



SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2024 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 29, 2024
Schedule 13

PLEASE NOTE: February 5 – Bill introduction deadline.

All bills should be given to the Secretary of the Senate's office by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, February 5.

As required by Senate Rule 32(b), bills introduced after this date will be referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED January 29, 2024

SB 633 **Senator Klausmeier**

MARYLAND SELF-SERVICE STORAGE ACT – SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY IN SATISFACTION OF LIENS – MEANS OF ADVERTISING

Authorizing an operator or a manager of a self-service storage facility to advertise in a certain manner the sale of the personal property in a self-service storage unit to satisfy a certain lien without the occupant's prior written authorization in the storage agreement.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

CL, §§ 18-503(b)(4) and 18-504(b)(4) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

Department of Legislative Services

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Baltimore Area: 410-946-5400 — Washington Area: 301-970-5400

Other Maryland Areas: 1-800-492-7122 — Maryland Relay Service: 1-800-735-2258

SB 634 **Senator Klausmeier**MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION –
AUTHORITY

Authorizing the Maryland Technology Development Corporation, subject to a written agreement, to provide certain outside entities administrative services or support and to receive compensation for providing the services or support.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

EC, § 10-408(b) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 635 **Senator West**LANDLORDS AND PROSPECTIVE TENANTS – RESIDENTIAL LEASES
– CRIMINAL HISTORY REVIEW (MARYLAND FAIR CHANCE IN
HOUSING ACT)

Altering the number of years of criminal history, from 7 years to 3 years, that are reviewed in a certain reusable tenant screening report; establishing certain prohibitions and limitations on the review and consideration of a prospective tenant's criminal history; and requiring a landlord that denies the lease application of a prospective tenant to provide the individual with a physical document stating with particularity each reason for the denial.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

RP, § 8-218(b)(2)(i) - amended and § 8-220 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 636 **Senator West, et al**JUVENILE LAW – COMMISSION TO STUDY THE ABILITY OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE
SOCIAL SERVICES TO JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Establishing the Commission to Study the Ability of the Department of Juvenile Services to Provide Effective Social Services to Juvenile Offenders; and requiring the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 637 **Senators Brooks and Hettleman****HIGHER EDUCATION – UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS – OUT-OF-STATE TUITION EXEMPTION ELIGIBILITY**

Altering, from 3 years to 1 year, the number of years an individual or the individual's parent or guardian must file taxes before the academic year for eligibility to receive an out-of-state tuition exemption.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

ED, § 15-106.8(b)(4) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 638 **Senators Brooks and Klausmeier****EDUCATION – STUDENT SERVICE HOURS – FINANCIAL LITERACY COURSE**

Requiring each county board of education, beginning in the 2025–2026 school year, to allow completion of an eligible financial literacy courses to be applied toward fulfillment of the student service hours high school graduation requirement for the number of hours determined by the county board.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

ED, § 7-213 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 639 **Senator Brooks****PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION – DISABLED VETERANS – SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY**

Expanding eligibility for a property tax exemption for the dwelling house of a disabled veteran to include veterans with at least an 80% service connected disability; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2024.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

TP, § 7-208(a) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 640 **Senator Brooks****PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEMS – LIMITATION ON GENERATING CAPACITY – ALTERATION**

Increasing, from 2 megawatts to 5 megawatts, the limitation on the generating capacity for certain community solar energy generating systems that are exempt from personal property taxes.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

TP, § 7-237(c) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 641 **Senator Brooks****DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – SPAY/NEUTER FUND**

Altering the contents and authorized uses of the Spay/Neuter Fund; requiring the Department of Agriculture to establish a process through which a person may make a voluntary donation to the Fund; requiring the Department to give additional consideration to certain competitive grant proposals that meet certain criteria; and increasing the fee on commercial feed prepared and distributed for consumption by dogs or cats and registered in the State beginning October 1, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

AG, §§ 2-1602 and 2-1603 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 642 **Senator Brooks, et al****MARYLAND BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING REFUND AND LITTER REDUCTION PROGRAM**

