

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. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchausse@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/31/22

Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
Budget Bills							
HB0300	SB0290	Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2023)	House Speaker at Request of Administration	In House First Reading APP; Hearing set for 3/2		Making the proposed appropriations contained in the State Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, in accordance with Article III, Section 52 of the Maryland Constitution; etc.	We have several questions about what is contained in the budget. Bernie Simons presented the DDA budget to The Arc Maryland's GAC Committee and partners. We hope to have questions answered this week (1/24-1/28)
SB0290	HB0300	Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2023)	Senate President at Request of Administration	In Senate First Reading B&T; Hearing set for 3/3		See above	We have several questions about what is contained in the budget. Bernie Simons presented the DDA budget to The Arc Maryland's GAC Committee and partners. We hope to have questions answered this week (1/24-1/28)
Bill Positions by Topic							
Community Living & Working							
SB0010		Workers' Compensation - COVID-19 Occupational Disease Presumption	Senator Jackson	In Senate First Reading FIN	Oppose	Establishing that first responders, public safety employees, and health care workers are presumed to have an occupational disease that is compensable under workers' compensation law after a positive test or diagnosis for COVID-19; and applying the Act retroactively.	it is not possible to pinpoint a causal link between exposure to and contraction from a particular person.- viral particles are so small they are able to travel, making this variant present with a high transmission rate. Worker's comp already has a process they use to determine if Covid was likely to have happened on the job.
SB0023	HB0141	Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses	Senator Carter	In Senate Hearing 1/26 at 1 PM FIN	Support	Requiring that equity be considered when State transportation plans, reports, and goals are developed; altering the membership of the advisory committee on State transportation goals; establishing the Commission on Transportation Equity to assist in developing policies and performance measures to ensure the State transportation system is equitable; requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct transit equity analyses and consult with certain communities before announcing or proposing service changes; etc.	BEGINNING WITH THE 2023 ATTAINMENT REPORT ON TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PERFORMANCE, THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ADVISING THE DEPARTMENT ON STATE TRANSPORTATION GOALS, BENCHMARKS, AND INDICATORS SHALL CONSULT WITH THE COMMISSION ON TRANSPORTATION EQUITY TO RECOMMEND MEASURABLE TRANSPORTATION INDICATORS THAT CAN BE EVALUATED FOR: 1. RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES; AND 2. IMPACTS ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
HB0141	SB0023	Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses	Delegate Ruth	In House Hearing 1/27 at 1 PM E&T	Support	See above	See above
SB0028	HB0080	Home- and Community-Based Services Waiver - Participation and Applications	Senator Kelley et al.	In Senate Hearing 1/25 at 1 PM FIN	Support	Altering the required contents of the home- and community-based services waiver submitted by the Maryland Department of Health to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and requiring the Department to send an application to a certain number of individuals each month, if the Department maintains a waiting list or registry for the waiver.	changes Community Options Waiver Caps, and requires the Department to contact a certain number of people on the wait list to determine eligibility for needed services.
HB0080	SB0028	Home- and Community-Based Services Waiver - Participation and Applications	Delegate Cullison	In House Hearing 2/9 at 1:30 PM HGO	Support	See above	See above
SB0066		Labor and Employment - Hiring - Education Requirements (Give Me A Chance - Job Opportunities Act of 2022)	Senator Patterson	In Senate Hearing 1/27 at 2 PM FIN	Support or LOI	Prohibiting an employer from developing or implementing an application or hiring process that uses an applicant's or employee's lack of achievement of a certain level of education in employment decisions unless a minimum educational qualification is required to obtain an occupational license; authorizing an employer to inquire as to an applicant's academic achievement after an initial offer of employment, but may not rescind the offer based on the applicant's response; providing certain penalties under certain circumstances; etc	If passed, employers may not use the lack of a high school diploma to disqualify an otherwise qualified candidate for employment.
