

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfilled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<b>2025 Bill Tracker- The Arc Maryland</b>							
<a href="#">HB0350</a>	<a href="#">SB0319</a>	Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2025)	House Speaker by Request of Administration	In House APP First Reading	Evaluating	Making the proposed appropriations contained in the State Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, in accordance with Article III, Section 52 of the Maryland Constitution; etc.	<p>The budget bill contains approximately 200 million in cuts and cost containment measures for the Developmental Disabilities Administration:</p> <p><b>The cuts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to end the geographic differential rates for services in the counties that have higher cost of living-border DC and include major economic centers (Frederick).</li> <li>-capping IFDGS (Individual and Family Directed Goods and Services) under Self Direction</li> <li>-end the Low Intensity Support Services Program (LISS) which currently serves between 2000 and 2500 families a year.</li> <li>-adjust down the reasonable and customary rates for Self-Direction to be in line with the BLS that is used in Community Provider Services.</li> <li>-eliminate Wage exceptions.</li> <li>-require providers to exhaust Shared Hours before dedicated hours may be requested and used.</li> <li>-redefine the Waiting List Equity Fund purpose to use it for current services.</li> </ul> <p>In total, DDA estimates 200 million saved through these cost containment measures.</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <p>The proposal is that most if not all of these changes would take effect immediately upon the passage of the budget- in just two and a half months.</p>
<a href="#">SB0319</a>	<a href="#">HB0350</a>	Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2025)	Senate President at Request of Administration	In Senate B&T First Reading	Evaluating	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0352</a>	<a href="#">SB0321</a>	Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025	House Speaker at Request of Administration	In House APP Hearing 2/25 at 1 PM and W&M First Reading	Evaluating	Bill imposes a mandated appropriation in the annual State Budget Bill. Bill imposes a local government mandate, which is a directive in a bill requiring a local government unit to perform a task or assume a responsibility that has a discernible fiscal impact on the local government unit	The BRFA proposed to amend current state law to eliminate the LISS program, change the way Waiting List Equity Funds can be used, and reinstate the cap on Individual and Family Directed Goods and Services.
<a href="#">SB0321</a>	<a href="#">HB0352</a>	Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025	Senate President at Request of Administration	In Senate B&T Hearing 2/26 at 1 PM	Evaluating	See above	See above

### Bill Positions by Topic

Bill	Crossfilled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<b>Community Living &amp; Working</b>							
<a href="#">HB0031</a>	<a href="#">SB0382</a>	Consumer Protection- Right to Repair-Powered Wheelchairs	Delegate Kaufman	In House EMC Hearing 1/21 at 1 PM	Support	Requiring, in order to make repairs to powered wheelchairs, that a certain manufacturer make available certain documentation, parts, embedded software, firmware, and tools to a certain independent repair provider or owner of a powered wheelchair; and generally relating to the repair of powered wheelchairs.	It can often take several months and sometimes years for specialized wheelchairs to be repaired. Related to this, repairs can be costly, and sometimes cost-prohibitive, leaving people without much of an option for access to a safe and reliable wheelchair. Much of this has to do with a lack of cooperation and information sharing from wheelchair manufacturers to repair companies, and a lack of transparency about costs and parts alternatives. This bill would require anyone doing business in Maryland to sell and repair wheelchairs provide information to consumers and collaborate for more timely, cost-efficient repairs.
<a href="#">SB0382</a>	<a href="#">HB0031</a>	Consumer Protection- Right to Repair-Powered Wheelchairs	Senator Kagan et al.	In Senate FIN Hearing 2/6 at 1 PM	Support	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0214</a>	<a href="#">SB0208</a>	Human Services - Maryland Assistive Technology Program - Establishment	Chair of APP by Request of Dept of Disabilities	In House APP First Reading	Support	Establishing the Maryland Assistive Technology Program in the Department of Disabilities to provide assistive technology devices and services to individuals with disabilities; establishing the Assistive Technology Services Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; and generally relating to the Maryland Assistive Technology Program.	This would enshrine the functions of the MDTAP program into law, making the program less vulnerable to "optional" service cuts.
<a href="#">SB0208</a>	<a href="#">HB0214</a>	Human Services - Maryland Assistive Technology Program - Establishment	Chair of FIN by Request of Dept of Disabilities	In Senate FIN Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM	Support	See above	