Establishing the Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program to increase the reuse and recycling of beverage containers and reduce the litter, pollution, and costs associated with beverage containers; prohibiting a producer from selling, offering for sale, or distributing in or importing into the State a redeemable beverage container unless the producer is registered with the Department of the Environment, pays a certain fee, and is part of a certain stewardship organization; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

EN, §§ 9-1702(d) and 9-1707(f) - amended and §§ 9-1733 through 9-1751 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 643 Senator Carter (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)**PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT – SURVEILLANCE IMAGES – ILLEGAL DUMPING IN BALTIMORE CITY**

Repealing a certain provision of law requiring a custodian to deny inspection of certain surveillance images of illegal dumping in Baltimore City except under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

GP, § 4-322 - repealed

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 644 Senator Muse, et al**LANDLORD AND TENANT – RESIDENTIAL LEASES AND HOLDOVER TENANCIES – LOCAL JUST CAUSE TERMINATION PROVISIONS**

Authorizing a county to adopt by local law or ordinance provisions prohibiting a landlord of residential property from failing to renew a lease or from terminating a holdover tenancy without just cause; and establishing certain requirements for a local law or ordinance adopted in accordance with the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

RP, § 8-402(c)(2) - amended and § 8-402.3 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 645 Senator Elfreth**MARYLAND TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE MARYLAND OFFICE OF TRAILS – ESTABLISHMENT (GREAT MARYLAND TRAILS ACT)**

Establishing the Maryland Office of Trails in the Department of Transportation to develop and maintain the Maryland Trails Network, advance the development, maintenance, and use of trails in the State, develop a certain inventory and database, and collect certain information regarding trails; establishing a Director of the Maryland Office of Trails to oversee the Office and collaborate with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee; establishing the Maryland Trails Advisory Commission; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

TR, §§ 2-901 through 2-904 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 646 **Senators Carter and McCray****GENERAL PROVISIONS – COMMEMORATIVE DAYS – HIP HOP DAY OF SERVICE**

Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim November 18 as Hip Hop Day of Service; and requiring the proclamation to urge citizens and organizations to observe Hip Hop Day of Service with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

GP, § 7-420 - renumbered and added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 647 **Senator Ellis****ABANDONED CEMETERIES FUND – ESTABLISHMENT AND INCOME TAX CHECKOFF**

Establishing the Abandoned Cemeteries Fund to provide for the care, preservation, maintenance, and restoration of abandoned cemeteries in the State; establishing a certain income tax checkoff for voluntary contributions to the Abandoned Cemeteries Fund; and requiring the Comptroller to include a checkoff on individual income tax return forms for voluntary contributions to the Fund and to include certain information in each individual income tax return package.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

BR, § 5-805, SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)191., and TG, §§ 2-118 and 10-804(m) - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)189. and 190. - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 648 **Senator Ellis****BUSINESS REGULATION – CONTRACTORS, SUBCONTRACTORS, AND BROKERS – PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

Prohibiting a person from serving or acting as a broker between a contractor and subcontractor during the 5-year period immediately following the date the person was convicted of an offense constituting criminal malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance under any federal or State law.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

BR, § 19-107 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 649 **Senator Kagan****PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT PERSONNEL – TRAINING IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION**

Requiring the Maryland 9–1–1 Board to establish training standards for public safety answering point personnel concerning telecommunications cardiopulmonary resuscitation; and altering the purposes of the 9–1–1 Trust Fund to include funding the costs of certain telecommunications cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

PS, §§ 1-306(b)(15) and 1-308(b)(2)(viii) and (ix) - amended and § 1-308(b)(2)(x) - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 650 **Senator Kagan****CRIMINAL LAW – HATE CRIMES – NOTICE AND REMOVAL OF ITEM OR SYMBOL**

Requiring law enforcement agencies to promptly notify owners of personal or real property regarding certain items or symbols being placed or inscribed on the property; requiring certain property owners to remove the items or symbols within 24 hours after the certain item or symbol is reported to a law enforcement agency or the property owner receives a certain notification, subject to certain exceptions; and establishing that a penalty for a violation of this Act may only be imposed on an owner of commercial real or personal property.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