SB0093		Tax Credits - Employment of Individuals With Disabilities	Senator Kramer	In Senate Hearing 1/18 at 1 PM B&T	Support with Coalition Testimony	Altering the amount of a credit against certain State taxes for certain wages paid and certain child care or transportation expenses incurred by certain business entities with respect to qualified employees with disabilities.	The bill would increase the amount of tax credits employers can claim for providing assistance to employees with disabilities and providing childcare assistance.
HB0008	SB0275	Labor and Employment – Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program – Establishment (Time to Care Act of 2022)	Delegate Valderrama	In House Hearing 2/15 at 1 PM EMC	Support with Amendments	Establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program in the Maryland Department of Labor to provide certain benefits to individuals who take leave from employment for certain purposes; establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring, beginning January 1, 2023, certain employees, employers, and self-employed individuals to contribute to the Fund in a certain manner; etc.	While paid family leave is a concept supported by The Arc, the bill language would create a host of new requirements and hardships for providers and employees as it requires mandatory participation, financial and other, and does not contain any definition changes The Arc has asked for in the past.
SB0275	HB0008	Labor and Employment – Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program – Establishment (Time to Care Act of 2022)	Senators Hayes & Benson	In Senate Hearing 2/10 at 1 PM FIN	Support with Amendments	See above	See above
HB0135		Environment – Single–Use Plastics – Restrictions	Delegate Love	In House First Reading EMC	Support	Prohibiting, beginning January 1, 2023, a food service business from providing certain single-use food or beverage products to a customer ordering carryout or delivery from or dining inside the food service business unless the customer requests or accepts an offer for the single-use products; requiring a food service business to maintain a limited stock of single-use plastic straws for certain customers; and authorizing a food service business to submit a request to a governmental entity for a waiver of up to 3 months.	Bill contains provisions to ensure that businesses keep a limited supply of straws on hand for people who need them as an accommodation. We would like to see the bill strengthened however with training/posting requirements in the law to ensure food service places know they must keep a stock of straws on hand for accommodations.
HB0173		State Board of Social Work Examiners - Temporary License to Practice Social Work	Delegate Bagnall	In House Hearing 2/3 at 2:30 PM HGO	LOI or Support with Amendment	Authorizing the State Board of Social Work Examiners to issue a temporary license to practice social work if a required examination is unavailable to the applicant for a period of at least 7 days and the applicant has met the appropriate education and experience requirements; and providing that a temporary license authorizes the holder to practice social work only under the supervision of a Board-approved supervisor and is valid until 90 days after the examination becomes readily available to the applicant.	The social work graduates should not be able to provide an evaluation for guardianship cases.
SB0235		Income Tax - Personal Exemption - Disabled Individuals	Senator Jackson	In Senate Hearing 1/25 at 2:30 PM B&T	Support	Authorizing individuals who have a permanent physical disability, including blindness to deduct \$1,000 as a personal exemption under the Maryland income tax; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.	People with physical disabilities could benefit in having a \$1000 personal exemption to taxes to be able to offset expenses such as transportation and accessibility devices/equipment that can be costly but which aid them to work and live with independence
HB0496		Labor and Employment - Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program - Establishment	Delegates Wilson, Valderrama & Kelly	In House First Reading EMC	Support with Amendments	Establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program in the Maryland Department of Labor to provide certain benefits to individuals who take leave from employment for certain purposes; establishing the Division of Family and Medical Leave Insurance in the Department to administer the Program; establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; applying the Act prospectively; etc.	Does not take care of the primary concerns with definitions and applicability