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchausee@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">HB0249</a>	<a href="#">SB0125</a>	Residential Real Property- Local Limits on Summoning Law Enforcement or Emergency Services	Delegate Palkovich Carr	In House JUD Hearing 1/22 at 1 PM	Support	Prohibiting a local jurisdiction from enforcing a law or ordinance that limits the summoning of law enforcement or emergency services to a residential property by establishing a certain threshold or penalty; and generally relating to the enforcement of local laws and ordinances that limit the summoning of law enforcement or emergency services.	This bill builds upon the protections created by last year's legislation, by ensuring there can not be limits placed on the number of times an individual summons EMS or Law enforcement. We submitted Coalition Testimony
<a href="#">SB0125</a>	<a href="#">HB0249</a>	Residential Real Property- Local Limits on Summoning Law Enforcement or Emergency Services	Senator Gile	In Senate JPR Hearing 1/23 at 1 PM	Support	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0221</a>	<a href="#">SB0242</a>	Department of Information Technology - Maryland Digital Service - Establishment	Chair of HGO by Request of Dept of Info Technology	In House HGO Hearing 2/4 at 2 PM	Support	Establishing the Maryland Digital Service within the Department of Information Technology to support improved service delivery to Maryland residents and agency staff through user-centered design, software development, and product management best practices; and generally relating to the Maryland Digital Service.	DOIT is responsible for assisting US government to prioritize their transition to user-friendly, accessible and multilingual digital platforms for all Maryland residents to have equitable access to information.
<a href="#">SB0242</a>	<a href="#">HB0221</a>	Department of Information Technology - Maryland Digital Service - Establishment	Chair of EEE by Request of Dept of Info Technology	In Senate EEE Hearing 1/16 at 2 PM	Support	See above	See above
<a href="#">SB0157</a>	<a href="#">HB0384</a>	Maryland Disability Service Animal Program- Established	Senators Simonaire, Carozza & Guzzone	In Senate FIN Hearing 1/15 at 10:30 AM	Support	Establishing the Maryland Disability Service Animal Program in the Department of Disabilities; requiring the Department to select a nonprofit training entity for participation in the Program; establishing the Maryland Disability Service Animal Program Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; and generally relating to the Maryland Disability Service Animal Program.	This year, the bill contains the language change we requested for last year's bill and we are supportive. We submitted Support Testimony
<a href="#">HB0384</a>	<a href="#">SB0157</a>	Maryland Disability Service Animal Program- Established	Delegate Lehman et al.	In House HGO Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM	Support	See above	
<a href="#">SB0297</a>	<a href="#">HB0329</a>	Sign Language Interpreters – Licensing Requirement	Senator King	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/6 at 1 PM	Support	Alters the date by which an individual must be licensed by the State Board of Sign Language Interpreters before providing certain sign language interpretation services or making certain representations; and is generally relating to sign language interpreter licensing.	There continues to be a shortage of Sign Language Interpreters and must be more effort by the state to recruit and qualify those who may provide this service. The legislation extends the deadline by 1 year by which all ASL interpreters must be licensed to prevent a greater gap between the interpreter workforce and the need for interpretation services.
<a href="#">HB0329</a>	<a href="#">SB0297</a>	Sign Language Interpreters – Licensing Requirement	Delegate Bagnall	In House HGO Hearing 2/11 at 1 PM	Support	Alters the date by which an individual must be licensed by the State Board of Sign Language Interpreters before providing certain sign language interpretation services or making certain representations; and is generally relating to sign language interpreter licensing.	There continues to be a shortage of Sign Language Interpreters and must be more effort by the state to recruit and qualify those who may provide this service. The legislation extends the deadline by 1 year by which all ASL interpreters must be licensed to prevent a greater gap between the interpreter workforce and the need for interpretation services.
<a href="#">HB0430</a>		Employed Individuals With Disabilities Program - Upper Age Limit - Prohibition	Delegate Cullison	In House HGO First Reading	Support	Prohibiting the Maryland Department of Health from establishing an upper age limit for eligibility to receive Employed Individuals with Disabilities Program services	There is currently an age limit of 64 years old to participate in the EID program which allows individuals with disabilities to work and pay into the program to be covered by Medicaid. Last year, a similar bill to repeal the upper age limit was amended to remove the age consideration, despite pleas from advocates to change the law to allow people to work and support themselves longer. This year's bill removes the upper age limit which would allow people to continue to work and keep their medical assistance through this buy in program.
<a href="#">HB0450</a>		Maryland Transit Administration - Disability Reduced Fare Program - Renewal for Permanently Disabled Individuals	Delegate Guyton et al.	In House APP Hearing Canceled and E&T First Reading	Support	Requiring the Maryland Transit Administration to automatically renew the Disability Reduced Fare Program certification of an enrollee who is permanently disabled. 7-718.15 (A) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL AUTOMATICALLY RENEW THE DISABILITY REDUCED FARE PROGRAM CERTIFICATION OF AN ENROLLEE WHO IS PERMANENTLY DISABLED. (B) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING A PROCESS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.	Currently, people with IDD (considered a permanent disability) have to renew their Disability Reduced Fair Program authorizations frequently, requiring new medical evaluations, etc. for a condition that is unlikely to change to the point where they would be disenrolled. This bill makes it so that people do not have to go through a reauthorization process for a condition that is considered, by medical professionals, to be permanent.
<a href="#">HB0502</a>	<a href="#">SB0433</a>	Office of Disability Employment Advancement and Policy and Maryland as a Model Employer Initiative - Established	House Speaker by Request of Administration et al.	In House APP Hearing 2/4 at 1 PM	Support	Establishing the Office of Disability Employment Advancement and Policy within the Department of Disabilities; establishing the Maryland as a Model Employer Initiative within the Office of Disability Employment Advancement and Policy to facilitate efforts that improve outcomes in the hiring, recruitment, retention, and advancement of people with disabilities in the State government workforce; and requiring the Office to report annually on the progress and outcomes of the Initiative.	We support this with the understanding that the first year, there would be no fiscal impact. This would be assumed under existing staff and duties and re-evaluated for future years for funding need.
<a href="#">SB0433</a>	<a href="#">HB0502</a>	Office of Disability Employment Advancement and Policy and Maryland as a Model Employer Initiative - Established	Senate President by Request of Administration et al.	In Senate FIN Hearing 2/4 at 1 PM	Support	See above	See above

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">HB0696</a>	<a href="#">SB0490</a>	State Boards, Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, and Workgroups - Elimination of Citizenship Requirements and Establishment of Diversity Requirements	Delegate Woods et al.	In House HGO First Reading	Support	Eliminating citizenship requirements for boards and commissions; and requiring that members of boards, committees, commissions, task forces, and workgroups reflect the full diversity of the State to the extent practicable.	
<a href="#">SB0490</a>	<a href="#">HB0696</a>	State Boards, Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, and Workgroups - Elimination of Citizenship Requirements and Establishment of Diversity Requirements	Senator Kagan et al.	In Senate EEE First Reading	Support	See above	
<a href="#">SB0058</a>		Labor and Employment – Parental School Engagement Leave Act	Senator Benson	In Senate FIN Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM	LOI or Support with Caveat	Requiring certain employers to provide certain employees with parental school engagement leave to attend meetings and conferences relating to the schooling of the employee's child; requiring the State Superintendent of Schools and the Commissioner of Labor to provide notice of certain requirements of this Act and develop and make available a document that may be used to validate an employee's use of parental school engagement leave; and generally relating to parental school engagement leave.	This bill would create a new leave requirement for employers to provide 12 hours of paid parental school engagement leave to enable parents to attend to school-related meetings and events for their children. We submitted testimony stating that while we support the intention of the legislation to create this leave program, especially beneficial for parents of students with IEPs and 504 plans who may have more education/planning meetings to attend than other parents, this leave program would create an unfunded mandate for medicaid providers who are not able to pass on expenses to their customers. Creating a mandate without additional funding for medicaid providers to implement an additional leave program, may have negative consequences for providers and ultimately people with IDD who rely on their services. The leave program would extend to Government employers, thus creating a sizable fiscal note this year.
<a href="#">HB0141</a>		Task Force on Loneliness and Isolation	Delegate Vogel	In House HGO Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM	Support with Amendments	Establishing the State Task Force on Loneliness and Isolation to study and make recommendations related to loneliness and isolation experienced by individuals in the State; and generally relating to the Task Force on Loneliness and Isolation.	We support the creation of this task force and think there should be a member of the DD Coalition as a member of it, given what we know about the prevalence of isolation with people who have IDD. According to NLM (NIH), "People with disability experienced loneliness, low perceived social support and social isolation at significantly higher rates than people without disability. Effect sizes were significantly greater for loneliness. Disability was associated with lower wellbeing. With one exception, low social connectedness was associated with lower wellbeing. Again, effect sizes were significantly greater for loneliness. The prevalence of loneliness was highest among adults with disability who were younger, economically inactive, living in rented or other accommodation, living alone and with low levels of access to environmental assets." <a href="https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7403030/">https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7403030/</a>

