws, and administrative actions and their impacts on individuals, organizations, governments, and businesses by year from fiscal 2024 to 2025 in order to reach the calendar 2025 requirement of having all BMPs in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay, to be both written in narrative form and tabulated in spreadsheet form that is submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS;</li> </ul>					

**K00A**  
**Department of Natural Resources**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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- an analysis of the various options for financing Chesapeake Bay restoration, including public-private partnerships, a regional financing authority, nutrient trading, technological developments, and any other policy innovations that would improve the effectiveness of Maryland and other states’ efforts toward Chesapeake Bay restoration;
- an analysis on how cost effective the existing State funding sources, such as the Bay Restoration Fund, Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund, Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund, and Clean Water Commerce Account among others are for Chesapeake Bay restoration purposes; and
- updated information on the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan implementation and how the loads associated with the Conowingo Dam infill, growth of people and animals, and climate change will be addressed.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Historical and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending	MDP DNR MDA MDE DBM	December 1, 2024

4. Adopt the following narrative:

**Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund Annual Work and Expenditure Plans:** The committees are concerned that § 8-2A-03(d) of the Natural Resources Article requires the Governor to submit the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans to the General Assembly as part of the annual budget submission, but the Governor has not done so on a regular basis. Therefore, the committees request that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) submit the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans with the fiscal 2026 budget submission.

Concur. The Administration will continue to provide the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund Annual Report with the Governor’s fiscal 2026 allowance.

**K00A**  
**Department of Natural Resources**

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>				<b>Due Date</b>		
Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans	DNR				Fiscal 2026 budget submission		

**L00A**  
**Department of Agriculture**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language:  <u>Provided that \$111,524 in general funds, \$84,995 in special funds, and \$35,701 in reimbursable funds are reduced to increase the turnover rate for new positions to 25%. The Secretary is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Maryland Department of Agriculture.</u>  <b>Explanation:</b> The turnover rate for the 17 new positions in the Maryland Department of Agriculture’s budget is 6.51%. This reduction brings the turnover rate for the new positions in line with best practices for new positions given the hiring time.				Disagree. Four of the new positions are contractual conversions, and 1 position has already been filled by the loan of a position from another program.		
2. Reduce funding for the Weights and Measures program by \$470,135 in general funds. The Weights and Measures program is estimated to need only approximately \$2.3 million in fiscal 2025. This reduction leaves a total appropriation of \$2,651,943 in special funds, due to the availability of additional unspecified special fund revenues in the fiscal 2025 allowance. In addition, there is the possibility for even greater special fund revenues if SB 278 or HB 234 is enacted with the provision allowing the Secretary of Agriculture to set reasonable fees. A special fund budget amendment may be processed if the additional special fund fee revenue is realized.	-\$ 470,135 GF			Disagree. The increased special funds come from fund balance and are needed to purchase new weights and measures equipment. The revenues from the fee bills SB 278 and HB 234 would not be realized until fiscal 2026.		
3. Adopt the following narrative:  <b>Status and Future of Value-added Agriculture in Maryland:</b> The committees are interested in learning more about the status and future of value-added agriculture in Maryland given that that the Business Economic and Community Outreach Network of Salisbury University estimates that Maryland’s value-added agriculture industry supports close to 74,000 jobs and brings a total economic impact of more than \$20.6 billion annually to the State’s economy. Therefore, the committees request that				Concur in part. MDA can make recommendations and produce a report utilizing existing resources, but it will not be as comprehensive as the report by Salisbury University’s Business Economic and Community Outreach Network (BEACON).		



**L00A**  
**Department of Agriculture**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) develop Managing for Results (MFR) measures and submit a report on the state of value-added agriculture in Maryland. The MFR measures are requested to include input, output, and outcome measures that correspond to a numerical goal for the number of value-added agricultural businesses that are launched or relocate to Maryland each fiscal year. The report is requested to include the following information: information related to value-added agriculture from the 2022 Census of Agriculture; updated information on the jobs and total economic impact of value-added agriculture from the Business Economic and Community Outreach Network of Salisbury University, Maryland; an assessment of the potential and growth of value-added enterprises in Maryland; information about State and local educational institutions that provide training for value-added entrepreneurs; an assessment of the need for supporting infrastructure, such as processing equipment, meat processing facilities, and commercial/shared-use kitchens; and the resources available for supporting research and technology in the value-added agriculture policy area.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Status and future of value-added agriculture in Maryland	MDA	October 1, 2024