CR, § 10-305.2 - added and § 10-306 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 651 **Senator Kagan****BUSINESS REGULATION – SALE OF MOTOR FUEL – PRICING SIGNAGE (GAS PRICE GOUGING ACT)**

Altering a signage requirement for retail service stations relating to the price of regular gasoline so that the signage prominently displays clearly and visibly the credit and debit price, if higher than the cash price, or the credit and debit price and the cash price; repealing an exemption from a certain signage requirement for retail service station dealers that operate with not more than three dispensing units that combined have not more than six nozzles; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

BR, § 10-315 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 652 **Senator McCray**

DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES – REPORT ON SHOOTINGS
(DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES TRANSPARENCY ACT OF
2024)

Requiring the Department of Juvenile Services to report to the General Assembly, by December 1, 2024 and each December 1 thereafter, certain information regarding the number of shootings of and by juveniles under the supervision of the Department and the actions the Department took after the incidents including the timeline of the actions.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

HU, § 9-247 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 653 **Senator Augustine**

STANDING – ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES
PROTECTION PROCEEDINGS (CLEAN WATER JUSTICE ACT OF 2024)

Providing certain persons and associations standing in environmental and natural resources protection proceedings, including proceedings arising under provisions of law relating to water quality and water resources protection, subject to certain conditions; authorizing persons that meet standing requirements to bring certain civil actions under certain circumstances; authorizing a court to grant certain relief, award certain costs, and impose certain civil penalties in certain civil actions under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

EN, §§ 1-901 through 1-905 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 654 **Senator A. Washington****PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – STUDENT SUPPORT – SPECIALIST NETWORKS AND SUCCESS ACTION PLANS (STUDENT SUPPORTS AND SUCCESS ACT)**

Establishing a Student Support Specialist Network consisting of certain school-based personnel at each public high school in Prince George’s County; requiring the Prince George’s County Board of Education to develop a certain template using certain guidelines by August 31, 2024; and requiring each Student Support Specialist Network in the county to develop, approve, and implement a certain plan subject to review and approval by the Prince George’s County Board of Education.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

ED, § 7-452 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 655 **Anne Arundel County Senators****ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – PART-TIME DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR**

Increasing the annual salary of a part-time deputy chief inspector employed by the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County from \$9,000 to \$18,000; and establishing a workweek of 10 hours per week for the part-time deputy chief inspector.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

AB, § 11-206 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 656 **Anne Arundel County Senators****ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS – MEMBERSHIP**

Increasing the number of members on the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County from three to five members; and increasing the number of members that may belong to the same political party from two to four.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

AB, § 11-202 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 657 Anne Arundel County Senators**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – STUDENT LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM FOR EDUCATORS – ESTABLISHED**

Establishing the Anne Arundel County Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Educators to assist in the repayment of certain student loans owed by educators who meet certain eligibility requirements; providing the purpose of the program is to attract, recruit, and retain a diverse cadre of qualified educators in the County's schools that is reflective of the student population; and authorizing the governing body of Anne Arundel County to establish the Program for educators employed by the Anne Arundel County Public School System.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

ED, §§ 18-4001 through 18-4005 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 658 Anne Arundel County Senators**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – SHERIFF – SALARY**

Making, beginning in calendar year 2025, the salary of the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County equal to the salary of a captain in the Anne Arundel County Police Department at step 20 in the pay scale.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

CJ, § 2-315(b) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 659 Senator Augustine**PRINCE GEORGE'S GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – MODIFICATIONS**

Requiring the Prince George's Gateway Development Authority to meet at least four times per year; and requiring staff of the Authority to provide support for the Authority in consultation with the Department of Housing and Community Development.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

EC, § 12-903 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 660 **Senator Sydnor****MARYLAND VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 2024 – COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES**