#### Education & Childcare

<a href="#">HB0057</a>		County Boards of Education- Student Cellular Phone Use Policy- Establishment	Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo	In House W&M Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM	Support with Amendments	Requiring each county board of education to develop and implement a policy limiting the use of a cellular phone by a student during the school day except under certain circumstances; and generally relating to county boards of education and a student cellular phone use policy.	Right now, the bill language includes a carve-out for cell phone use for students with IEPs. We contacted the Delegate for what we believe will be considered a friendly amendment to include students with 504 plans as well.
<a href="#">SB0029</a>		Education- Phone Free Schools Pilot Program- Establishment	Senators Waldstreicher and Ready	In Senate EEE Hearing 1/29 at 2:30 PM	Support	Establishing the Phone-Free Schools Pilot Program; requiring certain local school systems to develop and implement a policy that prohibits student cell phone use during the school day, subject to certain exceptions; and generally relating to the Phone-Free Schools Pilot Program.	This bill includes a carve out for students with IEPs and 504 Plans and instead of creating a statewide obligation (all counties) it creates a pilot program for Montgomery and Carroll County.
<a href="#">SB0130</a>		County Boards of Education- Student Cellular Phone Use Policy- Establishment	Senator Benson	In Senate EEE Hearing 1/29 at 2:30 PM	Support	Requiring each county board of education to develop and implement a policy that prohibits students from using a cellular device during the school day except under certain circumstances; and generally relating to county boards of education and student cellular device use policy.	This bill is similar to the bill put in by Senator Waldstreicher and Ready (language is the same) however this would have a statewide impact. The bill contains language to ensure that students with IEPs or 504 plans may still have access to cell phones if included as an accommodation in their plans.
<a href="#">SB0151</a>		Higher Education- Disciplinary Records- Use in Admissions and Disciplinary Proceedings	Senator A. Washington	In Senate EEE Hearing 1/22 at 10 AM	Support with Amendments	Prohibiting an institution of higher education from using an admissions application that contains questions about an applicant's disciplinary record, subject to certain exceptions; authorizing an institution of higher education to make inquiries into and consider information about a student's disciplinary record for discipline related to academic dishonesty; and generally relating to the consideration of disciplinary records in higher education.	While we support a prohibition on higher education institutions asking about a student's disciplinary records to use in their admissions decisions, this bill seems to be in the same format as last years' bill. At that time, and this time, we would ask that the bill go future to prohibit schools from asking questions on applications related to disciplinary records, including asking if students have changed schools which may make a student have to disclose discipline.

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">HB0197</a>	<a href="#">SB0068</a>	Public Schools- Restorative Practices Schools- Comprehensive Plan	Delegate Pasteur	In House W&M Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM	Support	Requiring the State Department of Education to develop a comprehensive plan to implement requirements for the establishment of Restorative Practices Schools; requiring a county board of education to use the comprehensive plan if the county board chooses to establish a Restorative Practices School; and 6 generally relating to Restorative Practices Schools.	
<a href="#">SB0068</a>	<a href="#">HB0197</a>	Public Schools- Restorative Practices Schools- Comprehensive Plan	Senator Brooks	In Senate EEE Hearing 1/29 at 2:30 PM	Support	See above	
<a href="#">HB0185</a>	<a href="#">SB0359</a>	Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program - Funding - Alterations	Delegate Mireku-North et al.	In House W&M Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM and APP First Reading	Support	This bill would alter the fiscal years during which the Governor is required to include in the annual budget bill a certain appropriation to the Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program; and generally relating to funding for the Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program.	Current funding sunsets this fiscal year. This bill was filed last year and did not advance with the understanding it was too soon, and would be brought back this year.
<a href="#">SB0359</a>	<a href="#">HB0185</a>	Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program - Funding - Alterations	Senator King	In Senate B&T Hearing 1/29 at 10:30 AM	Support	See above	See above
<a href="#">SB0097</a>		Education - Youth Enhancement Program - Establishment	Senator McCray	In Senate B&T Hearing 1/15 at 10:30 AM and EEE First Reading	Support with Amendments	This bill will establish a mentorship program that would provide grants to organizations that serve early adolescent children and young adults who attend public school in Baltimore City or Baltimore County, qualify for free or reduced price meals, and are members of a historically disadvantaged group who face obstacles to achievement.	The EAC supports the establishment of this worthy program and suggests an amendment making clear that adolescents and young adults with disabilities must be included within the scope of the program.
<a href="#">HB0068</a>		Public Schools- Children Suspected of a Crime of Violence- Prohibition on In-Person Attendance (Student Protection Act of 2025)	Delegate Mangione	In House W&M Hearing 1/23 at 1 PM	Oppose with EAC	Prohibiting a child from in-person attendance at a public school if the child has been identified as a suspect for certain offenses; until certain conditions are met; requiring each local school system to provide alternative educational options for children prohibited from in-person attendance in a certain manner; and generally relating to the prohibition of in-school attendance by children identified as suspects for certain offenses.	This bill refers to students suspected of a crime of violence (not charged). Maryland Criminal Law Code Section 14-101 Crime of Violence definitions include things like mayhem, maiming, assault, and minor sexual offenses, along with other crimes. While we work through the education and justice system's treatment of students with disabilities and these charge labels that are often applied excessively on a student for behavior that is related to their disability, we have concerned this would increase the school to prison pipeline for students with disabilities, with alternatives not clearly defined.
<a href="#">HB0137</a>		Public Schools - Children Charged With a Crime of Violence - Prohibition on In-Person Attendance (School Safety Act of 2025)	Delegate Mangione et al.	In House W&M Hearing 1/23 at 1 PM	Oppose with EAC	Prohibiting a child from in-person attendance at a public school if the child has been charged with a crime of violence, until certain conditions are met; requiring each local school system to provide alternative educational options for children prohibited from in-person attendance in a certain manner; and generally relating to the prohibition of in-school attendance by children charged with a crime of violence.	Similar to the bill above, this bill refers to students CHARGED with a crime of violence as defined by Criminal Law Code Section 14-101,
<a href="#">HB0630</a>	<a href="#">SB0368</a>	County Boards of Education - Student Cellular Phone Use Policy - Establishment (Maryland Phone-Free Schools Act)	Delegate Boafo et al.	In House W&M First Reading	Support	Requiring each county board of education to develop and implement, not later than the 2026-2027 school year, a policy limiting the use of a cellular phone by a student during the school day; and prohibiting the policy from restricting a student's use of a cellular phone for any purpose documented in the student's individualized education program (or 504 Plan) to monitor or address a student's documented health issue during an emergency event or when directed by an educator or administrator for educational purposes.	This bill is similar to the bill put in by Senator Waldstreicher and Ready, and Benson however this would give County Boards of Ed the authority to develop policy on this matter. The bill contains language to ensure that students with IEPs or 504 plans may still have access to cell phones if included as an accommodation in their plans.
<a href="#">SB0368</a>	<a href="#">HB0630</a>	County Boards of Education - Student Cellular Phone Use Policy - Establishment (Maryland Phone-Free Schools Act)	Senator Watson	In Senate EEE Hearing 1/29 at 2:30 PM	Support	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0053</a>	<a href="#">SB0062</a>	Task Force on Education Funding and Student Population Growth	Delegates Fair, Mireku-North & Pruski	In House APP Hearing 1/28 at 1 PM	Support with Amendment	Establishing the Task Force on Education Funding and Student Population Growth; and generally relating to the Task Force on Education Funding and Student Population Growth.	We need to ensure there is adequate representation from the Special Education community for any group created to look at school funding and student population growth (future teacher needs). The Arc Maryland signed on to EAC testimony asking for an amendment to add at least one individual with expertise related to students with disabilities and special education.
<a href="#">SB0062</a>	<a href="#">HB0053</a>	Task Force on Education Funding and Student Population Growth	Senators Lewis Young and Ready	In Senate B&T Hearing 1/15 at 10:30 AM	Support with Amendment	See above	See above
<a href="#">SB0452</a>		Child Care Affordability Commission - Establishment	Senator King	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/12 at 2 PM	Support with Amendment	Establishing the Child Care Affordability Commission to study and make recommendations regarding child care affordability in the State; and requiring the Commission to submit an interim report by January 1, 2026, and a final report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 1, 2026.	Requesting Amendment to add a representative from a Therapeutic Child Care provider to ensure that childcare affordability, for children with complex needs, is properly considered.

