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The Arc Maryland

Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
2025 Bill Tracker- The Arc Maryland							
HB0350	SB0319	Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2025)	House Speaker by Request of Administration	**Passed in House with Amendments (100-39)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (33-14)**; Conference Committee Appointed	Support with Amendment	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.	The Conference Committee has completed its work on the FY26 Budget. After restoring close to a billion dollars to the FY25 and 26 appropriation for DDA, final cuts amount to approximately 188 million dollars for FY26 for DDA. There have been additional cuts to Blueprint (Education) funding and other programs important to our community. Please stay tuned for our Legislative Wrap Up Report for details.
SB0319	HB0350	Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2025)	Senate President at Request of Administration	In Senate B&T - Health and Human Services Subcommittee, Hearing 2/20 at 1 PM- William Amoss Rm	Support with Amendment	See above	See above
HB0352	SB0321	Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025	House Speaker at Request of Administration	**Passed in House with Amendments (93-46)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (29-18)**; Conference Committee Appointed	Support with Amendment	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.
SB0321	HB0352	Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025	Senate President at Request of Administration	In Senate B&T Hearing 2/28 at 12 PM	Support with Amendment	See above	See above
Bill Positions by Topic							
Bill	**Crossfiled Bill**	**Title**	**Sponsor**	**Status**	**Position**	**Description**	**Notes**
Community Living & Working							
HB0031	SB0382	Consumer Protection- Right to Repair- Powered Wheelchairs	Delegate Kaufman	**Passed in House with Amendments (121-17)**; **Passed in Senate (45-0)**; **Returned Passed**	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. **Amendments specify that this section does not apply to a part that is no longer available, or conduct that would require the divulging of trade secrets.**
SB0382	HB0031	Consumer Protection- Right to Repair- Powered Wheelchairs	Senator Kagan et al.	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (46-0)**; In House HRU First Reading	Support	See above	See above
HB0214	SB0208	Human Services - Maryland Assistive Technology Program - Establishment	Chair of APP by Request of Dept of Disabilities	**Passed in House (128-7)**; **Passed in Senate (47-0)**; **Returned Passed**	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.
SB0208	HB0214	Human Services - Maryland Assistive Technology Program - Establishment	Chair of FIN by Request of Dept of Disabilities	**Passed in Senate (44-0)**; In House Second Reading Passed	Support	See above	
HB0249	SB0125	Residential Real Property- Local Limits on Summoning Law Enforcement or Emergency Services	Delegate Palkovich Carr	**Passed in House (96-37)**; **Passed in Senate (47-0)**; **Returned Passed**	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
SB0125	HB0249	Residential Real Property- Local Limits on Summoning Law Enforcement or Emergency Services	Delegate Palkovich Carr	**Passed in Senate (45-0)**; **Passed in House (103-36)**; **Returned Passed**	Support	See above	See above
HB0221	SB0242	Department of Information Technology - Maryland Digital Service - Establishment	Chair of HGO by Request of Dept of Info Technology	**Passed in House (130-5)**; In Senate EEE First Reading	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 multilinqual digital platforms for all Maryland residents to have equitable access to information.
SB0242	HB0221	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

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SB0157	HB0384	Maryland Disability Service Animal Program- Established	Senators Simonaire, Carozza & Guzzone	**Passed in Senate (45-0)**; **Passed in House with Amendments (127-6)**; **Passed Enrolled**	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
HB0384	SB0157	Maryland Disability Service Animal Program- Established	Delegate Lehman et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (130-4)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (42-0)**;	Support	See above	
SB0297	HB0329	Sign Language Interpreters – Licensing Requirement	Senator King	In Senate EEE Unfavorable Report; **Withdrawn**	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.
HB0329	SB0297	Sign Language Interpreters – Licensing Requirement	Delegate Bagnall	In House HGO Unfavorable Report; **Withdrawn**	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.
HB0430		Employed Individuals With Disabilities Program - Upper Age Limit - Prohibition	Delegate Cullison	In House HGO Unfavorable Report; **Withdrawn**	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.
HB0450		Maryland Transit Administration - Disability Reduced Fare Program - Renewal for Permanently Disabled Individuals	Delegate Guyton et al.	**Pased in House (138-1)**; **Passed in Senate (47-0)**; **Returned Passed**	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.
HB0502	SB0433	Office of Disability Employment Advancement and Policy and Maryland as a Model Employer Initiative - Established	House Speaker by Request of Administration et al.	**Passed in House (105-34)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (35-12)**;	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.
SB0433	HB0502	Office of Disability Employment Advancement and Policy and Maryland as a Model Employer Initiative - Established	Senate President by Request of Administration et al.	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (44-2)**; In House HRU First Reading	Support	See above	See above
HB0696	SB0490	State Boards, Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, and Workgroups - Elimination of Citizenship Requirements and Establishment of Diversity Requirements	Delegate Woods et al.	In House HGO Hearing 2/25 at 1 PM	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.	This is an equitable input and access bill that may encourage greater involvement, on Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, and Workgroups, of people who are not citizens, but still are residents of the state.
SB0490	HB0696	State Boards, Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, and Workgroups - Elimination of Citizenship Requirements and Establishment of Diversity Requirements	Senator Kagan et al.	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/20 at 1 PM	Support	See above	