Prohibiting local governments from denying or impairing the right of a protected class member to vote; establishing requirements on the State Board of Elections and local governments related to the provision of language-related assistance in local government elections; requiring the Attorney General or the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County to review and grant preclearance to certain policies before enactment or implementation; prohibiting acts of intimidation or obstruction that interfere with the right to vote; etc.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025

EL, §§ 15.5-101 through 15.5-703 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)191. - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)189. and 190. - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 661 **Senator Sydnor****PUBLIC SAFETY – LAW ENFORCEMENT – USE OF BODY-WORN CAMERAS**

Altering certain provisions of law to require a certain law enforcement agency to require the use of body-worn cameras, subject to a certain policy, by each sworn law enforcement officer, regardless of rank, employed by the law enforcement agency while the officer is in uniform, in public, and conducting law enforcement related duties.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

PS, § 3-511(c) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 662 **Senator Charles****CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – EVIDENCE – ADMISSIBILITY OF CREATIVE EXPRESSION**

Providing that the creative expression of a criminal defendant or juvenile respondent is not admissible against the defendant or respondent unless the court makes certain findings; and defining “creative expression” as the expression or application of creativity or imagination in the production or arrangement of forms, sounds, words, movements, or symbols.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

CJ, § 10-925 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 663 **Senator Charles****CHILD CUSTODY – REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION OF JOINT CUSTODY**

Establishing a rebuttable presumption in certain child custody proceedings that joint legal custody and joint physical custody for approximately equal periods of time are in the best interests of a child and establishing factors a court may consider when determining the best interests of the child; authorizing the court to award sole custody based on a preponderance of the evidence that a joint custody arrangement is not in the best interests of the child; requiring the Court to enter certain factors on the record; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

FL, § 9-109 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 664 **Senator Charles****REAL PROPERTY – LAND INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS – REQUIREMENTS AND VENDOR DUTIES AND LIMITATIONS**

Requiring the vendor to provide a purchaser under a land installment contract with the results of a title search for the property at or before the time the purchaser signs the contract; requiring the inclusion of certain notice, terms, and recitals in a land installment contract formed in the State; altering, from 40% to 20%, the percentage of the original cash price of a land installment contract that the purchaser must pay before the purchaser may demand a grant of the deed to the property to the purchaser; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

RP, §§ 10-102, 10-103, 10-105, and 10-107 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 665 **Senator Charles****MARYLAND CONDOMINIUM ACT – AMENDMENTS TO THE DECLARATION**

Reducing the percentage of unit owners listed on the current roster of a condominium needed to consent to an amendment of a condominium's declaration if none of the units of the condominium are owned by a developer of the condominium from 80% to 66 2/3%.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

RP, § 11-103(c) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 666 **Senator Charles****HUMAN RELATIONS – DISCRIMINATION BY A PLACE OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION**

Authorizing certain persons or the Commission on Civil Rights to elect to have the claims asserted in a complaint alleging discrimination by a place of public accommodation determined in a civil action brought by the Commission; expanding the remedies available for certain discrimination; clarifying the remedies available for an unlawful employment practice; authorizing a complainant alleging certain discrimination to bring a civil action under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

SG, §§ 20-1001, 20-1006(b), 20-1007(a) and (b), 20-1009, 20-1012(a) and (b), 20-1013, and 20-1016(a) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 667 **Senator Charles****STATE PROCUREMENT – MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF CONTRACT APPEALS – ATTORNEY’S FEES**

Requiring the Board of Contract Appeals to award a prospective bidder or offeror, a bidder, or an offeror reasonable costs of filing and pursuing a protest, including attorney’s fees, if an appeal is sustained and there is a violation of law or regulation; and requiring the Board of Contract Appeals to award a contractor under any State contract the reasonable costs of filing and pursuing a claim, including attorney’s fees, if procurement unit personnel act in bad faith, without justification, or in violation of law or regulation.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

SF, §§ 15-221.1 and 15-221.2 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 668 **Senator Charles**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES – CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE
– LUGGAGE