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. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/31/22

Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
HB0529	SB0559	Estates and Trusts - Supported Decision Making	Delegate Pena-Melnyk et al.	In House First Reading JUD	Support	Authorizing the use of supported decision making to assist an adult through the provision of certain support for the adult in making, communicating, or effectuating certain decisions and preventing the need for the appointment of certain substitute decision makers for the adult; authorizing an adult to enter into a supported decision-making agreement with one or more supporters under certain circumstances; providing immunity from civil or criminal liability under certain circumstances; etc.	
SB0559	HB0529	Estates and Trusts - Supported Decision Making	Senator Waldstreicher et al.	In Senate First Reading JPR	Support	See above	
HB0135		Environment – Single–Use Plastics – Restrictions	Delegate Love	In House Hearing 2/2 at 1 PM EMC	Support with Coalition Testimony	Prohibiting, beginning January 1, 2023, a food service business from providing certain single-use food or beverage products to a customer ordering carryout or delivery from or dining inside the food service business unless the customer requests or accepts an offer for the single-use products; requiring a food service business to maintain a limited stock of single-use plastic straws for certain customers; and authorizing a food service business to submit a request to a governmental entity for a waiver of up to 3 months.	
Education & Childcare							
SB0116		Public Schools - Inclusive and Diverse English Language Arts - Development of Content Standards and Implementation	Senator Ellis	In Senate Hearing 2/3 at 1 PM EHEA	Support	Requiring the State Board of Education, by December 1, 2022, to develop content standards for inclusive and diverse English language arts to be included in the State Standards and Frameworks for English Language Arts; requiring each county board of education to develop and implement age-appropriate curriculum guides for inclusive and diverse English language arts; and requiring each public school to include inclusive and diverse English language arts in the English language arts curriculum beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.	Requires the Board of Education to develop content standards for language arts curriculum to highlight and promote diversity to include neurodiversity and inclusion.
HB0023		School Discipline - Data Collection and School Resource Officers	Delegate Washington	In House Hearing 1/20 at 1 PM W&M	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; requiring the Department to lower a risk ratio used to identify a school's disproportional disciplinary practices and report disproportionality data for high-suspending schools; and prohibiting a school resource officer from unilaterally enforcing student discipline.	Requires the MSDE to make public all discipline-related data as a data-download disaggregated information by grade level, race, ethnicity, and disability status including a 504 Plan or IEP on or before August 1, 2023 and annually thereafter. MSDE should note disproportionality and lower the risk ratio to under or at the Federal IDEA compliance standards. The bill also notes that a School Resource Officer (SRO) cannot unilaterally enforce discipline-related school policies, rules, regulations, or procedures. Why this is important: Data shows disproportionate application of discipline on black and brown students and students with disabilities but the data is not helpful for holding school systems accountable to change as it is rolled up onto lump totals. We need the data disaggregated so we can identify and address the problems where they are. The bill also addresses a concern with the overreach of the SROs becoming involved in incidents, potentially leading to escalations, and police involvement. These functions should be handled by supportive staff in the school, trained in trauma informed care, and in the communication, behavioral, and sensory needs of the student.
HB0056		Commission on Student Behavioral Health and Mental Health Treatment	Delegate Bagnall	In House Hearing Hearing Canceled	Support with Friendly Amendment	Establishing the Commission on Student Behavioral Health and Mental Health Treatment; and requiring, on or before July 1, 2023 and December 1, 2023, the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the General Assembly.	To include someone who is viewing policy through the lens of IDD
HB0089	SB0480	Child Care Stabilization Grant Program and Child Care Expansion Grant Program - Established	Delegate Queen	In House Hearing 2/3 at 1 PM W&M	Support with Amendments	Establishing the Child Care Stabilization Grant Program and the Child Care Expansion Grant Program in the State Department of Education; and establishing that the purpose of the Program is to provide financial support to licensed child care providers in the State that are in danger of closing in the next 12 months due to financial hardship.	Add that fund can be used for accommodations needed to support children with disabilities.