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">SB0482</a>		Public Middle and High Schools - Student Discipline (Right to Teach Act of 2025)	Senator Gallion et al.	In Senate EEE First Reading	Oppose	Authorizing a teacher in a public middle or high school in the State to take certain disciplinary actions in response to certain student behavior and to direct students to certain school officials; and prohibiting a county board of education from taking disciplinary action against a certain teacher for certain actions.	This Legislation would undo years of work to create a system of trauma-informed, restorative practices in our schools which is needed to dismantle the school to prison pipeline.
<a href="#">HB0464</a>		Special Education - Individualized Education Program Meetings - Secondary Transition Planning Materials	Delegate Kaufman et al.	In House W&M Hearing 2/5 at 2 PM	Support	Requiring a local school system to provide information regarding certain secondary transition services to the parents of a child with a disability at certain individualized education program meetings.	
<a href="#">HB0495</a>		Education - Antidiscrimination Policies - Policy and Notice Requirements	Delegates Kaufman et al.	In House W&M First Reading and APP First Reading	Support	Requiring certain schools that have an antidiscrimination policy to ensure that the policy includes certain information and is available to certain individuals in a certain manner; requiring a school to provide a certain training regarding antidiscrimination policies to students and employees in a certain manner; and requiring, if sufficient resources are not available provide training, a school to coordinate with a community organization with certain expertise to provide the training to students and employees at no cost.	
<a href="#">HB0488</a>		Public Schools - Discipline-Related Data - Collection and Publication	Delegate Kaufman et al.	In House W&M First Reading	Support	Requiring the State Department of Education to disaggregate certain discipline-related data in an electronic spreadsheet format for the Department's website, make the data available to the public, and report certain discipline-related information each year; and requiring the Department to maintain a certain risk ratio and State comparison threshold used to identify a school's disproportional disciplinary practices and report disproportionality data for high-suspending schools.	

### Healthcare

<a href="#">SB00129</a>	<a href="#">HB0474</a>	Public Health - Maryland Commission on Health Equity - Advisory Committee and Hospital Reporting	Senator Ellis	In Senate FIN Hearing 1/30 at 1 PM	Support with Amendments	Requiring the Maryland Commission on Health Equity, in coordination with the Maryland Department of Health, to establish a health equity measures advisory committee; requiring licensed hospitals in the State to submit a health equity report annually to the Department and the health equity advisory committee; and generally relating to the health equity and hospital reporting.	We will request that a member of the DD Coalition have a seat on this advisory committee to review things through the lens of people with IDD
<a href="#">HB0474</a>	<a href="#">SB00129</a>	Public Health - Maryland Commission on Health Equity - Advisory Committee and Hospital Reporting	Delegate Bagnall et al.	In House HGO Hearing Canceled	Support with Amendments	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0300</a>	<a href="#">SB0127</a>	State Government - Grants and Contracts - Reimbursement of Indirect Costs	Delegate Kerr	In House HGO Hearing 2/4 at 2 PM	Support	Altering the rate at which nonprofit organizations receiving State-funded grants or contracts may be reimbursed for indirect costs to match the rate established under relevant federal guidelines.	According to the OMB Uniform Guidance, Subpart E, the current "de minimis" rate for grants is currently 15% of modified total direct costs. This means that organizations without a negotiated indirect cost rate can choose to charge up to 15% of their direct costs to cover indirect expenses.
<a href="#">SB0127</a>	<a href="#">HB0300</a>	State Government - Grants and Contracts - Reimbursement of Indirect Costs	Senator Kagan	In Senate B&T Hearing 1/22 at 11:30 AM	Support	See above	See above
<a href="#">SB0372</a>		Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2025	Senators Beidle et al.	In Senate FIN Hearing 2/5 at 2 PM	Support	Repealing the limitation on the period during which the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations are required to provide reimbursement for certain health care services provided through telehealth on a certain basis and at a certain rate; etc.	This bill would extend the period under which Medicaid and other health plans would cover telehealth appointments that include audio only assistance. Without this change in law, reimbursement for this service would end on June 30, 2025.
<a href="#">SB0560</a>		Public Health - Maryland Commission on Health Equity - Membership and Purposes	Senators M. Washington and Lam	In Senate FIN First Reading	Support	Altering the membership of the Maryland Commission on Health Equity; and altering the purposes of the Commission to include employing a health equity framework to examine the impact of access to transportation, transit programs, and transit services and proximity to health care facilities and primary care providers on the health of residents of the State.	
<a href="#">HB0620</a>		Primary and Secondary Education - Reportable Offense - Alteration	Delegate Atterbeary	In House JUD First Reading and W&M First Reading	Support	Altering the definition of a reportable offense to include only references to offenses defined as crimes of violence in relation to reporting arrests of students attending public and nonpublic schools in the State.	

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">HB0698</a>		Public Schools - Individuals With Disabilities - Main Entrance Accessibility and Emergency Planning	Delegate Kaufman et al.	In House W&M First Reading	Support	Requiring each county board of education, by September 1, 2025, and each September 1 thereafter, to publish on its website and report to the General Assembly on the number of main entrances to public school buildings in the county that are not accessible for individuals with disabilities and not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act; requiring each local school system to send a copy of the local school system's emergency plan to the State Department of Education; requiring a certain report to the General Assembly; etc.	
<a href="#">HB0141</a>		Task Force on Loneliness and Isolation	Delegate Vogel	In House HGO Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM	Support with Amendments	Establishing the State Task Force on Loneliness and Isolation to study and make recommendations related to loneliness and isolation experienced by individuals in the State; and generally relating to the Task Force on Loneliness and Isolation.	We support the creation of this task force and think there should be a member of the DD Coalition as a member of it, given what we know about the prevalence of isolation with people who have IDD. According to NLM (NIH), "People with disability experienced loneliness, low perceived social support and social isolation at significantly higher rates than people without disability. Effect sizes were significantly greater for loneliness. Disability was associated with lower wellbeing. With one exception, low social connectedness was associated with lower wellbeing. Again, effect sizes were significantly greater for loneliness. The prevalence of loneliness was highest among adults with disability who were younger, economically inactive, living in rented or other accommodation, living alone and with low levels of access to environmental assets." <a href="https://PMC.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7403030/">https://PMC.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7403030/</a>