Requiring the Department of Human Services to establish and maintain a decentralized supply of new luggage to be used to transport the personal belongings of a child in foster care; requiring the Department to provide new luggage to a child who is being removed from a household, unless the child is changing placement and is in possession of luggage previously provided by the Department; and requiring the Department to maintain certain records regarding luggage and children in foster care.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

FL, § 5-505.2 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 669 **Senator Charles**

STATE GOVERNMENT – ATTORNEY GENERAL – REPORTS

Altering reporting requirements for the Attorney General; and requiring the Attorney General to publish its annual report and opinions on the Attorney General's website.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

SG, §§ 6-106.1 and 6-108(d) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 670 **Senator Charles**

CHILD CUSTODY AND VISITATION – BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD

Requiring the court, in determining the appropriate allocation of custody or visitation between the parties that is in the best interest of the child, to consider the ability of each of the parties to meet the child's developmental needs, the relations between the child, the parties, the siblings and other relatives, the ability of each party to meet the child's day-to-day needs and certain other factors; and requiring the court to articulate certain findings of fact on the record.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

FL, § 9-109 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 671 **Senator Charles****FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS – RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGORS AND GRANTORS – ACCESS TO COUNSEL**

Requiring that individuals have access to legal representation in certain foreclosure proceedings; establishing the Access to Counsel in Foreclosure Proceedings Program to organize and direct services and resources to provide covered individuals with access to certain legal representation; establishing a Special Fund to provide funding to fully implement access to legal representation in foreclosure proceedings; requiring the Maryland Legal Services Corporation to provide access to legal representation under the Program; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

RP, §§ 7-3A-01 through 7-3A-10 & 10-714 and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)191. - added and SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)189. and 190. - amended
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 672 **Senator Charles****VEHICLE LAWS – AUTOMATED ENFORCEMENT CITATIONS AND NOTICES – MAILING ADDRESSES**

Requiring that citations and notices issued as a result of automated enforcement under the Maryland Vehicle Law be sent to the current mailing address on file with the Administration or if a mailing address is not available, the current residential address on file with the Administration.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

TR, Various Sections - added and amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 673 **Senator Charles**

STATE PROCUREMENT – SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESS RESERVE PROGRAM (PARRAN J. MITCHELL MBE PRIME CONTRACTING ACT)

Altering the Small Business Reserve Program to be the Small and Minority Business Reserve Program; requiring a unit of State government, as practicable, to structure its procurement procedures to achieve at least 10% of the unit's total dollar value of goods, supplies, services, maintenance, construction, construction-related services, and architectural and engineering contracts to be made to certified minority business enterprises; and requiring a certain study to include the Small and Minority Business Reserve Program.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

SF, §§ 14-501, 14-502, 14-502.1, and 14-503 through 14-505 and Chapter 154 of the Acts of 2012, § 2, as amended - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 674 **Senator Elfreth, et al**

ABANDONED OR SUNKEN VESSELS AND WATERWAY IMPROVEMENT FUND GRANTS

Requiring the owner of a vessel that is required to be numbered to include certain contact information for each owner of the vessel with the application for a certificate of number; requiring the Department of Natural Resources, before and after seizing, removing, or taking an abandoned or sunken vessel into custody, to attempt to contact certain individuals in a certain manner; requiring the Department to distribute at least \$250,000 from the Waterway Improvement Fund each fiscal year to certain organizations; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

NR, §§ 8-712(b) and 8-721 - amended and §§ 8-709(e) and 8-721.2 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 675 The President (By Request – Office of the Comptroller)**INDIVIDUAL TAX PREPARERS – CODE OF ETHICS, NOTIFICATION OF ACTIONS, ENFORCEMENT, AND PENALTIES (STOP SCAM TAX PREPARERS ACT)**

Requiring the State Board of Individual Tax Preparers to publish on the Board's website a certain code of ethics and rules of professional conduct by January 1, 2026; requiring the Board to notify the Comptroller and the Field Enforcement Bureau within 5 business days after receipt of an allegation of an alleged violation of provisions of law governing individual tax preparers; granting certain employees of the Bureau certain powers, duties, and responsibilities for enforcing laws pertaining to income tax preparation; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