SB0480	HB0089	Child Care Stabilization Grant Program and Child Care Expansion Grant Program - Established	Senators Hester, King & West	In Senate Hearing 2/16 at 1 PM B&T	Support with Amendments	See above	See above
HB0136	SB0299	Education - Public and Nonpublic Schools - Seizure Action Plans (Brynleigh's Act)	Delegates Kerr & Johnson	In House Hearing 1/20 at 1 PM W&M	Support	Requiring a county board of education and authorizing a nonpublic school, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, to require at least two school personnel at the school to be trained in certain seizure recognition and response methods; requiring a public school, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, to provide training every 2 years to school personnel with direct contact and supervision of students on certain seizure recognition and response methods; providing immunity from civil liability under certain circumstances; etc.	Background: Requires schools to develop Seizure Action Plans for students with Seizure disorders and also requires schools to identify and train at least two school personnel on the identification, response, and treatment of seizures. Why this is needed: There are approximately 7,900 children living with epilepsy in Maryland. This amounts to a ratio of roughly 913 students for every 1 school nurse. Education, information, and training on seizure recognition would ensure school personnel are prepared and can recognize and respond appropriately and efficiently to a student experiencing a seizure, thus creating a safer environment for every student in Maryland's public schools. Parents, as critical partners in education, would be actively involved in collaboration with school personnel to create a seizure action plan for their student with a seizure condition. 12 states have already passed seizure safe legislation as of October 2021 including our neighbor states Virginia and New Jersey.
SB0299	HB0136	Education - Public and Nonpublic Schools - Seizure Action Plans (Brynleigh's Act)	Senators Young, Feldman & Washington	In Senate Hearing 2/3 at 1 PM EHEA	Support	See above	See above
HB0200		Education - Public Middle and High Schools - Financial Literacy Curriculum and Graduation Requirement	Delegate Amprey	In House Hearing 1/27 at 1 PM W&M	LOI	Requiring the State Department of Education to update the Maryland State Curriculum for Personal Financial Literacy Education and corresponding financial literacy standards to include content related to managing loans and taxes; requiring the State Board of Education to establish a financial literacy education week; requiring, beginning in the 2023-2023 school year, each county board to offer a certain financial literacy curriculum; requiring each county board to provide a certificate of completion for students completing the course; etc.	We have been advised that were this to become a requirement, Students with disabilities would be supported via IEP or 504 to have accommodations to meet the graduation requirement. Still some are concerned that this may present a barrier to obtaining a diploma.
HB0226		Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices	Delegates Guyton & Luedtke	In House Hearing 2/3 at 1 PM W&M	Support	Requiring each county board of education, beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, to install a video recording device in each self-contained special education classroom; providing for the installation, operation, notification, and use of a video recording device and the viewing, use, and confidentiality of system recordings; requiring the school administration to notify the appropriate law enforcement agency on receipt of a complaint of alleged neglect or abuse of a student under certain circumstances; etc.	This article provides a lot of good information about why cameras in self contained special education classrooms are needed. https://www.fredericknewspost.com/news/continuing_coverage/seclusion_and_restraint_in_fcps/state-bill-would-require-cameras-in-special-education-classrooms/article_6de7d573-4cbd-5207-8114-465c0611ab26.html
SB0119	HB0084	Education – Crimes on School Grounds – Application	Senator Washington	In Senate Hearing 2/3 at 1 PM EHEA	Support with CRSD	Specifying that provisions of law prohibiting and penalizing disruptive and threatening behavior on the grounds of, in the classes of, or in the home of an employee of an institution of elementary, secondary, or higher education do not apply to students who commit offenses at the institution they attend, students on exclusionary discipline who commit offenses at the institution they attend, or students who commit offenses while participating in or attending a sporting event or other extracurricular program.	Clarifies the intention of the original law and prohibits overapplication