#### Justice & Civil Rights

<a href="#">HB0091</a>		Elections- In-Person Voting- Proof of Identity	Delegate R. Long et al.	In House W&M Hearing 1/28 at 1 PM	Oppose	Requiring an election judge to establish a voter's identity by requiring the voter to present certain proof of identity; requiring a voter to vote a provisional ballot if the voter is unable to provide certain proof of identity; prohibiting a person from knowingly and willfully voting or attempting to vote under a false form of identification; and generally relating to requiring voters to present proof of identity at a polling place.	This is a repeat bill from a prior session. The Arc Maryland has concerns that this bill will create a disparate and negative situation for voters with IDD. It would require a voter to present a government-issued photo ID that includes a signature and require a person to provide a signature at the time of voting that matches the one on their ID. Some people with disabilities do not have a recognizable or consistent signature due to their conditions and are twice as likely to not have a government-issued state ID, resulting in a higher chance of being denied the right to vote under this legislation.
<a href="#">HB0115</a>		Election Law- Polling Places- Establishing Voter Identity (Voter Privacy Act of 2025)	Delegate R. Long	In House W&M Hearing 1/28 at 1 PM	Oppose	Authorizing a voter to establish the voter's identity at the request of an election judge at a polling place by presenting certain proof of identity; and generally relating to establishing a voter's identity at a polling place.	This is a repeat bill from a prior session. The Arc Maryland has concerns that this bill will create a disparate and negative situation for voters with IDD. It would require a voter to present a voter registration card, Driver's license, or other government issued photo ID that includes a signature and require a person to provide a signature at the time of voting that matches the one on their ID. Some people with disabilities do not have a recognizable or consistent signature due to their conditions, and are twice as likely to not have a government issued state ID, resulting in a higher chance of being denied the right to vote under this legislation.
<a href="#">HB0067</a>		Election Law - Absentee Ballots - Signature Requirements and Verification	Delegate R. Long et al.	In House W&M Hearing 1/28 at 1 PM	Oppose	Prohibiting a local board of elections from removing an absentee ballot from a return envelope or ballot/return envelope or counting the ballot unless the return envelope or ballot/return envelope is signed by the voter and, except under certain circumstances, a witness and the local board verify the voter's signature; and generally relating to absentee ballots.	This bill raises privacy concerns by requiring local BOE to provide candidates with a list of registered voters who have access to an absentee ballot.
<a href="#">SB0066</a>		Election Law- Polling Place Procedures- Voting by Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities (Accessible and Expedited Voting Act of Maryland)	Senator Ellis	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/5 at 1 PM	Support	Requiring the State Board of Elections to establish guidelines for the local boards of election to implement a process to accommodate and expedite voting for elderly voters and voters with disabilities at each early voting center and polling place; requiring the local boards to implement the guidelines and collect feedback on the process from elderly voters and voters with disabilities and make immediate adjustments to the process; requiring the training program for election judges to include instruction on best practices for assisting elderly voters and voters with disabilities; and generally relating to in-person voting by elderly voters and voters with disabilities.	

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">HB0677</a>	<a href="#">SB0298</a>	Criminal Procedure - Out of Court Statements - Vulnerable Adult Victims and Witnesses	Delegate Toles et al.	In House JUD First Reading	Support	For the purpose of authorizing the court to admit into evidence in certain criminal proceedings certain out of court statements made by a vulnerable adult victim or witness under certain circumstances and subject to certain requirements; and generally relating to the admissibility of out of court statements of vulnerable adult victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings.	People with IDD are individuals with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to crime for a variety of reasons, and while people with disabilities experience the same types of crime as people without disabilities, they may also experience unique forms of these crimes. Justice Department data on sex crimes in 2018 showed that people with intellectual disabilities — women and men — are the victims of sexual assaults at rates more than 7X those for people without disabilities. Unfortunately, not many of these cases are prosecuted as people with IDD may be able to vividly describe an incident closer to the time of the occurrence of the incident, but over time, the recollection of specific information may become more difficult. This bill would ensure that statements made outside of the criminal proceeding, by a vulnerable adult victim, may be considered for admission in a criminal proceeding under certain circumstances.
<a href="#">SB0298</a>	<a href="#">HB0677</a>	Criminal Procedure - Out of Court Statements - Vulnerable Adult Victims and Witnesses	Senator Waldstreicher	In Senate JPR Hearing 1/30 at 1 PM	Support	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0312</a>		Criminal Procedure - Incompetency to Stand Trial	Delegates Cardin and Bartlett	In House JUD Hearing 2/4 at 1 PM	Oppose	Altering the time period after which a court is required to dismiss a certain charge against a defendant found incompetent to stand trial to the lesser of 10 years or the maximum sentence for the most serious offense charged under certain circumstances.	From DRM's Testimony last year opposing this legislation: "The purpose of Maryland's laws related to incompetency is to provide restoration services to permit an individual to become competent to stand trial on criminal charges. The weight of the social science research concludes that an individual who is found Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) and not restored to competency within 5 years is not likely to be restored to competency in 10 years. It is important to remember that such individuals have not been found guilty for any crime by a court of law. Further, it is particularly inappropriate when the person has a co-occurring developmental disability, a traumatic brain injury, or dementia that increases the challenge of restoring the individual to competency to stand trial. Extending the period of time a person can be held as IST before charges can be dismissed will not rectify this problem."
<a href="#">HB0317</a>		Election Law - Curbside Voting - Pilot Program	Delegates Williams and Wilkins	In House W&M Hearing 2/4 at 1 PM	Support	Establishing the Curbside Voting Pilot Program to test the viability of curbside voting in the State; establishing requirements governing curbside voting; and requiring the State Board to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Pilot Program by September 1, 2029.	
<a href="#">HB0604</a>	<a href="#">SB0466</a>	Vulnerable and Senior Adults - Theft of Property by Caregiver, Family Member, or Household Member - Prohibition	House Speaker by Request of Attorney General	In House JUD First Reading	Support	Prohibiting a caregiver, family member, or household member from knowingly and wilfully obtaining the property of an individual the caregiver, family member, or household member knows or reasonably should know is a vulnerable or senior adult with the intent to deprive the vulnerable or senior adult of the property; making a violation of the Act an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice that is subject to enforcement and penalties under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act; etc.	
<a href="#">SB0466</a>	<a href="#">HB0604</a>	Vulnerable and Senior Adults - Theft of Property by Caregiver, Family Member, or Household Member - Prohibition	Senate President by Request of Attorney General	In Senate JPR First Reading and EEE First Reading	Support	See above	
<a href="#">HB0703</a>	<a href="#">SB0507</a>	Criminal Procedure - Diagnosis of Developmental Disability or Intellectual Disability - Evidence	Delegate Kaufman et al.	In House JUD First Reading	Support	Providing that certain evidence of certain diagnoses is admissible in a criminal proceeding if the evidence tends to show that the defendant, at the time of the alleged offense, did or did not have the mental state required for the offense charged and is otherwise admissible; and requiring a judge or a District Court commissioner to consider any diagnosis for the defendant of a certain developmental disability or intellectual disability when making a pretrial release determination.	Allows evidence of a disability to be considered at the beginning of a case, not just during the sentencing phase. This bill is at the request of the Autism Association of Maryland (ASOM)
<a href="#">SB0507</a>	<a href="#">HB0703</a>	Criminal Procedure - Diagnosis of Developmental Disability or Intellectual Disability - Evidence	Senator Henson	In Senate JPR First Reading	Support	See above	See above