BOP, § 21-205(c) - added and BOP, §§ 21-206 and 21-401 and TG, §§ 1-207(f), 2-107(a)(2)(ii), 10-824, and 13-1004 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment and Budget and Taxation

SB 676 The President (By Request – Office of the Comptroller)**TAX ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME MARYLANDERS – FUNDING**

Requiring the Comptroller, beginning in fiscal year 2025, to distribute a certain amount of abandoned property funds to the Tax Clinics for Low-Income Marylanders Fund; requiring the Governor to include \$800,000 in the annual budget for the CASH Campaign of Maryland to award grants for providing certain tax assistance through on-demand and mobile tax clinics; and requiring certain grant recipients to interact with the CASH Campaign on, at minimum, a quarterly basis each year for a certain purpose.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

CL, § 17-317 and HU, § 6-801 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 677 The President (By Request – Office of the Comptroller)**COMPTROLLER – ELECTRONIC TAX AND FEE RETURN FILING REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring, beginning in calendar year 2026, that returns for certain taxes and fees collected by the Comptroller be filed electronically, subject to certain exceptions; and altering certain requirements for electronic filing of returns for certain taxes.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

EN, §§ 9-228(g)(4) and 9-1605.2(e)(1) - amended and TG, Various Sections - amended, repealed, and added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 678 The President (By Request – Office of the Comptroller)**INCOME TAX – TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS**

Repealing certain obsolete provisions of law concerning the distribution of income tax revenue; and correcting a certain erroneous cross-reference.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

TG, §§ 2-608.1 and 2-610(d) - repealed and §§ 2-609 and 10-753(b) - amended
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 679 The President (By Request – Office of the Comptroller)**DISCLOSURE OF TAX INFORMATION – TAX COMPLIANCE
ACTIVITY AND BINDING DATA USE AGREEMENTS**

Authorizing, subject to certain limitations, the disclosure of certain tax information to certain persons and governmental entities for the purpose of assisting the Comptroller in certain tax compliance efforts; requiring the Comptroller, when disclosing tax information in accordance with certain provisions of law, to require the party to whom the information is to be disclosed to enter a written, binding data use agreement; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

TG, §§ 13-203(c) and 13-1018 - amended and §§ 13-203(f) and 13-208 - added
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 680 The President (By Request – Office of the Attorney General)**STATE GOVERNMENT – PUBLIC WELFARE ACTIONS –
DETERMINATIONS AND SETTLEMENTS**

Requiring the factfinder in a public welfare action to make a certain determination and assign responsibility and liability in a certain manner; authorizing the State to continue to pursue certain actions if it does not obtain complete relief from certain responsible persons; establishing that certain provisions of law requiring uniform contribution among joint tort-feasors do not apply to public welfare claims; and establishing the impact of a certain settlement on the liability of certain responsible persons.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

CJ, § 3-1401.1 and SG, § 6-106.2 - added
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 681 **Senators Lam and Gile**

MAJOR HIGHWAY CAPACITY EXPANSION PROJECTS – IMPACT ASSESSMENTS AND MITIGATION PLANS (TRANSPORTATION AND CLIMATE ALIGNMENT ACT OF 2024)

Requiring the Department of Transportation to establish a process for performing major highway capacity expansion project impact assessments; requiring the Department and a metropolitan planning organization to perform an impact assessment under certain circumstances; requiring the Department to use the impact assessment to determine whether a project meets certain requirements; requiring the Department and a metropolitan planning organization to develop a certain mitigation plan under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

TR, §§ 2-901 through 2-907 - added

Assigned to: Finance and Budget and Taxation

SB 682 **Senator Hester**

LIMITATIONS ON COST RECOVERY BY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANIES AND REPORTS ON VOTES CAST AT MEETINGS OF REGIONAL TRANSMISSION ORGANIZATIONS (UTILITY TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT)