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. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchause@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/31/22

Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
HB0084	SB0119	Education – Crimes on School Grounds – Application	Delegate Ruth et al.	In House Hearing Canceled	Support with CRSD	See above	See above
SB0422		Education – Jobs That Require Driving – Requirements (Drivers Education for Good Jobs Act of 2022)	Senator Rosapepe et al.	In Senate Hearing 2/9 at 1 PM EHEA	Support	Would bring back drivers education as a part of school. Currently students in Maryland have to pay for drivers ed and this can prevent a lot of them from being able to obtain their driver's licence. This could be helpful for people with disabilities to learn to drive, as well as potential DSPs as having a driver's license is often required as a part of the job.	
SB0547		Local School Systems - Equivalent Access Standards - Digital Tools (Nonvisual Access Accountability Act for K-12 Education)	Delegate Guyton et al.	In House First Reading W&M	Support		
Healthcare							
SB0150	HB0006	Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Dental Coverage for Adults	Senators Augustine & Guzzone	In Senate Hearing 1/25 at 1 PM FIN	Support	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, beginning January 1, 2023, and subject to certain limitations, to provide comprehensive dental care for adults whose annual household income is at or below 133 percent of the federal poverty level; and repealing certain provisions of law requiring the implementation of a pilot program to provide limited dental coverage to adult recipients under the Program.	Expands dental coverage for individuals who have Medical Assistance (previously a pilot).
HB0006	SB0150	Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Dental Coverage for Adults	Delegate Cullison	In House Hearing 2/9 at 1: 30 PM HGO	Support	See above	See above
SB0241		Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services - 9-8-8 Trust Fund	Senator Augustine	In Senate Hearing 2/8 at 1 PM FIN	Support	Establishing the 9-8-8 Trust Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to provide reimbursement for costs associated with designating and maintaining 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to designate 9-8-8 as the primary phone number for the State's behavioral health crisis hotline; requiring the Department by December 1 each year to report on the expenditure of funds and additional services provided by the funding; etc.	
SB0518		Career Pathways for Health Care Workers Program	Senator Augustine	In Senate First Reading FIN	Support	Establishing the Career Pathways for Health Care Workers Program in the Maryland Department of Labor for the purpose of providing grants to eligible employers for training programs attended by health care workers.	Would include Direct Support Professionals
Justice & Civil Rights							
HB0045		Crimes - Mitigation and Defense - Religious Beliefs, Disability, or Homelessness	Delegate Cardin	In House Hearing 1/25 at 1 PM JUD	Oppose/Monitor for any movement	Establishing that a certain discovery or perception of, or belief about, another person's religious beliefs, disability, or homelessness does not constitute certain provocation to mitigate a killing from the crime of murder to manslaughter and is not a defense to the crime of assault in any degree.	Would change the law so a person's disability could not be factored into the defense of a person accused of a heinous crime.
HB0078		Discrimination in Employment - Reasonable Accommodations for Applicants With Disabilities	Delegates Rogers & Charkoudian	In House Hearing 1/25 at 1 PM EMC	Support	Prohibiting an employer from failing or refusing to make a certain accommodation for a known disability of an otherwise qualified applicant for employment; and establishing that an employer is not required to accommodate an applicant for employment's disability under certain circumstances.	Note that the bill is significantly watered down, but in conversations with the delegates and understand they are trying to create a law that can be built upon to strengthen protections.
HB0099		Election Law – Absentee Ballots – Signature Requirements and Verification	Delegate Long	In House Hearing 1/25 at 1 PM W&M	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 verifies the voter's signature.	creates barriers to exercise the right to vote for people with disabilities
HB0113		Elections - In-Person Voting - Proof of Identity	Delegate Long	In House Hearing 1/25 at 1 PM W&M	Oppose	Requiring individuals seeking to vote in person at a polling place or early voting center to prove the individual's identity by presenting certain identification to an election judge; and providing that individuals who do not prove the individual's identity as required must be issued and may cast a provisional ballot.	creates barriers to exercise the right to vote for people with disabilities
HB0177		9–1–1 Registry Program – Autism and Other Special Needs – Established	Delegates Atterbeary & Wilson	In House Hearing Cancelled	Evaluating now after deeper conversation with coalition partners-Support with Amendments or LOI- DD Coalition	Establishing the 9-1-1 Registry Program to authorize self-advocates, parents, or guardians of individuals with autism or other special needs to register with the 9-1-1 system in order to alert first responders of certain behaviors individuals with autism or other special needs may exhibit during encounters with first responders; and requiring each public safety answering point to establish certain procedures, ensure the details of Program are publicly available, and maintain accurate information on registered individuals.	We understand this legislation will be withdrawn to allow additional time for advocates and stakeholders to work through it.
HB0212		Election Law - Signature Verification of Absentee Ballots and Absentee Ballot Applications and Ballot Canvassing	Delegate Parrott	In House Hearing 2/1 at 1 PM W&M	Oppose	Establishing requirements and procedures for the verification of signatures on absentee ballot applications and requests and absentee ballots; and altering the reasons for which local boards of elections are required to reject absentee and provisional ballots during the canvass.	Creates barriers to exercise the right to vote for people with disabilities.
HB0297	SB0003	Facilities - Disabilities, Juveniles, Behavioral Health, and Health Care - Safety Plans	Delegate Rosenberg	In House Hearing 2/2 at 1: 30 PM HGO	LOI with MACS	Requiring that certain regulations adopted by the Department of Juvenile Services governing juvenile care facilities and juvenile detention facilities include a requirement for the establishment, implementation, and revision of safety plans related to the persons in the care of the facility; requiring residential centers and group homes to establish, implement, and revise a certain safety plan; requiring regulations adopted by the Behavioral Health Administration to include a revision for safety plans every 5 years; etc.	DDA providers are already required to develop emergency plans which include all of the requirements that these new safety plans would require. To avoid administrative burden and duplication, we will likely request a friendly amendment .
SB0003	HB0297	Facilities - Disabilities, Juveniles, Behavioral Health, and Health Care - Safety Plans	Senator Carter	In Senate Hearing 2/3 at 1 PM FIN	LOI with MACS	See above	See above
HB0269	SB0053	Juvenile Law - Juvenile Interrogation Protection Act	Delegate Bartlett et al.	In House Hearing 2/2 at 1 PM JUD	Support	This bill would ensure that a child's parents, guardian, or custodian is reasonably notified when that child is taken into custody, interrogated, or charged with a criminal violation. School data currently shows that black and brown students and students with disabilities have disproportionate interactions with police resulting from school incidents. This bill would help protect their rights.	
SB0053	HB0269	Juvenile Law - Juvenile Interrogation Protection Act	Senator Carter	In Senate Hearing 1/27 at 2 PM JPR	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. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchausse@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/31/22

Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
SB0533		Election Law – Polling Places – Proof of Identity	Senator Ready et al.	In Senate First Reading EHEA	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 proof of identity; and prohibiting a person from knowingly and willfully voting or attempting to vote under a false form of identification.	Creates barriers to exercise the right to vote for people with disabilities.
HB0629		Election Law - Polling Places and Early Voting Centers - Electronic Devices	Delegate Palakovich Carr	In House First Reading W&M	Support		
Monitored Bills by Topic							
Community Living & Working							
SB0169		State Autism Strategy – Revisions	FIN Chair, by Request of Gov's Office of Community Initiatives	In Senate Hearing 1/27 at 2 PM FIN	Monitoring	Altering the date by which the State Coordinator for Autism Strategy must submit a certain annual report and repealing the requirement that the report be submitted to the Secretary of Disabilities; altering the membership of the Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related Needs; requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the Advisory Stakeholder Group and establishing term requirements for the chair; and requiring the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives to provide staff to the Advisory Stakeholder Group.	
HB0640		Labor and Employment - Healthy Working Families Act - Application	Delegate Carey	In House First Reading EMC	Evaluating		
HB0660		Commission to Study the Division of Rehabilitative Services (Student Job Training Reformation Act)	Delegate Guyton et al.	In House First Reading W&M	Evaluating		
HB0662		Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related Needs, Interagency Disabilities Board, and the State Coordinator for Autism Strategy - Membership, Staffing, and Appointment	Delegate Guyton	In House First Reading APP	Evaluating		
Education & Childcare							
HB0146		Education – Reportable Offenses and Student Discipline – Alterations	Delegates Moon & Atterbeary	In House Hearing 2/3 at 1 PM W&M	Monitoring	Altering the definition of "reportable offense" to involve only offenses that occurred off school premises, that did not occur at events sponsored by the school, and that involved certain crimes of violence; repealing a requirement that a law enforcement agency notify certain individuals if a student was arrested for a reportable offense; authorizing the State's Attorney to notify certain individuals about a reportable offense if a student is adjudicated delinquent or convicted of the offense; etc.	
HB0019		Education - School Construction - Pedestrian Safety Plans (Safe Walk to School Act)	Delegate Solomon	In House Hearing 1/18 at 1 PM APP	Monitoring	Requiring certain county boards of education seeking State funds for the construction of a new school, or the renovation of or an addition to an existing school that would increase the capacity by more than 100 students, to submit a pedestrian safety plan to the Interagency Commission on School Construction; and requiring the Interagency Commission to review the pedestrian safety plans in consultation with the State Highway Administration.	The plans must ensure that walkways be wide enough for walkers or bikers which typically deploys the right standards.
SB0362		Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Schools - Revisions	Senator Pinsky et al.	In Senate First Reading EHEA	Monitoring	Altering the requirements for virtual schools established by the State Department of Education or a county board of education by requiring a teacher education program to include training in the skills and techniques for teaching effectively in a virtual learning environment; authorizing a county board to establish one virtual school but may not include classes for prekindergarten or kindergarten students; prohibiting more than 10% of the students from a single public school to enroll in a virtual school in the county; etc.	When students has the opportunity to attend school via a virtual school in 2021, some students with disabilities were rejected even though they/their families felt they would be more successful continuing school in a virtual environment. We may introduce a friendly amendment to page 3 line 30 to reach that the representation of the virtual school should include neurodiverse students.
HB0613		Public Schools - Appropriations for School Safety Expenditures - Increase	Delegate Griffith et al.	In House First Reading W&M	Evaluating		
HB0664		Child Care Programs – Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program – Information and Assistance	Delegate Guyton et al.	In House First Reading W&M	Evaluating		
Healthcare							
SB0048	HB0014	Health - Advance Care Planning and Advance Directives	Senator Kramer	In Senate Hearing 2/10 at 1 PM FIN	Monitoring for possible Support	Requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission to coordinate the implementation of advance care planning programs in the State; requiring each health insurance carrier to offer electronic advance directives to its members and enrollees at certain times and make arrangements to receive certain notifications; and authorizing a health insurance carrier to contract with an electronic advance directives service under certain circumstances.	
HB0014	SB0048	Health - Advance Care Planning and Advance Directives	Delegate Cullison	In House Hearing Canceled	Monitoring for possible Support	See above	
SB0082		Certified Nursing Assistants - Licensing Requirements	Senator Eckardt	In Senate Hearing 2/1 at 1 PM EHEA	Monitoring	Requiring a certified nursing assistant to meet certain federal requirements and pass a competency exam on or after October 1, 2023; and requiring the Maryland Department of Health to establish a program to assist certified nursing assistants in meeting licensing requirements established by the Act.	
HB0216		Washington County - Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Programs - Essential Caregivers	Delegates Parrott & Thiam	In House First Reading HGO	Monitoring for Impact on People with IDD	Requiring each nursing home and assisted living program in Washington County to establish policies and procedures authorizing indoor visitation from an essential caregiver; establishing the duties and authority of essential caregivers; and authorizing the nursing homes and assisted living programs to restrict or revoke essential caregiver status under certain circumstances.	