## Monitored Bills by Topic

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">SB0184</a>	<a href="#">HB0239</a>	Charitable Organizations- Late Fees and Registration- Suspension and Cancellation Requirements	Chair of JPR by Request of Secretary of State	In Senate JPR Favorable Report	Monitoring/ Support	Authorizing the Secretary of State to suspend payment of certain late fees assessed to certain charitable organizations under certain circumstances; authorizing the Secretary of State to cancel a charitable organization's registration or reinstate a charitable organization's canceled registration under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the regulation of charitable organizations by the Secretary of State.	This legislation would allow the Secretary of State to suspend or waive late filing fees for charitable organizations.
<a href="#">HB0239</a>	<a href="#">SB0184</a>	Charitable Organizations- Late Fees and Registration- Suspension and Cancellation Requirements	Chair of EMC by Request of Secretary of State	In House EMC Hearing 1/22 at 1 PM	Monitoring/ Support	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0033</a>	<a href="#">SB0248</a>	Department of Service and Civic Innovation – Maryland Corps Program Service Year Option Pathways – Revisions	Chair of HGO by Request of Dept of Service & Civic Innovation	In House HGO Hearing 1/28 at 2 PM	Monitoring	Altering the duties of the Department of Service and Civic Innovation; renaming the Governor's Volunteer Council to be the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteering; altering certain requirements relating to qualifications for applicants and compensation for participants in the Young Adult Service Year Option Pathway and the Maryland Service Year Option Pathway; altering certain reporting requirements; repealing the Executive Fellows Program; and generally relating to the Maryland Corps Program Service Year Option Pathways.	Clarifies that participating organizations must pay participants at the state or county minimum wage rate, whichever is higher. Also clarifies the age range of eligible participants, and includes other clean up language. Since the DD Council recently released the report from the Think Tank to address the DSP Workforce Crisis, it may be possible to include something from this report in this legislation to boost participation of DD Community Providers/People who self direct who are employers of record.
<a href="#">SB0248</a>	<a href="#">HB0033</a>	Department of Service and Civic Innovation – Maryland Corps Program Service Year Option Pathways – Revisions	Chair of EEE by Request of Dept of Service & Civic Engagement	In Senate EEE Hearing 1/22 at 10 AM	Monitoring	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0377</a>		Prince George's County – Income Tax – Credit for Employers Providing Parental Engagement Leave, PG 409-25	Prince George's County Delegation	In House W&M Hearing 1/30 at 1 PM	Monitoring/ Support	Allowing employers who provide certain parental engagement leave to certain qualified employees during the taxable year a credit against the State income tax; requiring the State Department of Education, in consultation with the Comptroller, to develop and make available a certain certification form; establishing that the credit equals the qualified employee's hourly wage rate times the number of parental leave hours used by the employee during the taxable year, up to \$800; and making the credit refundable under certain circumstances; etc.	
<a href="#">SB0355</a>		Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program - Delay of Implementation	Senator Hershey	In Senate FIN Hearing 2/5 at 2 PM	Monitoring	Altering, from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2027, and from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2028, the dates on which the payment of contributions and the submission of claims for benefits, respectively, are to begin under the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program.	
<a href="#">SB0367</a>		Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Supportive Housing and Health Services	Senator Ellis	In Senate FIN Hearing 2/4 at 1 PM	Evaluating	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, beginning July 1, 2026, to provide supportive housing and health services to certain Program recipients; establishing requirements for professionals seeking certification as a certified supportive housing and health services professional and entities that employ or contract with supportive housing and health services professionals; requiring, by January 1, 2026, the Department to approve at least one accredited training and certification program; etc.	
<a href="#">HB0559</a>	<a href="#">SB0544</a>	Food Establishments - Portable Chemical Toilets	Delegate T. Morgan	In House EMC First Reading	Evaluating	Authorizing food establishments that are businesses that conduct agritourism, Class 4 limited wineries, or Class 8 farm breweries to comply with the requirement to provide a convenient lavatory by providing a portable chemical toilet that is supplied with approved hand drying devices, kept in a sanitary condition, and properly ventilated.	Evaluating if current statute requires the portable toilet to be wheelchair accessible. If not, that should be factored in to any new requirement for portable toilets
<a href="#">SB0544</a>	<a href="#">HB0559</a>	Food Establishments - Portable Chemical Toilets	Senator Bailey	In Senate FIN First Reading	Evaluating	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0707</a>		Vehicle Laws - Licenses, Identification Cards, and Moped Operator's Permits - Notation of Nonapparent Disability (Eric's ID Law)	Delegates Wilkins and Taylor et al	In House E&T First Reading	Evaluating for Support	Requiring that an original and renewal application for a license, an identification card, or a moped operator's permit allow an applicant to choose to indicate on the document the applicant's nonapparent disability; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to ensure that a certain license, identification card, or moped operator's permit include a notation of a nonapparent disability; and requiring the immediate implementation of training for law enforcement concerning interactions with persons with nonapparent disabilities.	The bill is a repeat from last legislative session, but includes several provisions to address previous concerns of The Arc Maryland. We will reach out to sponsors for additional information before formulating a position this year.

## Education & Childcare

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">SB0078</a>		Juvenile Child Sex Offenders- Juvenile Sex Offender Registry and Prohibition on In-Person School Attendance	Senator Salling	In Senator JPR Hearing 1/28 at 1 PM and EEE First Reading	Monitoring	Expanding the acts for which a child adjudicated delinquent is required to register with the juvenile sex offender registry and supervising authority; requiring law enforcement agencies and State's Attorneys to notify schools of certain information when a child arrested for a certain offense; prohibiting a child from in-person attendance at a public school or a nonpublic school that receives State funds if the child has been convicted or adjudicated delinquent of certain offenses; requiring each local school system to provide alternative educational options for children prohibited from in-person attendance in a certain manner; and generally relating to the juvenile sex offender registry and the prohibition of in-person school attendance by children convicted or adjudicated delinquent of certain offenses.	
<a href="#">HB0150</a>	<a href="#">SB0252</a>	Child Care Centers – Certificated Staff Ratio Requirement – Repeal	Chair of W&M by Request of Dept of Education	In House W&M Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM	Monitoring	Repealing a requirement that certain child care centers have in attendance a certain ratio of staff to children who hold a certificate in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation under certain circumstances; and generally relating to child care centers and staffing requirements.	Reviewing for implications on the safety of children if CPR/First Aid requirements are repealed. This may not be an issue if there are trained staff in the same building or area. Still under consideration.
<a href="#">SB0252</a>	<a href="#">HB0150</a>	Child Care Centers – Certificated Staff Ratio Requirement – Repeal	Chair of EEE by Request of Dept of Education	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/12 at 2 PM	Monitoring	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0161</a>		Primary and Secondary Education – Comprehensive Health Education Framework – Established	Delegates Atterbeary and Fair	In House W&M Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM	Monitoring/Support	Requiring the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health, to develop a comprehensive health education framework; requiring each county board of education to create an age-appropriate curriculum that is consistent with the comprehensive health education framework; requiring each county board to establish policies, guidelines, and procedures for a parent or guardian to opt out of a certain topic for the parent's or guardian's student, subject to a certain prohibition and requirement; and generally relating to the establishment of a comprehensive health education framework in public schools.	Health Education Curriculum is important and we support that this should be reviewed to ensure it is of the highest quality and inclusive to meet the learning needs of students with IDD.
<a href="#">HB0458</a>		University of Maryland, College Park Campus- TerpsEXCEED Program Funding	Delegate Wolek et al.	In House APP First Reading	Monitoring/Support	Authorizing the Governor to include in the annual budget bill, beginning in fiscal year 2027, an appropriation of \$350,000 to the University of Maryland, College Park Campus TerpsEXCEED (EXperiencing College through Education and Employment Discovery) Program to provide educational and employment opportunities to students with intellectual disabilities.	OR FISCAL YEAR 2027 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF \$350,000 FOR THE TERPSEXCEED PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY.
<a href="#">HB0477</a>		Family Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers - Adult to Child Ratios - Alterations	Delegates Barnes and McCaskill	In House W&M Hearing 2/5 at 2 PM	Reviewing	Increasing from 4 to 5 the number of children under the age of 2 years that are authorized to be in care in a family child care home; and altering certain ratios for adults to children of certain ages in family child care homes and child care centers.	
<a href="#">SB0386</a>	<a href="#">HB0526</a>	Primary and Secondary Education - Definition and Notification of Reportable Offense - Alterations	Senator Folden	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/12 at 2 PM and JPR First Reading	Reviewing	Altering the definition of "reportable offense" to remove the requirement that the offense occurred off school premises and did not occur at an event sponsored by the school; and requiring the Department of Juvenile Services to report to the local superintendent of schools and school principal for certain decisions made during a certain inquiry of a juvenile offender for certain offenses.	
<a href="#">HB0526</a>	<a href="#">SB0386</a>	Primary and Secondary Education - Definition and Notification of Reportable Offense - Alterations	Delegates Miller, Buckel, and Pippy	In House JUD First Reading and W&M First Reading	Reviewing	See above	
<a href="#">SB0429</a>	<a href="#">HB0504</a>	Excellence in Maryland Public Schools Act	Senate President by Request of Administration et al.	In Senate B&T Hearing 2/12 at 1 PM and EEE Hearing 2/12 at 1 PM	Reviewing	Altering the definitions of target per pupil foundation amount, collaborative time per pupil amount, and special education per pupil amount for certain fiscal years; altering the source of funds for the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund to include the interest earnings of the Academic Excellence Fund; freezing certain increases in the Concentration of Poverty School Grant Program for certain fiscal years; establishing the Collaborative Time Innovation Demonstration Grant and the Academic Excellence Program and Fund; etc.	This Rolls back funding for the Blueprint.
<a href="#">HB0504</a>	<a href="#">SB0429</a>	Excellence in Maryland Public Schools Act	House Speaker by Request of Administration et al.	In House APP First Reading and W&M First Reading	Reviewing	See above	See above

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">HB0689</a>	<a href="#">SB0506</a>	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Use of Reimbursement Funds by Schools	Delegate Atterbeary	In House W&M First Reading	Monitoring	Requiring elementary schools, secondary schools, and county school systems to use certain funds received for services provided under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program or the Maryland Children's Health Insurance Program to provide additional positions for providers, paid internships for students seeking to become providers, stipends for providers that are designed to address problems in provider recruitment and retention, and stipends for providers working in low-performing schools that are designed to address retention.	
<a href="#">SB0506</a>	<a href="#">HB0689</a>	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Use of Reimbursement Funds by Schools	Senator Henson	In Senate EEE First Reading and FIN First Reading	Monitoring	See above	
<a href="#">HB0583</a>		Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Schools - Alterations	Delegates Vogel and Miller	In House W&M First Reading	Monitoring	Requiring each county board of education to establish a virtual school; encouraging a county board that is unable to offer a virtual school on its own to collaborate with one or more other county boards to jointly establish a school; requiring that the criteria for enrollment in a virtual school established by the State Department of Education a county board be reasonable and not unduly interfere with an applicant's ability to enroll in the virtual school; and providing that a certain outreach campaign be conducted equitably.	In previous sessions, virtual schools legislation without specific requirements for how students with disabilities could receive their accommodations has been cause for concern. During the pandemic, and with remote school at that time, many students with disabilities did not receive their IEP or 504 accommodations and were denied FAPE. If the bill gets movement, our position will be reassessed.
<b>Healthcare</b>							
<a href="#">HB0576</a>	<a href="#">SB0465</a>	Health Care Facilities - Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Programs - Video Recordings	House Speaker by Request of Attorney General	In House HGO First Reading	Monitoring	Requiring nursing homes and assisted living programs to install, operate, and maintain video surveillance equipment in the common areas of the facilities to detect the abuse, neglect, or exploitation of residents; and requiring nursing homes and assisted living programs to make available, on request, certain recorded video data to law enforcement and State personnel that is necessary in the course of performing their official duties.	
<a href="#">SB0465</a>	<a href="#">HB0576</a>	Health Care Facilities - Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Programs - Video Recordings	Senate President by Request of Attorney General	In Senate FIN First Reading	Monitoring	See above	
<a href="#">HB0531</a>		Education - Remote Learning Accommodations - Established (College Disability Education Act)	Delegates Simmons, A. Johnson, and Taylor	In House APP First Reading	Monitoring	Requiring all public institutions of higher education to establish remote learning accommodations for students with disabilities that impede regular, in-person attendance beginning in the 2026-2027 academic year; authorizing the Maryland Higher Education Commission to issue waivers from the requirement under certain circumstances; establishing a grant program to assist institutions to meet the remote learning accommodations requirement; and providing for certain review procedures and penalties for noncompliance.	Not sure what the fiscal note would be and in a year where DD funding is at such risk, restoration of DD funding would be our priority over new funding appropriations.
<a href="#">HB0702</a>		County Boards of Education - Special Education Service Delivery Models - Publication Requirement	Delegates Kaufman et al.	In House W&M First Reading	Evaluating for Support	Requiring each county board of education to publish on its website a certain list of special education service delivery models provided for parentally-placed private school students; and defining "parentally-placed private school student" as a child with a disability enrolled by the parent or guardian of the child in a private elementary or secondary school or facility, including a religious school or facility.	
<b>Justice &amp; Civil Rights</b>							
<a href="#">HB0027</a>	<a href="#">SB0019</a>	Estates and Trusts - Compensation of Guardians of Property and Trustees	Delegate Cardin	In House JUD Hearing 1/22 at 1 PM	Evaluating	Clarifying the commissions that a guardian of the property may charge; authorizing a trustee of a trust to charge compensation that is reasonable under the circumstances; authorizing certain trustees to charge compensation that is reasonable under the circumstances and calculated in accordance with a certain schedule of rates; and generally relating to the compensation of guardians of property and trustees of trusts.	
<a href="#">SB0019</a>	<a href="#">HB0027</a>	Estates and Trusts - Compensation of Guardians of Property and Trustees	Senator West	In Senate JPR Hearing 1/23 at 1 PM	Evaluating	See above	
<a href="#">HB0195</a>	<a href="#">SB0090</a>	Criminal Procedure- Incompetency to Stand Trial Dismissal	Delegate Cardin	In House JUD Hearing 1/28 at 1 PM	Monitoring	Altering a certain time period after which a court is required to dismiss a certain charge against a defendant found incompetent to stand trial under certain circumstances; requiring a court to provide a certain notice and provide an opportunity to be heard to the State's Attorney and a certain victim or victim's representative before dismissing a certain charge against a defendant found incompetent to stand trial; and generally relating to incompetency to stand trial.	
<a href="#">SB0090</a>	<a href="#">HB0195</a>	Criminal Procedure- Incompetency to Stand Trial Dismissal	Senator Muse	In Senate JPR Hearing 1/21 at 2:30 PM	Monitoring	See above	