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SB0058		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.
HB0141		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 prevalance 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." https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7403030/
HB0927		General Assembly - Fiscal Notes - Impact of Reduction in Health and Community Support Services	Delegate Pena Melnyk et al.	In House HRU Hearing 3/3 at 12 PM	Support	Requiring that the fiscal note for a bill that reduces health and community support services funded by the Maryland Department of Health include a certain estimate, assessment, and evaluation of the financial impact as a result of the reduction of services.	This is important because it would require departments to disclose their analysis of the human impact of changes they are proposing to existing statutes and proposed new initiatives.
HB1163		Task Force to Study Fencing for Bodies of Water and Playgrounds - Established	Delegate Patterson et al.	In House HGO Hearing 3/10 at 11:30 AM	Support	Establishing the Task Force to Study Fencing for Bodies of Water and Playgrounds; requiring the Task Force to review best practices for fencing bodies of water, assess how fencing and similar environmental interventions can be used to prevent injuries and fatalities that occur in or around bodies of water and playgrounds, examine data and research related to incidents of wandering and drowning, and make recommendations on possible interventions to fence bodies of water and playgrounds; and requiring the Task Force to report by July 1, 2026.	There is an interest amongst parents of loved ones with autism and other community members to develop solutions to keep those who wander safe. Children with autism are 160 times more likely to drown than other children. Drowning is the leading cause of death for people with autism who wander. https://nationalautismassociation.org/resources/autism-safety-facts/ https://mosaicearlyintervention.com.au/why-are-children-with-autism-at-increased-risk-of-drowning/
HB1244	SB1027	Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration Waiver Advisory Council - Establishment	Delegates Guyton and Bagnall	**Passed in House with Amendments (139-1)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (45-0)**; Conference Committee Appointed	Support	Establishing the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration Waiver Advisory Council to advise and provide recommendations to the Developmental Disabilities Administration on system design, service delivery, and quality enhancement strategies for the Medicaid waiver programs operated by the Administration.	Codifies the creation of the MDDAWAC, clarifies it's purpose, requires reporting to the Maryland General Assembly, and adds more members, including The Arc Maryland and MACS.
SB1027	HB1244	Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration Waiver Advisory Council - Establishment	Senator Lewis Young	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (46-0)**; In House HGO First Reading	Support	See above	See above
HB1053		Developmental Disabilities Administration - Self-Directed Services - Parent Providers	Delegate Buckel	**Passed In House with Amendments (140-0)**; In Senate FIN Hearing 3/25 at 1 PM and B&T First Reading	Support as Amended	Clarifying that a parent of the recipient may provide services for the recipient of self-directed services under certain circumstances.	Amended bill clarifies intentions that family should be allowed to serve as staff under certain circumstances.

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SB0819		Public Schools - Open Enrollment - Policies and Funding	Senators Watson and Attar	In Senate EEE Hearing 3/7 at 1 PM	Letter of Information	Authorizing a county board of education to adopt an open enrollment policy to authorize certain students to attend, free of charge, a public school in a county other than the county where the student is domiciled with the student's parent or guardian, subject to certain requirements; requiring county boards to include certain students in full-time equivalent enrollment counts; and directing certain funding to the county in which certain students are enrolled in a public school under an open enrollment policy.	First, and most significantly, Senate Bill 819 allows a receiving school in an open enrollment district to deny an enrollment application if the "school does not offer appropriate programs or is not structured or equipped with the necessary facilities to meet any special needs of the child." Because the focus of Senate Bill 819 addresses open enrollment across Maryland's local school systems, which are public entities, receiving schools are obligated to comply, not only with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), but also with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Allowing receiving schools to unilaterally reject an application without any due process procedures in place for students whose applications are rejected and without any consideration of whether reasonable accommodations or modifications to the program could be made effectively guarantees that many students with disabilities will not be able to avail themselves of the opportunity to participate in open enrollment.
HB0707	SB0618	Vehicle Laws - Licenses, Identification Cards, and Moped Operator's Permits - Notation of Nonapparent Disability (Eric's ID Law)	Delegates Wilkins and Taylor et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (134-0)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (46-0)**;	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.
SB0618	HB0707	Vehicle Laws - Licenses, Identification Cards, and Moped Operator's Permits - Notation of Nonapparent Disability	Senator Smith	**Passed in Senate (44-0)**; **Passed in House (135-0)**; **Returned Passed**	Support	See above	This bill name is different from HB0707 but the contents are substantively the same.
Education & Childcare							
HB1204		Public and Nonpublic Schools - Student Elopement - Notice and Reporting Requirements (Ace's Law)	Delegate Patterson et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (136-2)**; **Passed in Senate (47-0)**; **Returned Passed**	Support	Requiring certain public and nonpublic schools to notify a parent or guardian if a student attempts or accomplishes an elopement from the school campus requiring certain schools and individualized education program teams to review and address with relevant stakeholders certain behavior in updating a student's individualized education program or behavior intervention plan; and generally relating to student elopement and public and nonpublic schools.	This bill was amended to be called "Ace's' Law after a 3 year old who drowned this past summer after wandering away. Another young person, little Miles M. from Charles County, drown after wandering away from his house. Only after his death, his parents learned that he had attempted to elope from school multiple times. This information was not discovered, or the severity of his wondering understood, until it was too late. Since then, many parents have come forward to say they too did not know their child was at risk of wandering. The school has an important role to play and should be compelled to notify families if their child attempts or achieves elopement. Amendments strike requirements for schools to create reports on Elopement, but change the period of time for notification of parents from 24 hours to "the same day."
HB0057		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 Amendment	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.
SB0029		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.
SB0130		County Boards of Education- Student Cellular Phone Use Policy- Establishment	Senator Benson	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (43-0)**; In House Second Reading Passed with Amendments	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.
SB0151		Higher Education- Disciplinary Records- Use in Admissions and Disciplinary Proceedings	Senator A. Washington	In Senate EEE Hearing 1/22 at 10 AM	Support with Amendment	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 disiplinary records, including asking if students have changed schools which may make a student have to disclose discipline.

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Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
HB0197	SB0068	Public Schools- Restorative Practices Schools- Comprehensive Plan	Delegate Pasteur	**Passed in House with Amendments (94-36)**; **Passed in Senate (34-13)**; **Returned Passed**	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 generally relating to Restorative Practices Schools.	
SB0068	HB0197	Public Schools- Restorative Practices Schools- Comprehensive Plan	Senators Brooks and A. Washington	**Passed in Senate (31-13) with Amendments**; **Passed in House (97-39)**; **Returned Passed**	Support	See above	
HB0185	SB0359	Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program - Funding - Alterations	Delegate Mireku-North et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (136-2)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (45-0)**; Conference Committee Appointed	Support with Amendment	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. There is an appropriation in the FY26 budget bill, but the detail in the budget books shows the appropriation for **FY26 is insufficient to sustain the program. It is short by 2.2 million dollars. This must be restored-** We need the program to continue with the appropriate funding. see page 105 of the document (106 of the digital pdf) https://dbm.maryland.gov/budget/Documents/operbudget/2026/proposed/FY2026-Volume2.pdf
SB0359	HB0185	Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program - Funding - Alterations	Senator King	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (41-0)**; In House Second Reading Passed with Amendments	Support with Amendment	See above	*Please submit testimony for W and M to confirm both bills to match the language in the Senate version of the bill appropriation amount (3.7 million) and amend the effective years to FY26-FY29. We need to advocate they add back the missing 2.2 million in funding for this important program.
SB0097		Education - Youth Enhancement Program - Establishment	Senator McCray	In Senate B&T Hearing 1/15 at 10:30 AM	Support with Amendment	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.
HB0068		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 offences, 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.
HB0137		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,
HB0630	SB0368	County Boards of Education - Student Cellular Phone Use Policy - Establishment (Maryland Phone-Free Schools Act)	Delegate Boafo et al.	In House W&M Hearing 2/12 at 1 PM	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.
SB0368	HB0630	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
HB0053	SB0062	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.
SB0062	HB0053	Task Force on Education Funding and Student Population Growth	Senators Lewis Young and Ready	**Passed in Senate (41-0)**; In House APP Hearing 3/25 at 1 PM	Support with Amendment	See above	See above