- |    |   |                                  |  |
|----|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 4. | Delete funding for the Nuisance Insects blackfly and midge treatment program. As part of a consent decree, Baltimore City is required to pay the Chesapeake Bay Trust \$1,900,000 for water quality improvement and restoration projects as part of the Patapsco and Back River Watershed Water Quality Improvement and Restoration Supplemental Environment Project. This alternative source of funding can be used to cover the midge part of the blackfly and midge treatment program. | -\$ 137,500 GF<br>-\$ 137,500 SF | Disagree. The \$1.9 million the city is paying the Chesapeake Bay Trust will not assist MDA with addressing midge outbreaks outside of the Patapsco and Back River watersheds or with black flies in general, because black flies are in Frederick and Washington counties near Knoxville, Maryland. |
|----|---|----------------------------------|--|

**Q00A**  
**DPSCS – Administration and Offices**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:						

Concur.

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a written plan to comply with the Public Information Act (PIA). The written plan shall include a recent history of actions taken to resolve cases brought before the Maryland PIA Compliance Board. The written plan shall include detailed descriptions of objectives that will bring the department into compliance with the PIA. The written plan shall include objectives that address training and education of staff, systemic sources of nonresponding to requests or wrongful denial of records, regulatory changes needed, ways that the department can proactively share information with the public to preempt the need for a PIA request, and other challenges to complying with the law. The written plan shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than July 1, 2024. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

**Explanation:** The PIA allows citizens to access public records that pose no public interest to withhold. The Maryland PIA Compliance Board was first established in calendar 2015 to decide on unreasonable fees but was expanded effective July 1, 2022, to now resolve and review complaints that a custodian wrongfully denied inspection of public records; a custodian charged an unreasonable fee higher than \$350 for public records; a custodian failed to respond to a request for public records; and/ or a PIA applicant's request is “frivolous, vexatious, or in bad faith.” This board only hears cases that were first mediated through the Public Access Ombudsman process but remained unresolved. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) is the only State agency to have multiple cases of nonresponding to requests and wrongful denial of records. Since the expansion of the board, DPSCS has been ruled against in all six cases decided so far with rulings in three cases to waive fees. The budget committees are concerned with the lack of transparency and that citizens must go to such great lengths to obtain information that

**Q00A**  
**DPSCS – Administration and Offices**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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belongs to the public. This action requires a written plan to comply with the PIA, including plans to train and educate staff with regard to the law, plans to prevent future cases from being brought before the Maryland PIA Compliance Board, and plans to ensure appropriate records are reviewable.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Written Plan for PIA Compliance	DPSCS	July 1, 2024

2. Adopt the following narrative: Concur.

**Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) Report:** The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by December 1, 2024, on the following items:

- annual updates on the number of offenders petitioning and approved for the JRA provisions including, but not limited to, administrative release, medical/geriatric parole, certificates of rehabilitation, and graduated sanctions;
- the number of offenders affected by the JRA diminution and earned compliance credit rules; and
- annual JRA cost savings updates along with any efforts/initiatives to increase savings.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
JRA report	DPSCS	December 1, 2024

**Q00A**  
**DPSCS – Administration and Offices**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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3. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Report on Recidivism:** The committees are interested in the impact of incarceration on the future outcomes of returning offenders. The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by November 15, 2024, on the following:

- three-year recidivism numbers for the fiscal 2016 through 2021 release cohorts; and
- an analysis of recent recidivism trends, including a comparison to past years and a comparison to other states.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Recidivism report	DPSCS	November 15, 2024

4. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Correctional Program Participation Measures:** The committees are concerned that there is little information available to track the participation of offenders in the various programs, services, and opportunities available to them. The availability of programs and services was reduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, and there was little opportunity for the budget committees to review the effect this had on offender rehabilitative efforts. The budget committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) add data tables to the department’s annual Managing for Results submission starting with the fiscal 2026 allowance that provide annual counts of programming participants by primary assignment and facility; counts of participants by secondary, tertiary, or subsequent programming assignments by facility; and annual counts of nonparticipants by facility.

**Q00A**  
**DPSCS – Administration and Offices**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Correctional program participation measures	DPSCS	With the submission of the fiscal 2026 allowance and annually thereafter

5. Adopt the following narrative:

**Medical Contract Award Notification:** The committees are concerned about the ongoing efforts to procure new medical and mental health care contracts for the separate incarcerated and pretrial populations in Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) custody. The incumbent medical contract has had several issues before, during, and following the COVID-19 emergency period. The budget committees request that DPSCS submit a report notifying the budget committees at least 14 days prior to presenting a contract to the Board of Public Works (BPW) for correctional or pretrial medical and mental health services.