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. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchausse@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/31/22

Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
HB0407	SB0407	Health Occupations - Health Care Staffing Shortage Emergency - Declaration and Licensing and Practice Requirements (Health Care Heroes Act of 2022)	House Speaker at Request of Administration	In House Hearing 2/10 at 1:30 PM HGO	Monitoring	Authorizing the Secretary of Health to declare a health care staffing shortage emergency in the State; requiring each health occupations board to establish processes for the issuance of initial licenses, temporary licenses, and temporary practice letters on an expedited basis during a health care staffing shortage emergency; etc.	Doesn't currently name Developmental Disabilities Community Services but says it could extend to other healthcare personnel at the discretion of the Secretary. The language in the bill, by and large, references those professions who would work in a hospital.
SB0407	HB0407	Health Occupations - Health Care Staffing Shortage Emergency - Declaration and Licensing and Practice Requirements (Health Care Heroes Act of 2022)	Senate President at Request of Administration	In Senate Hearing 2/9 at 1 PM FIN	Monitoring	See above	See above
SB0440		Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland - Establishment	Senator Beidle	In Senate First Reading EHEA	Monitoring for possible Support with Amendments	Establishing the Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland to examine certain areas related to health care workforce shortages in the State, including the extent of the workforce shortage, short-term solutions to the workforce shortage, future health care workforce needs, and the relationship between the Maryland Department of Health and the health occupations boards; and requiring the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly by December 31 each year.	Possible Amendment to include representatives from the disability community on the commission and to include DD services.
SB0506		Children - Therapeutic Child Care Program - Funding	Senator King	In Senate First Reading EHEA	Letter of Information	Establishing the Therapeutic Child Care Program to provide specialized child care and early childhood education by educators, early intervention providers, mental health providers, and health care providers to children under the age of 6 years who have delays in development, physical disabilities, or delays in social, emotional, or behavioral functioning.	Kennedy Krieger has a therapeutic childcare, as does Easter Seals, and The Arc Montgomery County. Our preference would be that these programs be supported to sustain with quality and expand, and that additional funds be available to childcare centers in general so they may include children with special needs alongside their peers.
HB0406		Children in Out-of-Home Placements – Placement in Medical Facilities	Delegate Reznik	In House Hearing 2/15 at 1 PM APP	Monitoring	Altering the circumstances under which a court may commit a child for inpatient care and treatment in a psychiatric facility; establishing requirements and procedures for the placement by local departments of social services of certain children in medical facilities; establishing the Foster Child Support Fund to provide resources and support for children in out-of-home placements; establishing the Task Force to Examine the Placement of Foster Children in Emergency Departments; etc.	Evaluating for Implications
HB0544		Health Facilities - Residential Service Agencies - Reporting Requirement	Delegate Qi et al.	In House First Reading HGO	Monitoring		
HB0623		Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Essential Health Care Workers	Delegate Brooks	In House First Reading W&M	Evaluating		
HB0625		Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland - Establishment	Delegate Kelly	In House First Reading HGO	Evaluating		
HB0657		Public Schools - Standardized Behavioral Health Screenings for Students - Development and Implementation	Delegate Guyton et al.	In House First Reading W&M	Evaluating		
SB0318	HB0652	More Opportunities for Career-Focused Students Act of 2022	Senator Rosapepe et al.	In Senate Hearing 2/9 at 1 PM EHEA	Monitoring	Requiring certain county boards of education to consider the pursuit of certain certificates, certifications, or apprenticeships as the equivalent of pursuing postsecondary education; requiring certain county boards to provide a method for certain individuals to not authorize the release of a student's personal information and certain results to certain apprenticeship sponsors and employers; requiring a county board to pay for a student to take an apprenticeship or industrial certification exam under certain circumstances; etc.	
HB0652	SB0318	More Opportunities for Career-Focused Students Act of 2022	Delegate Guyton	In House First Reading W&M	Monitoring	See above	
Justice & Civil Rights							
SB0008		Task Force to Study the Need for Enhanced Monitoring of Guardians of Vulnerable Minors	Senator Kelley et al.	In Senate Hearing 1/26 at 1 PM JPR	Monitoring	Establishing the Task Force to Study the Need for Enhanced Monitoring of Guardians of Vulnerable Minors to study the processes by which the State and local governments currently monitor guardians of vulnerable minors; requiring the Task Force to make recommendations on the need for enhanced monitoring of guardians of vulnerable minors, including any necessary regulatory changes or legislation; and requiring the Task Force to report its findings to the Governor and General Assembly by October 1, 2023.	
HB0161		Criminal Law - Exploitation of Vulnerable Adult or Elderly Individual - Undue Influence	Delegate Shetty	In House Hearing 1/27 at 1 PM JUD	Monitoring	Altering the definition of "undue influence" for purposes of provisions of law prohibiting the exploitation of certain vulnerable adults or individuals at least 68 years old that results in inequity; and requiring a court, in determining whether a transfer of property was induced by undue influence, to consider certain factors.	Difficult to measure "excessive persuasion."
HB0214		Juveniles - Reportable Offenses	Delegate Parrott	In House Hearing 2/2 at 1 PM JUD	Monitoring for Impact on People with IDD	Requiring the Department of Juvenile Services to notify a certain local superintendent of schools or school principal of a school in which a student is enrolled or has transferred of a student's arrest for a reportable offense or one that is related to a student's membership in a criminal organization; and requiring the Department to provide certain educational programming information to a certain student.	
HB0244		Civil Actions - Damages - Use of Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Data	Delegates Moon & J. Lewis et al.	In House Hearing 2/2 at 1 PM JUD	Monitoring for Possible Support with Amendments	Prohibiting a calculation of damages for loss of earnings resulting from personal injury or wrongful death from being reduced based on race, ethnicity, or gender; and applying the Act prospectively.	A CALCULATION OF DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF EARNINGS RESULTING FROM 16 PERSONAL INJURY OR WRONGFUL DEATH MAY NOT BE REDUCED BASED ON RACE, 17 ETHNICITY, OR GENDER. (amend to include disability)
SB0357	HB0589	Adult Protective Services - Vulnerable Adults Registry - Investigations and Records of Abuse and Neglect and Workgroup Study	Senators Benson & Patterson et al.	In Senate Hearing 2/9 at 1 PM JPR	Monitoring	Establishing certain requirements and procedures relating to the reporting, disclosure, investigation, and appeal of civil allegations and findings of abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults; authorizing the Social Services Administration to establish and maintain a centralized confidential database for abused and neglected vulnerable adults; establishing a Workgroup to Study Best Practices for a Vulnerable Adult Registry in Maryland; etc.	The way in which the bill is worded is confusing and problematic. We would be very interested in the creation of an abuse registry in Maryland, but the infrastructure is that currently in place to support an effective and fair process. This bill does not create that process for people in DDA services.

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. For any questions about the Bill Tracker, please email Luc Chausse, Director of Communications and Engagement, at lchausse@thearcmd.org. Last Updated 1/31/22

Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
HB0589	SB0357	Adult Protective Services - Vulnerable Adults Registry - Investigations and Records of Abuse and Neglect and Workgroup Study	Delegate W. Fisher et al.	In House First Reading JUD	Monitoring	See above	See above

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

COMMITTEES Click each committee or Name for Details and Contact Information

House Committees

Abbreviation	Committee Name	Committee Chair	Committee Vice Chair
APP	Appropriations	Maggie McIntosh	Mark S. Chang
EMC	Economic Matters	C.T. Wilson	Brian M. Crosby
E&T	Environment and Transportation	Kumar P. Barve	Dana Stein
HGO	Health and Government Operations	Shane E. Pendergrass	Joseline Pena-Menlyk
HRU	Rules and Executive Nominations	Anne Healey	Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.
JUD	Judiciary	Luke Clippinger	David Moon
W&M	Ways and Means	Vanessa E. Atterbeary	Alonzo T. Washington

Senate Committees

Abbreviation	Committee Name	Committee Chair	Committee Vice Chair
B&T	Budget and Taxation	Guy Guzzone	Jim Rosapepe
EHEA	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Paul G. Pinsky	Cheryl C Kagan
EXN	Executive Nominations	Ronald N. Young	Pamela Beidle
FIN	Finance	Delores G. Kelley	Brian J. Feldman
JPR	Judicial Proceedings	William C. Smith, Jr.	Jeff Waldstreicher
SRU	Rules	Joanne C. Benson	Shelly Hettlieman
R&R	Reapportionment and Redistricting	Nancy J. King	Antonio Hayes