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Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
SB0452	HB0862	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.
HB0862	SB0452	Child Care Affordability Commission - Establishment	Delegate Solomon et al.	In House W&M Hearing 2/19 at 1 PM	Support with Amendment	See above	See above
SB0482	HB0773	Public Middle and High Schools - Student Discipline (Right to Teach Act of 2025)	Senator Gallion et al.	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/21 at 1 PM	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.
HB0773	SB0482	Public Middle and High Schools - Student Discipline (Right to Teach Act of 2025)	Delegate Hartman et al.	In House W&M First Reading	Oppose	See above	See above
HB0464		Special Education - Individualized Education Program Meetings - Secondary Transition Planning Materials	Delegate Kaufman et al.	In House W&M Unfavorable Report; **Withdrawn**	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.	
HB0495		Education - Antidiscrimination Policies - Policy and Notice Requirements	Delegate Kaufman et al.	In House W&M Hearing 2/12 at 1 PM 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 to provide training, a school to coordinate with a community organization with certain expertise to provide the training to students and employees at no cost.	
HB0488	SB0714	Public Schools - Discipline-Related Data - Collection and Publication	Delegate Kaufman et al.	In House W&M Hearing 2/12 at 1 PM	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.	
SB0714	HB0488	Public Schools - Discipline-Related Data - Collection and Publication	Senator Brooks	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/21 at 1 PM	Support	See above	
HB0912		Institutions of Higher Education - Instructor Training - Accommodations for Students With Disabilities	Delegate Guyton et al.	In House APP Hearing 3/5 at 1 PM	Support	Requiring, beginning in the 2026-2027 academic year, certain institutions of higher education to provide instructors with certain training on institutional obligations toward students with disabilities under certain federal laws; and requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop a certain model training program.	
SB0644		Public Schools - School Resource Officers - Firearms Required	Senator Jennings et al.	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/12 at 2 PM	Oppose	Requiring a Baltimore City school police officer and a school resource officer to carry a firearm while present on the premises of the school to which the officer is assigned.	This is the third time we have seen this legislation. We understand that requiring school resource officers or school security employees to carry firearms as a preventative measure against armed intruders creates an unsafe environment, placing all students (and disparately students of color and students with disabilities) and personnel at increased risk. Research tells us that the use of school resource officers does not reduce school shootings or gun related incidents.
HB1179		Montgomery County - Board of Education - Student Cellular Phone Policy MC 13-25	Montgomery County Delegation	Unfavorable Report W&M; **Withdrawn**	Support with Amendment	Requiring the Montgomery County Board of Education to establish a policy limiting the use of a cellular phone by a student during instructional time except under certain circumstances.	Right now, the bill language includes a carve-out for cell phone use for students with IEPs. We will contact the delegation for what we believe will be considered a friendly amendment to include students with 504 plans as well.
HB1180		Education - Primary and Secondary Schools - Alternative School Options (Right to Learn Act)	Delegate Fisher et al.	In House W&M Hearing 3/3 at 11 AM	Oppose	Requiring, on or before January 1 each year, each county board of education to provide certain information to the parents or legal guardians of students who attend a failing school; requiring that a failing school continue to be designated as a failing school until certain conditions are met; requiring that a student who is attending a failing school be provided the opportunity to attend an alternative school; establishing the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today Program; etc.	This bill would allow for additional funding allocation and expansion of eligibility for the BOOST program that diverts public dollars for education to private institutions. All children should have access to a high-quality education in their local public school, regardless of zip code, and our state's public schools would lose money, further impacting their ability to provide high quality care. Of note, students are not entitled to a FAPE (educational program accommodations) in private school and may be denied accommodations they need to succeed. We need to ensure that taxpayer dollars support the operation of public institutions that serve all students.

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HB1194		Public Schools - Injury Incidents - Requirements for Tracking and Reporting	Delegates Tomlinson et al.	In House W&M Hearing 3/5 at 1:15 PM	Oppose	Requiring certain public schools to develop and implement a system to track and report injury incidents, whether intentional or accidental, to a student, teacher, or school employee on the school campus during the school year; and establishing certain reporting requirements for county boards of education, the Juvenile Services Education Program Superintendent, and the State Department of Education regarding certain injury incidents in schools.	This bill would require reporting only on the outcomes of incidents. Without understanding circumstances (antecedents), and collecting other information such as whether trauma informed training has been provided, and use of these techniques to de-escalate situations, the data is meaningless and would not improve our schools to be the welcoming, restorative environments we need. This bill may have the impact of vilifying students who communicate pain, anxiety, fear, etc through their behavior, including students with disabilities.
HB1313		Education - Student Behavior - Parent and Guardian Notice and Required Counseling (Parent and Guardian Accountability Act)	Delegate R. Long	In House W&M Hearing 3/5 at 1:15 PM	Oppose	Establishing that it is unlawful for a parent or guardian of a student in a public school to fail to seek and participate in counseling with the parent's or guardian's child after receiving a certain notice of violent and disruptive behavior; and requiring a public school principal to provide a certain written notice to the parent or guardian of a student who engages in two or more incidents of violent and disruptive behavior on school premises or during school-related activities during the school year.	Repeat bill from last year. See EAC previous testimony here: https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/cmte_testimony/2024/wam/1aIFjS2uQ0linKvEaBJdu1w9_TJpScQzr.pdf
HJ0005		Elementary and Secondary Education - Curriculum - Importance of Diversity	Delegates Fair et al.	In House HRU Hearing 3/3 at 1 PM	Support	Acknowledging the importance of teaching a culturally diverse curriculum in elementary and secondary schools in the State; providing that curricula taught in elementary and secondary schools should include the history of communities that have experienced discrimination; and affirming the State of Maryland's commitment to a complete education.	The Arc Maryland and DD Council co-authored testimony to support that curriculum should embrace diversity and include history of historically marginalized communities, such as the community of people with IDD, while also highlighting the many important contributions of advocates with IDD to make our world better (Section 504, IDEA, the ADA, etc.)
HB0458	SB0603	University of Maryland, College Park Campus- TerpsEXCEED Program Funding	Delegate Wolek et al.	**Passed in House (114-25)**; **Passed in Senate (46-0)**; **Returned Passed**	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.
SB0603	HB0458	University of Maryland, College Park Campus- TerpsEXCEED Program Funding	Senator Zucker et al.	**Passed in Senate (45-0) with Amendments**; In House APP First Reading	Support	See above	
HB0596	SB0601	Education - Dependent Children of Service Members - Advance Enrollment Procedures	Delegate Patterson et al.	**Passed In House with Amendments (138-0)**; In Senate EEE First Reading	Support with Amendments	Requiring a county superintendent of schools to allow a certain dependent child of a service member to advance enroll in a school in the county in a certain manner; requiring a local school system to coordinate with the parents or guardians of a certain child with a disability and the school district in a certain sending state to prevent a delay in transferring the child; requiring the Secretary of Veterans and Military Families to publish information on the advance enrollment procedures established by the Act; etc.	These amendments we support were added to account for children with 504 plans and IEPs.
SB0601	HB0596	Education - Dependent Children of Service Members - Advance Enrollment Procedures	Senator Brooks	**Passed In Senate with Amendments (47-0)**; In House Second Reading Passed with Amendments	Support with Amendments	See above	See above
HB1475		Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Publicly Funded Prekindergarten - Analysis and Report (Mixed Delivery Model Viability Act)	Delegate Feldmark et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (136-3)**; In Senate EEE Hearing 4/2 at 1 PM	Support with Amendments	Requiring the Office of Child Care Advisory Council within the State Department of Education to conduct an analysis of the mixed delivery, publicly funded prekindergarten system established under the Blueprint for Maryland's Future; and requiring the Council to submit its final report on or before December 31, 2027.	Amendments Added by the House: The Office of Child Care Advisory Council within the State Department of Education shall conduct an analysis of the mixed delivery, publicly funded prekindergarten, looking at a number of things, including: "(13) challenges for public prekindergarten providers in building or adapting facilities to accommodate prekindergarten students; and (14) how best to use publicly funded prekindergarten to provide a quality early childhood education for students with and without disabilities together in the same classrooms, including by developing methods to best: (i) combine federal, State, and local funding sources available for children in a publicly funded prekindergarten context to maximize support for all children; (ii) improve teacher and staff training and recruitment to address the needs of students with and without disabilities; and (iii) foster collaboration between public and private prekindergarten providers in delivering specialized transportation and services for students with disabilities."
HB0620		Primary and Secondary Education - Reportable Offense - Alteration	Delegate Atterbeary	In House W&M Hearing 2/25 at 1 PM and JUD 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.	

Healthcare

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SB00129	HB0474	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
HB0474	SB00129	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
HB0300	SB0127	State Government - Grants and Contracts - Reimbursement of Indirect Costs	Delegate Kerr	**Passed in House with Amendments (123-11)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (45-0)**; **Passed Enrolled**	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. *The bill was amended in the House to STUDY the need to higher indirect costs and would only apply to nonprofits with contracts exceeding 1,000,000.
SB0127	HB0300	State Government - Grants and Contracts - Reimbursement of Indirect Costs	Senator Kagan	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (44-0)**; In House Second Reading Passed with Amendments	Support	See above	See above
SB0372	HB0869	Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2025	Senators Beidle et al.	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (45-0)**; **Passed in House with Amendments (131-0)**; **Passed Enrolled**	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. *Note: Amendments to SB372 made the bill bi-partisan and require the Health Care Cost Commission to report every 4 years on advances to telehealth and best practices.
HB0869	SB0372	Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2025	Delegates Pena Melnyk et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (133-0)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (45-1)**; **Passed Enrolled**	Support	See above	
SB0560		Public Health - Maryland Commission on Health Equity - Membership and Purposes	Senators M. Washington and Lam	In Senate FIN Hearing 2/13 at 1 PM	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.	
HB0694	SB0851	Public Schools - Individuals With Disabilities - Main Entrance Accessibility and Emergency Planning	Delegate Kaufman et al.	**Passed In House with Amendments (138-0)**; In Senate EEE 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.	This bill is important to improve equal access for students with physical disabilities to use the same main entrance door as their peers. Also, the Emergency Evaluation Plan bill passed in 2017 requiring schools to create emergency evacuation plans and have equipment on site for evacuating students and school personnel with physical disabilities during emergencies such as a fire. Many schools have reported they do not have this equipment. This bill would require a report for planning purposes.
SB0851	HB0694	Public Schools - Individuals With Disabilities - Main Entrance Accessibility and Emergency Planning	Senators Zucker, Augustine, and Lewis Young	In Senate EEE Hearing 3/5 at 1 PM	Support	See above	see above
HB1004	SB0748	Public Health - Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias - Information on Prevalence and Treatment	Delegate Martinez et al.	**Passed in House with Amendents (129-9)**; **Passed in Senate (46-0)**; **Returned Passed**	Support with Amendments	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health, in partnership with certain entities, to incorporate information regarding treatments approved by the Food and Drug Administration for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and to increase understanding and awareness of treatment of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias into relevant public health outreach programs administered by the Department; etc.	Amended to include collecting data on the prevalence of Alzheimers with people who have Down syndrome.
SB0748	HB1004	Public Health - Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias - Information on Prevalence and Treatment	Senator Kramer	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (47-0)**; **Passed in House (120-13)**; **Returned Passed**	Support with Amendments	See above	see above
Justice & Civil Rights							
HB0091		Elections- In-Person Voting- Proof of Identity	Delegate R. Long et al.	In House W&M Hearing 2/11 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.

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HB0115		Election Law- Polling Places- Establishing Voter Identity (Voter Privacy Act of 2025)	Delegate R. Long	In House W&M Hearing 2/11 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.
HB0067		Election Law - Absentee Ballots - Signature Requirements and Verification	Delegate R. Long et al.	In House W&M Hearing 2/11 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.
SB0066	HB0781	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 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; requiring the training program for election judges to include instruction on the guidlines for expediting voting for elderly voters and voters with disabilities; and generally relating to in–person voting by elderly voters and voters with disabilities.	
HB0781	SB0066	Election Law- Polling Place Procedures- Voting by Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities (Accessible and Expedited Voting Act of Maryland)	Delegate Roberts et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (137-1)**; In Senate EEE First Reading	Support	See above	
HB0677	SB0298	Criminal Procedure - Out of Court Statements - Vulnerable Adult Victims and Witnesses	Delegate Toles et al.	In House JUD Hearing 2/11 at 1 PM	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 occurence 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.
SB0298	HB0677	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
HB0312		Criminal Procedure - Incompetency to Stand Trial	Delegates Cardin and Bartlett	In House JUD Unfavorable Report; **Withdrawn**	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."
HB0317		Election Law - Curbside Voting - Pilot Program	Delegates Williams and Wilkins	**Passed in House with Amendments (112-28)**; In Senate EEE Hearing 3/27 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; requiring the State Board and local board to communicate with voters and the general public, including signage at curbside voting locations, that curbside voting is primarily for certain voters with disabilities; and requiring the State Board to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Pilot Program by September 1, 2029.	

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HB0604	SB0466	Vulnerable and Senior Adults - Theft of Property by Caregiver, Family Member, or Household Member - Prohibition	House Speaker by Request of Attorney General	**Passed in House with Amendments (136-0)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (45-0)**;	Support	Prohibiting a caregiver, family member, or household member from knowingly and willfully 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.	This bill was heavily amended to strike most of the language of original bill.
SB0466	HB0604	Vulnerable and Senior Adults - Theft of Property by Caregiver, Family Member, or Household Member - Prohibition	Senate President by Request of Attorney General	**Passed In Senate with Amendments (44-0)**; In House JUD Hearing 3/25 at 1 PM	Support	See above	
HB0703	SB0507	Criminal Procedure - Diagnosis of Developmental Disability or Intellectual Disability - Evidence	Delegate Kaufman et al.	In House JUD Hearing 2/11 at 1 PM	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)
SB0507	HB0703	Criminal Procedure - Diagnosis of Developmental Disability or Intellectual Disability - Evidence	Senator Henson	In Senate JPR Hearing 2/7 at 1 PM	Support	See above	See above
SB0677	HB0896	Human Relations - Discrimination in Housing - Income-Based Housing Subsidies	Senator Gile	In Senate JPR First Reading	Support	Providing that a certain landlord may not refuse to rent to a prospective tenant who pays rent with the assistance of an income-based housing subsidy under certain circumstances; providing that a certain landlord may collect financial information from a perspective tenant under certain circumstances; and providing that a violation of the Act is a discriminatory housing practice and is subject to enforcement by the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights.	Source of Income discrimination continues despite previous attempts to address it legislatively. This bill specifically addresses Income Based Housing Subsidies and prohibits consideration of them in the rental application/evaluation of a prospective tenant.
HB0896	SB0677	Human Relations - Discrimination in Housing - Income-Based Housing Subsidies	Senator Gile	In House E&T Hearing 2/18 at 1 PM	Support	See above	
SB0615	HB0816	Election Law - Petitions and Ballot Questions - Contents, Plain Language Requirement, and Procedures	Senator Kagan	**Passed In Senate with Amendments (47-0)**; In House W&M Hearing 3/25 at 1 PM	Support	Altering the information that is required to be included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and with a question on the ballot; requiring that a certain summary included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and a certain statement about a question on the ballot be written in plain language; altering the deadline by which ballot questions must be prepared and certified; etc.	Similar to a bill presented last legislative session to require information on a ballot that is presented in plain language so the public may understand what they are voting for/what their vote will accomplish
HB0816	SB0615	Election Law - Petitions and Ballot Questions - Contents, Plain Language Requirement, and Procedures	Delgates Feldmark et al.	In House W&M Hearing 2/18 at 1 PM	Support	See above	See above
SB0782		Criminal Procedure - Verdict of Not Criminally Responsible - Eligibility for Evaluation for Discharge	Senator Corderman	In Senate JPR Hearing 3/4 at 1 PM	Oppose	Establishing that a person committed to the Maryland Department of Health after a verdict of not criminally responsible for murder in the first degree or murder in the second degree is not eligible for discharge for at least 10 years after the date the person was committed.	There are already laws in place for the human treatment of a person determined NCR, and this would remove the flexibility individuals, our judicial system, and health systems need to make reasonable, professional-judgement informed decisions about the course of a person's treatment and release.
SB0838		Election Law - Absentee Ballots - Signature Requirements and Verification	Senator Mautz et al.	In Senate EEE Hearing 2/26 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 providing that the witness signature requirement does not apply to active duty uniformed services members serving overseas or their spouses or dependents who live overseas.	The Arc Maryland has concerns that this bill will create a disparate and negative situation for voters with IDD. Some people with disabilities do not have a recognizable or consistent signature due to their conditions and this would increase likelihood of being denied the right to vote under this legislation.
HB1097	SB0929	Workgroup on Mail-In Ballot Accessibility	Delegate Feldmark et al.	In House W&M Hearing 2/24 at 11 AM	Support	Establishing the Workgroup on Mail-In Ballot Accessibility to examine current processes in the State relating to mail-in ballot return, assessing the impact on voters with disabilities, collect information about current practices for accessible alternatives to paper mail-in ballot return, and evaluate the alternatives for individuals with disabilities; and requiring the Workgroup to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31, 2025.	The Arc Maryland is one of several workgroup members named in this bill to examine the accessibility of the state mail in ballot return system.
SB0929	HB1097	Workgroup on Mail-In Ballot Accessibility	Senator Brooks et al.	**Passed In Senate with Amendments (35-11)**; In House W&M Hearing 3/26 at 1 PM	Support	See above	See above

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Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
HB1328	SB0926	End-of-Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act)	Delegate Hill et al.	In House HGO Hearing 3/3 at 2 PM and JUD Hearing 3/3 at 2 PM	Evaluating	Authorizing an individual to request aid in dying by making certain requests; establishing requirements and prohibitions governing aid in dying, including requirements related to requests for aid in dying, consulting physicians, mental health assessments, the disposal of drugs prescribed for aid in dying, health care facility policies, and the effect of aid in dying on insurance policies; authorizing a pharmacist to dispense medication for aid in dying only to certain individuals under certain circumstances; etc	It appears this bill contains the same language as last year which is a problem in that there is no requirement that a medical second opinion be obtained by a different medical practice group, and there are no data requirements to ensure this option does not have a disparate impact on people with disabilities. We will be reviewing with our GAC
SB0926	HB1328	End-of-Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act)	Senator Smith et al.	In Senate - Hearing Canceled	Evaluating	See above	See above
HB1473		State Government - Equal Access to Public Services for Individuals With Limited English Proficiency and Individuals With Disabilities	Delegate Acevero et al.	**Passed In House with Amendments (109-27)**; In Senate EEE Voting Today, 47	Support	Altering provisions of law relating to equal access to public services for individuals with limited English proficiency to include individuals with disabilities; establishing certain requirements for equal access to public services for certain State departments, agencies, and programs, including developing a language access plan; requiring the Governor's Office of Immigrant Affairs to oversee, monitor, investigate, and enforce certain provisions of law; etc.	This bill is priority legislation for the Equity Coalition. It included a mandated appropriation of $400,000 for implementation of the language access plan and resources to departments, but this was removed in the House HGO amendments.
HB1136	SB0945	Community-Based Residential Facilities - Licensing Entities - Provision of Licensing Criteria and Single Point of Contact	Delegates Rosenberg and Ruff	In House HGO Hearing 3/5 at 2:40 PM	Oppose	Requiring a licensing authority, on request, to provide to an interested party the criteria used by the licensing authority to determine whether to issue a license for or renew a license of a community facility; and requiring a licensing authority to designate a single point of contact to respond to complaints, concerns, or issues regarding a community facility.	The DD Coalition expressed concerns to Sponsors that although this language does not specifically violate fair housing, it has the potential to inspire separateness perspectives and discrimination. It was not made clear while natural means that exist for handling neighbor disputes could not be used (neighbor to neighbor communication, or if not, calling code enforcement or police for assistance for something more serious. We do not need separate procedures for homes simply because they needed for people with disabilities.
SB0945	HB1136	Community-Based Residential Facilities - Licensing Entities - Provision of Licensing Criteria and Single Point of Contact	Senator Hettleman et al.	In Senate FIN Hearing 3/4 at 1 PM	Oppose	See above	See above

Monitored Bills by Topic

Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
Community Living & Working							
SB0184	HB0239	Charitable Organizations- Late Fees and Registration- Suspension and Cancellation Requirements	Chair of JPR by Request of Secretary of State	**Passed in Senate (46-0)**; **Passed in House (132-0)**; **Returned Passed**	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.
HB0239	SB0184	Charitable Organizations- Late Fees and Registration- Suspension and Cancellation Requirements	Chair of EMC by Request of Secretary of State	**Passed in House with Amendments (137-0)**; **Passed in Senate (46-0)**; **Returned Passed**	Monitoring/ Support	See above	See above. Amendments in the House require regulations to be adopted and provide additional guardrails for the Secretary of State
HB0033	SB0248	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	**Passed in House (101-33)**; **Passed in Senate (40-7)**; **Returned Passed**	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 Volunteerism; 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.
SB0248	HB0033	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	**Passed in Senate (45-0)**; **Passed in House (102-37)**; **Returned Passed**	Monitoring	See above	See above

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Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
HB0377		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 Unfavorable Report; **Withdrawn**	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.	
SB0355		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.	
SB0367		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.	
HB0559	SB0544	Food Establishments - Portable Chemical Toilets	Delegate T. Morgan	**Passed in House (133-0)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (45-0)**; **Passed Enrolled**	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
SB0544	HB0559	Food Establishments - Portable Chemical Toilets	Senator Bailey	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (43-0)**; **Passed in House (134-0)**; **Returned Passed**	Evaluating	See above	See above
SB0659	HB0332	Consumer Protection - Electronic Funds Transfers - Regulations (Elder Fraud Prevention Act of 2025)	Senators Ready et al.	In Senate FIN Hearing 2/20 at 1 PM	Monitoring/Support	Requiring the Commissioner of Financial Regulation to adopt consumer protection regulations for domestic electronic funds transfers that apply to financial institutions in the State and are consistent with the federal Electronic Fund Transfer Act; etc.	
HB0332	SB0659	Consumer Protection - Electronic Funds Transfers - Regulations (Elder Fraud Prevention Act of 2025)	Delegates Stewart and Griffith	**Passed in House with Amendments (112-26)**; In Senate FIN First Reading	Monitoring/Support	See above	
SB0707	HB0436	Vehicle Laws - Medical Exemption for Enhanced Tinted Windows - Repeal of Time Limitation	Senator Zucker	**Passed In Senate with Amendments (47-0)**; **Passed in House (136-0)**;	Monitoring/Support	Repealing the 2-year time limitation on medical exemptions for enhanced tinted windows on certain vehicles.	Some people have conditions that make them extremely photosensitive, and the strobbing effects of sunlight through trees can induce seizures. There should be a mechanism for these individuals and their families to keep their tinted windows for health and safety of the individuals inside the vehicle
HB0436	SB0707	Vehicle Laws - Medical Exemption for Enhanced Tinted Windows - Repeal of Time Limitation	Delegate Pena Melnyk et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (135-0)**; **Passed in Senate (46-0)**; **Returned Passed**	Monitoring/Support	See above	
HB0727		Motor Vehicles - Driving Records - Disclosure of Medical Diagnosis (Safeguarding American Families Everywhere Act)	Delegate M. Morgan et al.	In House E&T Unfavorable Report; **Withdrawn**	Evaluating for Opposition	Authorizing an applicant for a driver's license or a license holder to voluntarily disclose to the Motor Vehicle Administration certain information regarding certain medical diagnoses; requiring the Administration to include a description of the voluntary disclosure in the applicant's or license holder's driving record; and providing that the voluntary disclosure may be removed from an individual's driver's record on request.	There are no safeguards for police training and accountability, and other mechanisms built in to protect people with IDD.
Education & Childcare							
SB0078		Juvenile Child Sex Offenders- Juvenile Sex Offender Registry and Prohibition on In-Person School Attendance	Senator Salling	In Senater 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 is 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.	

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Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
HB0150	SB0252	Child Care Centers – Certificated Staff Ratio Requirement – Repeal	Chair of W&M by Request of Dept of Education	**Passed in House with Amendments (108-31)**; **Passed in Senate (40-7)**; **Returned Passed**	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.
SB0252	HB0150	Child Care Centers – Certificated Staff Ratio Requirement – Repeal	Chair of EEE by Request of Dept of Education	**Passed in Senate (46-0)**; In House Second Reading Passed with Amendments	Monitoring	See above	See above
HB0161		Primary and Secondary Education – Comprehensive Health Education Framework – Established	Delegates Atterbeary and Fair	**Passed in House (95-39)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (33-12)**; **Passed Enrolled**	Monitoring/Support	Requiring the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the 4 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 10 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.
HB0477		Family Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers - Adult to Child Ratios - Alterations	Delegates Barnes and McCaskill	**Passed in House with Amendments (138-0)**; In Senate EEE Hearing 3/27 at 1 PM	Monitoring	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.	
SB0386	HB0526	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	Monitoring	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.	
HB0526	SB0386	Primary and Secondary Education - Definition and Notification of Reportable Offense - Alterations	Delegates Miller, Buckel, and Pippy	In House W&M Hearing 2/25 at 1 PM and JUD Hearing Canceled	Monitoring	See above	
SB0429	HB0504	Excellence in Maryland Public Schools Act	Senate President by Request of Administration et al.	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (33-13)**; In House HRU First Reading	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.
HB0504	SB0429	Excellence in Maryland Public Schools Act	House Speaker by Request of Administration et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (100-39)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (33-13)**; Conference Committee Appointed	Reviewing	See above	See above
HB0689	SB0506	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Use of Reimbursement Funds by Schools	Delegate Atterbeary	In House W&M Hearing 2/25 at 1 PM	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.	
SB0506	HB0689	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Use of Reimbursement Funds by Schools	Senator Henson	In Senate EEE Hearing 3/5 at 1 PM and FIN First Reading	Monitoring	See above	
HB0583		Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Schools - Alterations	Delegates Vogel and Miller	In House W&M Hearing 2/12 at 1 PM	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 or 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.

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The Arc Maryland

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HB0531		Education - Remote Learning Accommodations - Established (College Disability Education Act)	Delegates Simmons, A. Johnson, and Taylor	In House APP Hearing 2/18 at 1 PM	Monitoriing	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.
HB0702	SB0602	County Boards of Education - Special Education Service Delivery Models - Publication Requirement	Delegates Kaufman et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (137-0)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (46-0)**; House Requests Senate Recede	Monitoring	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.	
SB0602	HB0702	County Boards of Education - Special Education Service Delivery Models - Publication Requirement	Senator Brooks et al.	**Passed in Senate (44-0)**; In House Second Reading Passed	Monitoring	See above	
Healthcare							
HB0576	SB0465	Health Care Facilities - Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Programs - Video Recordings	House Speaker by Request of Attorney General	In House HGO Hearing 2/13 at 1 PM	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.	
SB0465	HB0576	Health Care Facilities - Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Programs - Video Recordings	Senate President by Request of Attorney General	In Senate FIN Hearing 2/11 at 1 PM	Monitoring	See above	
SB0679	HB0933	Nursing Homes - Direct Care Wages and Benefits and Cost Reports (Nursing Home Care Crisis Transparency Act)	Senator Rosapepe	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (32-13)**; In House HRU First Reading	Monitoring	Requiring a nursing home to expend at least 75% of its total nursing and residential care revenue for direct care wages and benefits; and requiring nursing homes by September 1 each year, beginning in 2026, to submit a cost report with documentation of wage disbursement and other appropriate information to the Maryland Department of Health.	
HB0933	SB0679	Nursing Homes - Direct Care Wages and Benefits and Cost Reports (Nursing Home Care Crisis Transparency Act)	Delegate Martinez	**Passed in House with Amendments (99-38)**; In Senate Second Reading Passed	Monitoring	See above	
HB0743	SB0592	Public Health - Health Care Quality Fund for Community-Based Behavioral Health Programs - Establishment	Delegate Bagnall	In House HGO Unfavorable Report; **Withdrawn**	Monitoring/Support	Establishing the Health Care Quality Fund for Community-Based Behavioral Health Programs in the Maryland Department of Health to provide funding for training, grant awards, demonstration projects, or other purposes designed to improve behavioral health care services in the State; requiring the Department to pay to the Comptroller certain civil penalties collected from behavioral health programs and the Comptroller to distribute the penalties into the Fund; and requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund.	
SB0592	HB0743	Public Health - Health Care Quality Fund for Community-Based Behavioral Health Programs - Establishment	Senator Augustine	In Senate FIN Hearing 2/18 at 1 PM	Monitoring/Support	See above	
SB0599	HB1049	Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program - Funding	Senators Hettleman and Augustine	**Passed in Senate (31-13)**; In House APP Hearing 3/25 at 1 PM	Monitoring/Support	Requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2029 an appropriation of $5,000,000 to the Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program	This bill would repeal a sunset of a program that already exists and mandate an appropriation for an additional two years.
HB1049	SB0599	Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program - Funding	Delegate Feldmark	In House APP Hearing 3/4 at 1 PM	Monitoring /Support	See above	See above

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Justice & Civil Rights							
HB0027	SB0019	Estates and Trusts - Compensation of Guardians of Property and Trustees	Delegate Cardin	**Passed in House (135-0)**; **Passed in Senate (47-0)**; **Returned Passed**	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.	
SB0019	HB0027	Estates and Trusts - Compensation of Guardians of Property and Trustees	Senator West	**Passed in Senate (44-0)**; **Passed in House (129-0)**; **Returned Passed**	Evaluating	See above	
HB0195	SB0090	Criminal Procedure- Incompetency to Stand Trial Dismissal	Delegate Cardin	In House JUD Hearing 1/28 at 1 PM	Monitioring	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.	
SB0090	HB0195	Criminal Procedure- Incompetency to Stand Trial Dismissal	Senator Muse	In Senate JPR Hearing 1/21 at 2:30 PM	Monitioring	See above	
HB0468		Petitions for Emergency Evaluation (Arnaud and Magruder Memorial Act)	Delegate Alston et al.	**Passed in House with Amendments (136-0)**; In Senate FIN Hearing 3/19 at 1 PM and JPR 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.
HB0499	SB0432	Criminal Records - Expungement and Maryland Judiciary Case Search (Expungement Reform Act of 2025)	House Speaker by Request of Administration et al.	In House JUD Hearing 3/4 at 1 PM	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.
SB0432	HB0499	Criminal Records - Expungement and Maryland Judiciary Case Search (Expungement Reform Act of 2025)	Senate President by Request of Administration et al.	**Passed In Senate with Amendments (36-11)**; **Passed in House (102-37)**; **Returned Passed**	Evaluating	See above	See above
HB0542	SB0347	Adult Protective Services - Investigations and Disclosure of Information	Delegate Crutchfield	**Passed in House with Amendments (139-0)**; **Passed in Senate (46-0)**; **Returned Passed**	Monitioring	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.	
SB0347	HB0542	Adult Protective Services - Investigations and Disclosure of Information	Senator Love	**Passed in Senate (45-0)**; **Passed in House (135-0)**; **Returned Passed**	Monitioring	See above	
HB0983	SB0685	Election Law - Local Boards of Elections - Language-Related Assistance	Delegates Mireku-North and Wilkins	**Passed in House with Amendments (106-33)**; **Passed in Senate with Amendments (32-12)**; **Passed Enrolled**	Monitoring/Support	Requiring the State Board of Elections to determine whether there is a significant and substantial need for language-related assistance in certain languages by a local board of elections during an election based on certain criteria; requiring local boards to provide certain language-related assistance and materials in voting and elections to certain voters in certain languages; and requiring local boards to make reasonable efforts to recruit election judges who are fluent in certain languages.	In alignment with the Equity Coalitions Goals
SB0685	HB0983	Election Law - Local Boards of Elections - Language-Related Assistance	Senator Augustine	**Passed in Senate with Amendments (32-12)**; In House W&M Favorable Report	Monitoring/Support	See above	
HB0756		Petition for Guardianship of the Property of Alleged Disabled Person - Stay of Civil Actions and Proceedings	Delegate J. Long	**Passed in House with Amendments (137-0)**; In Senate JPR Hearing 3/26 at 1 PM	Monitoring/ Support	Authorizing a petitioner to request a stay of certain civil actions or proceedings on the filing of a petition for guardianship of the property of an alleged disabled person; requiring, to effectuate service of process for certain civil actions against an alleged disabled person, the temporary or permanent guardian of the property of the disabled person to be served; and applying the Act prospectively.	

To find contact information for your representatives, click here.

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Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes

COMMITTEES

Click each committee or Name for Details and Contact Information

House Committees

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

Senate Committees

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

LEADERSHIP

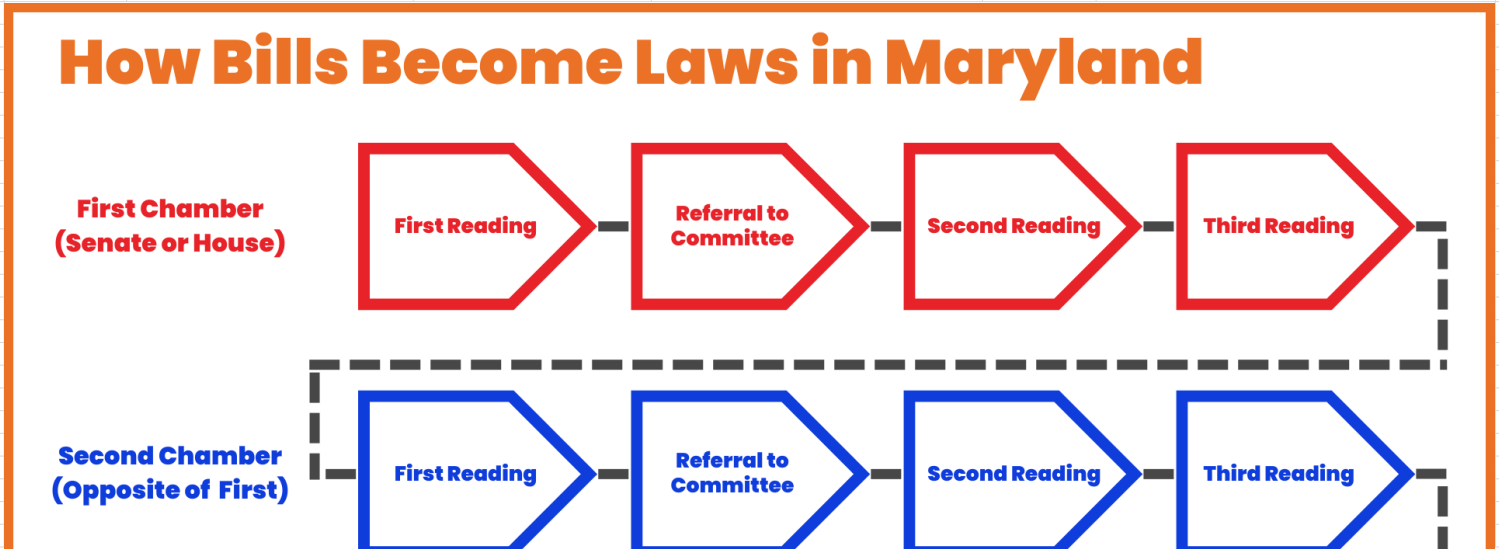
Click each Name for Details and Contact Information

House Leadership

Title	Representative
Speaker of the House	Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker Pro Tem	Dana Stein
Majority Leader	David Moon
Majority Whip	Jazz Lewis
Minority Leader	Jason C. Buckell
Minority Whip	Jesse T. Pippy

Senate Leadership

Title	Senator
President of the Senate	Bill Ferguson
President Pro Tem	Malcolm Augustine
Majority Leader	Nancy J. King
Majority Whip	Joanne C. Benson
Minority Leader	Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.
Minority Whip	Justin Ready



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