Prohibiting public service companies from recovering through rates certain costs; requiring certain public service companies to submit an annual report to the Public Service Commission regarding costs related to certain activities; requiring each electric company to be a member of a regional transmission organization; and requiring each electric company to submit a report by February 1 each year, to the Commission regarding certain votes cast by the electric company and any of its affiliates at a meeting of the regional transmission organization.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

PU, § 4-103 - amended and §§ 4-504, 4-505, and 7-108 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 683 **Senator Hester****TREE EXPERT LICENSES – WORKERS’ COMPENSATION INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FEE ALTERATIONS**

Requiring a licensed tree expert, or a business that employs a licensed tree expert to carry and show proof of certain workers’ compensation insurance for certain employees; repealing certain provisions of law establishing that certain application and renewal fees may not exceed certain amounts; and authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to permanently revoke or temporarily suspend a tree expert license if the license holder fails to maintain workers’ compensation insurance in a certain manner.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

NR, § 5-416 - repealed and added and §§ 5-418, 5-419, and 5-421 - amended
Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 684 **Senator Augustine****HEALTH INSURANCE – MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER BENEFITS – SUNSET REPEAL AND MODIFICATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Altering certain reporting requirements on health insurance carriers relating to compliance with the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act; altering requirements for certain analyses of nonquantitative treatment limitations required of health insurance carriers; authorizing the Maryland Insurance Commissioner to exercise discretion to review subsets of nonquantitative treatment limitations under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

IN, § 15-144 and Chapters 211 and 212 of the Acts of 2020, § 4 - amended
Assigned to: Finance

SB 685 **Senator Augustine****PROGRAM OPEN SPACE – USE OF PROPERTY – RENEWABLE ENERGY AND STORAGE**

Authorizing the use of land that is acquired or developed with funds available under Program Open Space to be used for the generation of electricity from a solar or wind source and the storage of electricity in certain energy storage devices.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

NR, § 5-911 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 686 **Senator Augustine****ENVIRONMENT – COVERED ELECTRONIC DEVICES RECYCLING PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Covered Electronic Device Recycling Program in the Department of the Environment; repealing certain provisions of law relating to existing covered electronic takeback programs; repealing a certain provision of law authorizing a county to address methods for the separate collection and recycling of covered electronic devices in a certain recycling plan; requiring a separate covered electronic device recycling account within the State Recycling Trust Fund; altering the uses of the Trust Fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

EN, Various Sections - amended and §§ 9-1728.3 and 9-1728.4 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 687 **Senator Smith (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)****CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – BAIL BONDS – SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

Repealing certain provisions of law relating to bail bonds in the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

CP, §§ 5-203 and 5-209 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 688 **Senator Smith (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)****PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – JUDGESHIPS – CIRCUIT COURTS**

Altering the number of resident judges of the circuit courts by adding one additional judgeship in Prince George’s County.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

CJ, § 1-503 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 689 **Senator Smith**

FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION – RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY – REQUIREMENTS (MELANIE NICHOLLE DIAZ FIRE SAFETY ACT)

Establishing certain requirements relating to the installation of certain fire safety equipment in residential rental high-rise buildings and certain other property; authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to grant, by law, a certain property tax credit; establishing the Workgroup to Develop Fire Safety Best Practices for Pre-1974 High-Rise Buildings; requiring the Workgroup to report its findings and recommendations on or before December 31, 2024; etc.
VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

PS, §§ 9-102, 9-105, 9-403, and 9-405 - amended and PS, § 9-406 and TP, § 9-268 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 690 **Senator Guzzone**

COMMUNITY COLLEGES – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES

Defining “supervisory employee” to clarify provisions of law relating to collective bargaining rights for certain community college employees as an employee who is authorized to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge, reward, or discipline employees, responsibly direct employees for more than 50% of the employee’s working hours, or address and resolve the grievances of employees.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

ED, § 16-701(q) - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 691 **Senator Augustine****HIGHER EDUCATION – FIREFIGHTERS AND EMS RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION – SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE**

