

2020 Annapolis Insider Bill Tracker

House	Senate	Title	Primary Sponsor	Status		Position	Notes	Amendment Links	
				House	Senate			House	Senate
<b>Budget</b>									
<a href="#">HB0150</a>	<a href="#">SB0190</a>	Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2021)	Speaker of the House/ Senate President by request of the administration	In House First Reading APP	In Senate First Reading B&T		See page 68 of either document for Developmental Disabilities Administration Budget.		
<a href="#">HB0152</a>	<a href="#">SB0192</a>	Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2020	Speaker of the House/ Senate President by request of the administration	In House First Reading APP	In Senate First Reading B&T		See page 16 of SB0192 for Community Provider Rates.		
<b>Current Positions on Bills by Topic</b>									
<b>Community Living &amp; Working</b>									
<a href="#">HB0010</a>	<a href="#">SB0044</a>	Public Buildings - Changing Facilities for Adult Diapers	Delegate Ebersole/ Senator Lam	In House Hearing 1/29 at 2 PM HGO	In Senate Hearing 1/16 at 3 PM JPR	Support	This bill creates a requirement for newly constructed or extensively remodeled public buildings to provide changing stations suitable to hold the weight of an adult. Several self-advocates, siblings and parents of people with disabilities who need access to adult changing stations in the community came out to testify. The next hearing on this matter is scheduled to happen in the House on January 29 at 2 p.m. in the HGO Committee.		
	<a href="#">SB0040</a>	Sales and Use Tax - Diapers Exemption	Senator Lam		In Senate Hearing 1/9 at 2 PM B&T	Support	Sen. Lam added clarifying language that adult absorbant products such as Depends are intended to be included in the list of products that are exempt from state sales tax.		
	<a href="#">SB0065</a>	Counties - Construction of Sidewalks and Crosswalks - Safe Alternative Routes to Public Schools	Senator Ellis		In Senate Hearing 1/22 at 1 PM EHEA	Letter of Information	The Arc Maryland is requesting that the sponsor include clarifying language that sidewalks and crosswalks meet ADA accessibility standards.		
	<a href="#">SB0083</a>	State Government – Delivery of Notices and Communications by Electronic Means – Authorized	Chair EHEA		In Senate Hearing 1/21 at 1:30 PM EHEA	Letter of Information	Watching to see what implications this could have on notices sent by DOH- DDA to families to update status, "clean up" the waiting list, etc. According to this, the notices may no longer need to be sent via mail but could be emailed. We need to consider what protections we may need to put in place for people with limited comprehension of implications of signing affirmative docs to allow e-communications of an official nature.		
<a href="#">HB0209</a>		Plastics and Packaging Reduction Act	Delegate Lierman et al	In House First Reading E&T and EMC		Letter of Information.	The bill creates a mandate for a 10 cent charge on plastic bags and creates a workgroup to make recommendations on the reduction of single use plastics. There is currently not a member suggested for that work group who would represent the interests of the disability community. Given our interest in ensuring the limited availability of plastic straws for those who need them for nutrition and hydration, we will be speaking with the sponsors.		
<a href="#">HB0231</a>		Housing Opportunities Made Equal Act	Delegate Lierman et al	In House Hearing 2/4 at 1 PM E&T		Support	The bill prevents source of income discrimination and other forms of discrimination that create barriers to housing acquisition and maintenance.		
<b>Education &amp; Childcare</b>									
	<a href="#">SB0078</a>	Public Schools – Student Discipline Regulations – Remedial Measures	Senator Hough		In Senate Hearing 1/22 at 1 PM EHEA	Oppose. We are working with Coalition to Reform School Discipline on a response.	Seems to misinterpret concept of restorative justice by adding requirements of children to apologize, provide restitution, and possibly endure a modified schedule. Some children with specific disabilities may have difficulty with self regulation and understanding the effects of their behavior on other students. This requirement is too broad and does not take many issues under consideration.		
<b>Health Care</b>									
	<a href="#">SB0042</a>	Health Services Cost Review Commission – Duties and Reports – Revisions	Requested by Department of Health		In Senate Hearing 1/15 at 1 PM FIN	Monitoring	We are currently watching this. There have been some whispers of the state going to a Managed Care model for DD services in the future and there is emphasis on the "All-Payer Model" demonstration pilot in this bill.		

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	<a href="#">SB0103</a>	Health Occupations - Diagnostic Evaluation and Treatment of Patients - Disciplinary Actions (The Patient's Access to Integrative Healthcare Act of 2020)	Senators Eckardt and Klausmeier		In Senate Hearing 1/21 at 1:30 PM EHEA	Gathering more information.	The bill appears to be well intended to expand treatment options for people which we would support. However, the way in which this bill is written, it may be interpreted to allow parents to provide written consent for treatment for patients (even adult children) who are "unable to consent." The language is too broad in that parents seem to be given similar power as guardians. While we would appreciate Supported Decision Making when it is presented (likely next session), we want to be careful that the rights of people are maintained. We will be speaking to the sponsors to determine whether or not any further action is required.		
	<a href="#">SB0106</a>	Health Care Facilities - Certificate of Need - Exception for State-Owned Facilities	Requested by Department of Health		In Senate Unfavorable Report by FIN	Gathering more information.	It is unknown whether this bill would apply to RTCs. Requesting a meeting with the sponsor.		
<b>Justice and Civil Rights</b>									
<a href="#">HB0033</a>	<a href="#">SB0153</a>	Criminal Law – Abuse or Neglect of a Vulnerable Adult – Causing Severe Emotional Distress	Delegate Guyton et al/ Senator West	In House Hearing 1/21 at 1 PM JUD	In Senate Hearing 1/22 at 3 PM JPR	Support	The bill adds severe emotional distress to the list of abuses which constitute a felony crime and of which a person can be fined and serve time. While the bill language as amended is improved, it still does not completely address the effects of cumulative trauma in the causation of "Emotional Distress" and proximal cause, possibly making severe emotional distress victimization difficult to prove. That said, The Arc Maryland supports the intention of this bill which is to add a possibly remedy to the law in cases where there is a preponderance of evidence that a person has maliciously caused a person emotional harm.	<a href="#">Amendments as of 1/17/20</a>	
<a href="#">HB0140</a>	<a href="#">SB0056</a>	Election Law - Petitions and Ballot Questions - Plain Language Requirement	Delegate Guyton et al/ Senator Kagan	In House Hearing 1/29 at 1 PM W&M	In Senate Hearing 1/28 at 2 PM EHEA	Support and getting more information for possible friendly amendment	The standard for Readability is 7th grade and this bill creates a lower threshold (6th grade). We are researching to see if this standard can be lowered further to be adequate to meet the needs of some people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.		
<a href="#">HB0184</a>		Special Education – Judicial Actions – Attorney's Fees and Related Costs	Delegate Luedtke	In House Hearing 1/30 at 1 PM W&M		Support	This bill would create a mechanism for judges to award expert witness fee recovery to parents when they are the prevailing party in a Special Ed case. The law currently allows for the award of attorney's fees to prevailing parents, but families have the burden of assuming expert witness expenses and many families cannot afford the expense of having expert witnesses while the school system regularly brings experts in at state taxpayer expense.		