Concur in part. The agency agrees to submit the report but warns that it will not be able to do so until the Board of Public Works agenda is made public, which may be a shorter time frame than requested.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Correctional medical and mental health care contract award notification	DPSCS	14 days prior to BPW presentation of the correctional medical contract.
Pretrial medical and mental health care contract award notification	DPSCS	14 days prior to BPW presentation of the pretrial medical contract.

**Q00B**  
**DPSCS – Corrections**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Concur.

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of General Administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits the second of four quarterly hiring and attrition reports to the budget committees. The reports shall include a breakdown of all hires and separations for each of the three months in question by category of employee (correctional officer, community supervision agent, or administrative employee) and by reason for separation. The report shall also include narrative summarizing all hiring events and changes to the hiring process that occurred during the quarter; the quantity, type, and cost of bonuses disbursed; as well as overall applications received, tested, and interviewed. The first quarterly report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than October 25, 2024, and the second report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than January 25, 2025. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the second quarterly report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

**Explanation:** Correctional officer hiring within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has declined again. The quarterly reports requested in fiscal 2025 will continue the cooperation between DPSCS and the budget committees to track all departmental hiring and the success of recent staffing initiatives.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Quarterly hiring and attrition reports	DPSCS	October 25, 2024 January 25, 2025 April 25, 2025 July 12, 2025

**Q00C**  
**DPSCS – Community Supervision**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) Caseload Report:** In recent fiscal years, DPP has been working to reduce supervision caseloads to a manageable level for its parole and probation agents. Caseload ratios increased by one case per agent in fiscal 2023. The committees request a report due by September 15, 2024, from DPP on the following:

- the exact breakdown of support staff and general supervision caseloads by office into DPP supervision levels for fiscal 2023;
- the exact breakdown of case closures by reason, region, and office; and
- a description of strategies that DPP is using to reduce caseload ratios and prevent agents from taking on too many cases.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
DPP caseload report	DPP	September 15, 2024

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Report on Assessment Tools:** The Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) has begun the process of replacing the assessment tools used to classify offenders placed on community supervision and the role of these tools in case management. This issue is of particular concern with regard to maintaining proper caseloads for agents as well as providing agents with a reliable framework for addressing the individual needs of each offender. The committees request that DPP submit a report, due November 1, 2024, on the transition to new screening tools used in community supervision. The report should include the following:

- a description of the new tools and process;

**Q00C**  
**DPSCS – Community Supervision**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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- areas in the current process that represent improvements over the previous processes;
- the transition timeline;
- challenges to implementation;
- alternatives considered, including the reasons for deciding against alternatives; and
- an analysis of the reliability of the new screening tools to predict security risk and/or compliance with conditions of supervision.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on assessment tools	DPP	November 1, 2024



**Q00G**  
**DPSCS – Police and Correctional Training Commissions**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

**Q00T04**

**DPSCS – Division of Pretrial Detention and Services**

	<b><u>Amount Change</u></b>	<b><u>Position Change</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u></b>	<b><u>Senate Decisions</u></b>	<b><u>House Decisions</u></b>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.		

**U00A**  
**Department of the Environment**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>						
1.												
<p>Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:</p> <p><u>Further provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administrative expenses in the Land and Materials Administration may not be expended pending the submission of the Maryland Scrap Tire annual report. The requested report shall be submitted no later than November 1, 2024. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.</u></p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> This action restricts funding pending the submission by November 1, 2024, of the Maryland Scrap Tire Annual Report. Section 9-275(c) of the Environment Article specifies that an annual status report is due on or before November 1 of each year, which was not consistently met before the inclusion of annual budget bill language.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Information Request</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Author</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Due Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund annual report</td> <td>Maryland Department of the Environment</td> <td>November 1, 2024</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							Information Request	Author	Due Date	Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund annual report	Maryland Department of the Environment	November 1, 2024
Information Request	Author	Due Date										
Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund annual report	Maryland Department of the Environment	November 1, 2024										
2.												
<p>Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:</p> <p><u>Further provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), in cooperation with the Department of Budget and Management, submits a confirmatory letter to the budget committees indicating that MDE's fiscal 2024 actual personnel expenditures and the fiscal 2025 working appropriation personnel expenditures are budgeted in the correct statewide subobjects. The confirmatory letter shall be submitted with the fiscal 2026 budget submission, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the confirmatory letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the</u></p>												

Disagree. MDE will continue to submit the annual report in a timely manner.

Disagree. MDE's salary allocation software program is being updated to automate reporting in the form requested by DLS. Currently, MDE staff must manually compile and submit the data.

**U00A**  
**Department of the Environment**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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receipt of a confirmatory letter may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the confirmatory letter is not submitted to the budget committees.

**Explanation:** MDE incorrectly reflects fringe benefit expenditures – health insurance, pension contributions, and turnover adjustments, among others – almost entirely as Social Security contributions, which makes it difficult to do historical data comparisons. Therefore, funding is restricted until MDE and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit a confirmatory letter with the fiscal 2026 budget submission, indicating that fiscal 2024 actual personnel expenditures and fiscal 2025 working appropriation personnel expenditures are budgeted in the correct statewide subobjects.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Budgeting of fiscal 2024 actual and fiscal 2025 working appropriation personnel expenditures	MDE DBM	Fiscal 2026 budget submission

3. Adopt the following narrative:

**Enforcement and Inspection Position Strength Assessment:** The committees are interested in the enforcement and inspection positions strength of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). Therefore, the committees request that MDE and MDA a report on the following:

- an evaluation of the adequacy of Maryland’s current authorized compliance and enforcement positions in the departments. In completing the assessment, the departments shall provide information on the delegation of authority by the federal government to the departments, including any

Disagree. MDE notes that the Annual Compliance and Inspection report covers the detailed activities in all of MDE's programs. MDA notes that additional clarification is needed to determine what additional information is being requested.

**U00A**  
**Department of the Environment**

**Amount**  
**Change**

**Position**  
**Change**

**Agency Response Hearing Notes**

**Senate**  
**Decisions**

**House**  
**Decisions**

evaluations of this delegated authority, and on the delegation of authority by the departments to other entities; and assess the impact of the role that technology has played on compliance and enforcement responsibilities;

- a comparison of the size, roles, responsibilities, and inspection workload of the departments' compliance and enforcement positions to neighboring or similar states;
- a list of all inspection activities conducted by the MDE Water and Science Administration, the Land and Materials Administration, the Air and Radiation Administration, and the MDA Office of Resource Conservation;
- the number of regular positions and contractual full-time equivalents associated with the inspections, including the number of vacancies for fiscal 2013 through 2024 actuals, and fiscal 2025 current and fiscal 2026 estimated appropriations; and
- a description of the use of and outcomes from any next generation compliance techniques to increase compliance with Maryland's environmental regulations.

**Information Request**

**Author**

**Due Date**

Enforcement and inspection  
position strength assessment

MDA  
MDE

January 1, 2025

**U10B00**  
**Maryland Environmental Service**

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Maryland Environmental Service (MES) Funding Statement:** The committees request that MES continue to provide a report on the following:

- undesignated unrestricted net assets for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 estimated and an explanation for any changes between each of these years, including revenues credited to and expenditures debited from the net assets;
- overhead rate for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 estimated;
- project reserve fund status by beginning balance, approved retainage, funds withdrawn, and interest earned for fiscal 2024 and 2025 for the State Reimbursable Project Contingency Fund, the Eastern Correctional Institution (ECI) Steam Turbine Contingency Fund, the Department of Natural Resources Project Contingency Fund, the ECI Energy Upgrade Project Reserve Fund, and any other project reserve funds created by MES, including justification for any approved retainage or funds withdrawn in any project reserve fund during fiscal 2024 or 2025; and
- justification for the changes in reimbursable project funding for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 estimated.

The report should be submitted in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) with the fiscal 2026 budget submission.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
MES funding statement	MES DBM	Fiscal 2026 budget submission

**V00A**  
**Department of Juvenile Services**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<p>1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:</p> <p><u>. provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Juvenile Services submits a report to the budget committees on the wait times that the youth it places experience before receiving a community-based placement, hospitalization, family home placement, or a non-community-based placement, including a breakdown of wait times by jurisdiction. Data should be provided for calendar 2024 and any previous years for which data is available. The report shall be submitted by January 1, 2025, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.</u></p>				<p>Concur in part. The department requests that funds not be withheld for the report.</p>		

**Explanation:** The Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) is the second largest youth-placing agency for youth who require an out-of-home placement (OOHP). DJS treats youth who are involved in Maryland’s juvenile justice system. During the 2023 session, the committees were concerned that youth may require treatment and must wait for services to be provided. The committees requested that DJS provide a report by January 1, 2024, on the wait times that the youth it places experience before receiving a community-based placement, hospitalization, family home placement, or a non-community-based placement, including a breakdown of wait times by jurisdiction. A report on this topic requested by the budget committees in the 2023 session was submitted on February 6, 2024, but did not contain all the requested information. Though the department currently provides the average daily population and average length of stay for its pending placement population through the annual publication of its Data Resource Guide, wait times are not available by placement type. Data should be provided for calendar 2024 and any previous years for which data is available.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on OOHP wait times	DJS	January 1, 2025

**V00A**  
**Department of Juvenile Services**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<p>2. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:</p> <p><u>Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Juvenile Services submits a report to the budget committees containing its next facilities master plan, including a long-range plan for future capital projects.</u></p>			<p>Concur in part. The department requests that funds not be withheld for the Facilities Master Plan.</p>		

**Explanation:** The committees are interested in a comprehensive review of the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) facility conditions and the needs of the detained and committed populations. Since the last facilities master plan (FMP) was created in 2015, its residential populations have decreased and many of the proposed detention and treatment projects did not receive capital funding.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on the FMP	DJS	December 31, 2024



**W00A**  
**Department of State Police**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation to delete funds for the supplemental retirement account match, which is budgeted in the Department of Budget and Management.	-\$ 113,500	GF		Disagree. The department reports that this funding was not additional funding and was instead reallocated from other costs. The department would like to retain these general funds and restore its other allocations.		
2. Increase turnover expectancy for 28 new positions to 25% to be consistent with budgeted turnover for new positions.	-\$ 319,844	GF		Disagree. The department has continuously been hiring sworn and civilian positions for the Licensing Division and has processed 30 new hires in fiscal 2024. DSP also anticipates an increase in workloads for the division beginning in July 2024. DSP requests to forego the typical 25% budgeted turnover for new positions.		
3. Adopt the following narrative:				Concur.		
<p><b>Quarterly Report on Permitting Applications:</b> The Licensing Division within the Department of State Police (DSP) administers provisions of State law and regulations related to the licensing and registration of firearms, handgun permits, security guards, and other licensing functions. The Public Safety Article establishes various requirements related to how quickly the division must turn around applications. The committees request that information on applications received and processing days needed for an application to receive a final disposition be submitted once per quarter on the following dates: July 1, 2024; October 1, 2024; January 1, 2025; and April 1, 2025.</p>						

**W00A**  
**Department of State Police**

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>
<b>Information Request</b>						
<b>Author</b>						
<b>Due Date</b>						
Quarterly report on permitting applications						
4. Increase turnover expectancy for 6 new positions to 25% to be consistent with budgeted turnover for new positions.			-\$ 74,570 GF			Disagree. The department has continuous recruitment postings for emergency dispatcher positions and has processed 14 new hires in fiscal 2024. DSP requests to forego the typical 25% budgeted turnover for new positions.
5. Add the following section:						Concur.
<u>SECTION XX. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation within the Department of State Police (DSP) may not be expended until DSP submits the Crime in Maryland, 2023 Uniform Crime Report (UCR) to the budget committees. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.</u>						
<u>Further provided that, if DSP encounters difficulty obtaining, or validating the accuracy of, the necessary crime data by November 1, 2024, from local jurisdictions who provide the data for inclusion in the UCR, DSP shall notify the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP). From each jurisdiction's third quarterly State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) disbursement, the office shall withhold a portion, totaling at least 15% but no more than 50%, of that jurisdiction's SAPP grant for fiscal 2025 upon receipt of notification from DSP. GOCPP shall</u>						

**W00A**  
**Department of State Police**

<u><b>Amount Change</b></u>	<u><b>Position Change</b></u>	<u><b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b></u>	<u><b>Senate Decisions</b></u>	<u><b>House Decisions</b></u>
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withhold SAPP funds until such a time that the jurisdiction submits its crime data to DSP, and DSP verifies the accuracy of the data. DSP and GOCPP shall submit a report to the budget committees indicating any jurisdiction from which crime data was not received by November 1, 2024, and the amount of SAPP funding from each jurisdiction.

**Explanation:** The annual language was originally added because DSP had not been submitting its annual crime report in a timely manner due to issues related to receiving crime data from the local jurisdictions. Though data contributors were able to provide the department with 2021 and 2022 crime data on time, there were delays in compiling the 2021 and 2022 UCRs due to the inability for all contributors to submit data in compliance with the new federal reporting system.

This language withholds a portion of the general fund appropriation until the budget committees receive the 2023 UCR. The language also specifies that GOCPP, upon receipt of notification from DSP, must withhold a portion of a delinquent jurisdiction’s SAPP grant until certain crime data is received by DSP. Finally, DSP and GOCPP must submit a report to the budget committees that includes information on any jurisdiction that did not report crime data by November 1, 2024, and the amount of SAPP funding that is withheld from each jurisdiction.

<b>Information Request</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
2023 UCR data verification	DSP	November 1, 2024
2023 UCR	DSP	45 days prior to expenditure of funds