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchausee@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25



Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
<a href="#">HB0468</a>		Petitions for Emergency Evaluation	Delegate Alston et al.	In House HGO and JUD First Reading	Evaluating	Specifying that a petition for emergency evaluation is effective for 5 days after being endorsed by a certain court; authorizing a court, on a certain motion and for good cause shown, to extend a petition for up to 5 days at a time, not to exceed a total of 30 days; requiring the court to include the date the petition expires on the petition; and authorizing peace officers to use reasonable and necessary force when executing a petition.	Last year, this bill was opposed by DRM and other rights organizations for disparate impacts on people with disabilities.
<a href="#">HB0499</a>	<a href="#">SB0432</a>	Criminal Records - Expungement and Maryland Judiciary Case Search (Expungement Reform Act of 2025)	House Speaker by Request of Administration et al.	In House JUD First Reading	Evaluating	Altering certain provisions of law relating to waiting periods for the filing of certain petitions for expungement to authorize the filing of a petition a certain amount of time after the completion of the sentence; adding to the list of misdemeanor convictions that a person may expunge under certain circumstances; prohibiting the Maryland Judiciary Case Search from in any way referring to the existence of a charge of possession of cannabis if the conviction was later pardoned by the Governor; etc.	We have concerns about what this might mean for organizations conducting background checks for healthcare workers who would be supporting people with IDD.
<a href="#">SB0432</a>	<a href="#">HB0499</a>	Criminal Records - Expungement and Maryland Judiciary Case Search (Expungement Reform Act of 2025)	Senate President by Request of Administration et al.	In Senate JPR Hearing 2/5 at 2 PM	Evaluating	See above	See above
<a href="#">HB0542</a>	<a href="#">SB0347</a>	Adult Protective Services - Investigations and Disclosure of Information	Delegate Crutchfield	In House JUD First Reading	Monitoring	Authorizing a local department of social services to request assistance from federal law enforcement officers in an investigation relating to an alleged vulnerable adult; and altering certain provisions relating to the disclosure of certain information concerning human services to include adult protective services.	
<a href="#">SB0347</a>	<a href="#">HB0542</a>	Adult Protective Services - Investigations and Disclosure of Information	Senator Love	In Senate JPR Hearing 1/28 at 1 PM	Monitoring	See above	

[To find contact information for your representatives, click here.](#)

#### COMMITTEES

Click each committee or Name for Details and Contact Information

#### House Committees

Abreviation	Committee Name	Committee Chair	Committee Vice Chair
APP	Appropriations	<a href="#">Ben Barnes</a>	<a href="#">Mark S. Chang</a>
EMC	Economic Matters	<a href="#">C.T. Wilson</a>	<a href="#">Brian M. Crosby</a>
E&T	Environment and Transportation	<a href="#">Marc Korman</a>	<a href="#">Regina T. Boyce</a>
HGO	Health and Government Operations	<a href="#">Joseline Pena-Menlyk</a>	<a href="#">Bonnie Cullison</a>
HRU	Rules and Executive Nominations	<a href="#">Anne Healey</a>	<a href="#">Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.</a>
JUD	Judiciary	<a href="#">Luke Clippinger</a>	<a href="#">J. Sandy Bartlett</a>
W&M	Ways and Means	<a href="#">Vanessa E. Atterbeary</a>	<a href="#">Jheanelle Wilkins</a>

#### Senate Committees

Abreviation	Committee Name	Committee Chair	Committee Vice Chair
B&T	Budget and Taxation	<a href="#">Guy Guzzone</a>	<a href="#">Jim Rosapepe</a>
EEE	Education, Energy, and the Environment	<a href="#">Brian Feldman</a>	<a href="#">Cheryl C Kagan</a>
EXN	Executive Nominations	<a href="#">Antonio Hayes</a>	<a href="#">Clarence Lam</a>
FIN	Finance	<a href="#">Pamela Beidle</a>	<a href="#">Katherine Klausmeier</a>
JPR	Judicial Proceedings	<a href="#">William C. Smith, Jr.</a>	<a href="#">Jeff Waldstreicher</a>
SRU	Rules	<a href="#">Shelly Hettleman</a>	<a href="#">C. Anthony Muse</a>

#### LEADERSHIP

Click each Name for Details and Contact Information

#### House Leadership

Title	Representative
Speaker of the House	<a href="#">Adrienne A. Jones</a>
Speaker Pro Tem	<a href="#">Dana Stein</a>
Majority Leader	<a href="#">David Moon</a>
Majority Whip	<a href="#">Jazz Lewis</a>
Minority Leader	<a href="#">Jason C. Buckell</a>
Minority Whip	<a href="#">Jesse T. Pippy</a>

#### Senate Leadership

Title	Senator
President of the Senate	<a href="#">Bill Ferguson</a>
President Pro Tem	<a href="#">Malcolm Augustine</a>
Majority Leader	<a href="#">Nancy J. King</a>
Majority Whip	<a href="#">Joanne C. Benson</a>
Minority Leader	<a href="#">Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.</a>
Minority Whip	<a href="#">Justin Ready</a>

## How Bills Become Laws in Maryland

The Arc Maryland brings you an updated version of our Bill Tracker at the start of every week during Maryland's Legislative Session. Legislation in this document includes items that The Arc Maryland has taken a position on and other items that we are currently monitoring. You can view the full bill text by clicking the link provided with each bill number in the leftmost column. Bills **passed in the House** are noted in **Orange**. Bills **passed in the Senate** are noted in **Purple**. Bills that have been **Withdrawn** are noted in **Red**. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/27/25