Altering the Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship to make the scholarship applicable to all programs at institutions of higher education in the State; altering the maximum award available, when a scholarship should be credited, and to whom initial awards should be provided under the scholarship; establishing the Maryland Loan Repayment Assistance Program for Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Providers; providing for the administration of the loan repayment program; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

ED, § 18-603.1 - amended and §§ 18-4001 through 18-4004 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 692 **Senator Jennings, et al****CYBERSECURITY – WORKGROUP TO STUDY DATA SECURITY – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Workgroup to Study Data Security to study certain data protection standards, identify existing standards that would best be assimilated by State agencies, and develop recommendations on and assess certain fiscal impacts; and requiring the Workgroup to submit an interim report by December 1, 2024 and a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by June 30, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 693 **Carroll County Senators****CARROLL COUNTY – PUBLIC FACILITIES BOND**

Authorizing and empowering the County Commissioners of Carroll County to borrow not more than \$29,800,000 in order to finance the construction, improvement, or development of certain public facilities in Carroll County, and to effect such borrowing by the issuance and sale at public or private sale of its general obligation bonds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 694 **Senator Feldman**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – HEALTH COMMISSIONS
AND MARYLAND INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION – STUDY

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to contract with an independent consultant to conduct a certain study of the Health Services Cost Review Commission, the Maryland Health Care Commission, the Maryland Insurance Administration, and the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission; and requiring the Department to submit a report on the results of the study to the Governor, the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee on or before January 1, 2026.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

SB 695 **Senator Feldman**BUILDING CODE – CONSTRUCTION AND SIGNIFICANT
RENOVATION OF HOUSING UNITS – ELECTRIC VEHICLE PARKING
SPACES

Requiring the construction of new multifamily residential buildings with separate garages, carports, or driveways for each residential unit to include certain parking spaces for electric vehicle charging; requiring certain significant renovations of housing units with separate garages, carports, or driveways for each residential unit to include certain parking spaces for electric vehicle recharging; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

PS, § 12-205 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 696 **Senator Feldman****ENERGY GENERATION PROJECTS – LABOR AND MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring the developer of a covered project, on the approval of a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of a certain generating station or qualified generator lead line or approval for the construction of a certain generating station, to meet certain labor standards and reporting requirements; establishing certain labor standards and certain certification, reporting, and record-keeping requirements related to the construction of a covered project; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

LE, § 3-718 and PU, §§ 7-207(i) and (j) and 7-207.1(h) and (i) - added and PU, §§ 7-207(a) and 7-207.1(a) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 697 **Senator Gile****MARYLAND NATIONAL GUARD – TRICARE PREMIUM REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM – ALTERATIONS**

Removing a certain reimbursement limit on grant awards to certain members of the National Guard for the cost of certain health care and dental care premiums.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

PS, § 13-411 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 698 **Senator M. Washington****ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION BOARD – SCOPE OF AUTHORITY – ALTERATIONS**

Altering the scope of authority of the Accountability and Implementation Board regarding conflicts between a decision or policy of the Board and another entity responsible for implementing an element of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

ED, § 5-402(h) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 699 **Senator M. Washington****CANNABIS – COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR FUND –
DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF FUNDS FOR BALTIMORE CITY**

Altering the process for distributing the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund to Baltimore City by allocating certain funds to the Baltimore City Comptroller under certain circumstances; establishing an Equitable Community Investment Council in each Baltimore City State legislative district; requiring each council to adopt bylaws by September 1, 2024, and to develop certain plans to allocate certain funds through certain grants to community-based organizations for certain services and programs; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

AB, § 1-322(b) - amended and § 1-324 - added

Assigned to: Finance and Budget and Taxation

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED January 29, 2024**SJ 2** **Senator Carter, et al****USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

Stating that the General Assembly joins seven other state legislative bodies and over 75 municipalities and counties in passing a Back from the Brink resolution on reducing the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons; urging members of the State's Congressional Delegation who have not yet done so to cosponsor House Resolution 77 relating to the use of nuclear weapons; and urging the U.S. President and the U.S. Senate to endorse the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment