



Report of the
**Public Safety, Transportation, and
Environment Subcommittee**
To the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

2024 SESSION

Recommendations, Reductions, and Summary of
Action Pertaining to:
Senate Bill 360

General Assembly of Maryland

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment
Subcommittee

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Contents

	<u>Budget Code</u>	<u>Page</u>
Recommended Reductions		vii
Legislative and Judicial		
Judiciary	C00A00	1
Office of the Public Defender.....	C80B00	5
Office of the Attorney General.....	C81C	6
Public Service Commission.....	C90G00	7
Uninsured Employers' Fund.....	C96J00	8
Executive and Administrative Control		
Maryland Energy Administration.....	D13A13	10
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy	D21	12
Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority	D29	16
Department of Planning.....	D40W01	17
Maryland Department of Emergency Management	D52	18
Department of Veterans Affairs	D55P00	20
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund.....	D70J00	21
Maryland Insurance Administration.....	D80Z01	22
Financial and Revenue Administration		
Comptroller of Maryland.....	E00A	23
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission.....	E17	25
Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency	E75D	26
Transportation		
Department of Transportation.....	J00	28
The Secretary's Office.....	J00A01	30
Debt Service Requirements	J00A04	32
Maryland Port Administration.....	J00D00	34

	<u>Budget Code</u>	<u>Page</u>
Motor Vehicle Administration	J00E00	35
Maryland Transit Administration	J00H01	36
Natural Resources		
Department of Natural Resources	K00A	38
Agriculture		
Department of Agriculture	L00A	43
Public Safety and Correctional Services		
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.....		
Administration and Offices	Q00A	45
Corrections	Q00B	49
Community Supervision.....	Q00C	55
Police and Correctional Training Commission	Q00G	57
Environment		
Department of the Environment.....	U00A	58
Maryland Environmental Service	U10B00	62
Juvenile Services		
Department of Juvenile Services	V00A	63
State Police		
Department of State Police	W00A	66
Sections		
Sections.....		70

Recommended Reductions
Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee

<u>Agency</u>	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Higher Ed Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
2025 Budget Request					
Judiciary	-\$14,010,680	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ -14,010,680
Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy	-5,170,947	0	0	0	-5,170,947
Comptroller of Maryland	-1,037,484	-157,991	0	0	-1,195,475
Department of State Police	-113,500	0	0	0	-113,500
<i>Subtotal – Fiscal 2025 Regular Budget</i>	<i>-\$20,332,611</i>	<i>-\$157,991</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>-\$20,490,602</i>
Fiscal 2025 Total Budget	-\$20,332,611	-\$157,991	\$0	\$0	-\$20,490,602
IIA: 2024 Budget Request					
Judiciary	-\$500,000				-\$500,000
<i>Subtotal – Fiscal 2024 Deficiency Budget</i>	<i>-\$500,000</i>				<i>-\$500,000</i>
Fiscal 2024 Total Budget	-\$500,000				-\$500,000
Grand Total Budget Bill	-\$20,832,611	-\$157,991	\$0	\$0	-\$20,990,602

C00A00
Judiciary

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that \$5,600,000 in general funds made for the purpose of operating expenses is reduced. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs within the Judiciary.

Explanation: This action reduces the fiscal 2025 general fund appropriation for operating expenses to more closely align with actual spending. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.

Amendment No. _____

Add the following language:

Provided that \$7,910,680 in general funds made for the purpose of employee merit increases is reduced. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.

Explanation: This action reduces the portion of the fiscal 2025 general fund appropriation for employee merit increases that are double budgeted. The remaining funding by the Judiciary for merit increases plus the amount budgeted in the Statewide Program in the Department of Budget and Management provides funding for employee merit increases at a level commensurate with the level provided for other State employees.

Amendment No. _____

C00A00

C00A00.04 District Court

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Provided that \$500,000 in general funds made for the purpose of providing attorneys for required representation at initial appearances before District Court commissioners is reduced.

Explanation: This reduction is made in order to fund the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond consistent with actual expenditures seen in fiscal 2023. In fiscal 2023, \$8,621,155 was utilized for this purpose, and \$628,845 was unused.

Amendment No. _____

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$8,750,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of providing attorneys for required representation at initial appearances before District Court commissioners consistent with the holding of the Supreme Court of Maryland in DeWolfe v. Richmond may be expended only for that purpose. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert back to the General Fund.

Explanation: This language restricts the use of \$8.75 million of the Judiciary's general fund appropriation for the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond to that purpose only.

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

Appointed Attorney Program Costs and Utilization: The committees remain interested in the costs and operations of the Appointed Attorney Program. The committees request a report, to be submitted by October 1, 2024, detailing the fiscal 2024 costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program. This report should include the number of appearances before District Court commissioners where attorneys were appointed to represent indigent defendants and the outcomes of those appearances.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Appointed Attorney Program costs and utilization	Judiciary	October 1, 2024

C00A00

C00A00.06 Administrative Office of the Courts

Annual Court Performance Measures: The committees remain interested in evaluating the performance of the circuit and District courts. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, with annual court performance measures data for the circuit and District courts.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual court performance measures report	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

Problem-Solving Court (PSC) Performance and Funding: The committees are interested in the work of the Judiciary's PSCs. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, showing the funding allocated for fiscal 2024 and 2025 and actual expenditures for the operation of each type of PSC in fiscal 2024 and anticipated for fiscal 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
PSC funding and expenditures report	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Status Report: The committees remain interested in the Judiciary's MITDPs. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, detailing the MITDPs being undertaken by the Judiciary.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MITDP status report	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

Land Records Improvement Fund (LRIF) Balance Report: The committees are interested in the status of the LRIF. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, showing the fiscal 2024 revenues and expenditures for the fund, along with forecasted revenues and expenditures for fiscal 2025 through 2029. The report should also include a breakdown of the expenditures for circuit court offices.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
LRIF balance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

C00A00

Judgeship Need for Fiscal 2026: The committees remain interested in the judgeship needs at the Judiciary. The committees request a report, to be submitted by December 15, 2024, detailing the fiscal 2026 judgeship needs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Judgeship needs for fiscal 2026	Judiciary	December 15, 2024

Fiscal 2024 Deficiency Appropriation

\$500,000 in general funds is reduced from the fiscal 2024 appropriation for program C00A00.04 District Court within the Judiciary that was made for the purpose of implementing the Supreme Court of Maryland’s decision in DeWolfe v. Richmond.

Explanation: This includes a reduction to fiscal 2024 funding in the Judiciary to better align with anticipated expenditures for the implementation of the Supreme Court of Maryland’s decision in DeWolfe v. Richmond.

C80B00
Office of the Public Defender

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that \$2,521,233 in general funds, \$386 in special funds, and \$9,852 in federal funds of the appropriation made for the purpose of salaries and wages in the Office of the Public Defender may not be expended for that purpose but instead may be used only to increase salaries for existing positions. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: The Office of the Public Defender currently has a vacancy rate above the agency’s budgeted turnover rate. These funds are not expected to be needed for vacant positions and are instead to be used to increase salaries for existing positions.

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

Hiring, Separation, and Caseloads Report: The committees are concerned with ongoing vacancy issues within the Office of the Public Defender (OPD). The committees request a report detailing the number of attorneys hired by OPD in each year from fiscal 2019 to 2024 including the total number of employees hired for each position and the reasons for separations of attorneys from OPD. This report should also include the average annual caseloads for attorneys in each division in fiscal 2024 compared to the standards utilized by OPD.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Attorney hiring, separation, and caseloads report	OPD	December 1, 2024

C81C
Office of the Attorney General

Committee Narrative

C81C00.01 Legal Counsel and Advice

Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) Quarterly Reports: The committees remain interested in the progress of the implementation of the ACE program. The committees request quarterly reports on the progress of the rollout of the ACE program. The first report should be submitted no later than October 15, 2024. Each report should provide, at a minimum, the following information:

- quarterly expenditures by purpose of expense;
- a list of legal services providers participating in the program in each county;
- the number of cases with representation by attorneys in the program;
- the total number of evictions averted;
- the amount of funds paid to legal services providers;
- the number of tenants rejected by the program and the reason for rejection;
- the number of tenants seeking counsel more than once for the same property; and
- the number of tenants seeking counsel more than once for different properties.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ACE quarterly reports	Maryland Legal Services Corporation	October 15, 2024 January 15, 2025 April 15, 2025 July 15, 2025

C90G00
Public Service Commission

Committee Narrative

C90G00.01 General Administration and Hearings

Third-party Retail Energy Supplier Regulation and Enforcement Actions in Response to Prohibited Marketing Practices: The committees are interested in continuing to monitor the enforcement actions taken by the Public Service Commission (PSC) in response to third-party retail energy suppliers who have engaged in prohibited marketing practices and the effectiveness of these enforcement actions at prohibiting these marketing practices from occurring. The committees request that PSC submit a report providing an overview of the current types of enforcement actions that it has the statutory authority to take against third-party retail energy suppliers, information and evidences regarding the effectiveness of these enforcement actions, limitations to the effectiveness of these enforcement actions, and any additional enforcement efforts that PSC plans or could take in the future under existing statutory authority to address ongoing complaints from consumers impacted by prohibited marketing practices. The report should also include information on any additional statutory regulatory authority that is needed for effective enforcement in response to customer complaints.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on third-party retail energy supplier regulation and enforcement actions in response to prohibited marketing practices	PSC	December 1, 2024

Utility Termination Restrictions during the Winter Heating Season and in Cases of Extreme Temperatures: The committees are interested in the restrictions that are currently in place through statute and regulations surrounding the circumstances under which a utility may terminate service to residential customers. The committees request that the Public Service Commission (PSC) submit a report outlining the utility termination restrictions that are currently in place during the winter heating season lasting from November 1 to March 1, and on days when the forecasted temperatures are either below 32 degrees Fahrenheit or above 95 degrees Fahrenheit. The committees request that the report also include a discussion of the authority of PSC to adopt additional utility termination restrictions through regulation or order surrounding terminations occurring during the summer cooling season to protect utility customers from the effects of extreme heat.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on utility termination restrictions during the winter heating season and due to extreme temperatures	PSC	December 1, 2024

C96J00
Uninsured Employers' Fund

Budget Amendments

C96J00.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that since the Uninsured Employers' Fund (UEF) had unresolved repeat audit findings in the most recent fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA), \$150,000 of this agency's administrative appropriation may not be expended unless:

- (1) UEF has taken corrective action with respect to all repeat audit findings on or before November 1, 2024; and
- (2) a report is submitted to the budget committees by OLA listing each repeat audit finding along with a determination that each repeat finding was corrected. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the receipt of the report to review and comment to allow for funds to be released prior to the end of fiscal 2025.

Explanation: Due to serious repeat audit findings regarding a lack of oversight of UEF's third-party administrator, a portion of its budget will be withheld pending the adoption of corrective action by the agency and a determination by OLA that each finding was corrected. OLA shall submit reports to the budget committees on the status of UEF's response.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of corrective actions related to the most recent fiscal compliance audit	OLA	45 days before the release of funds

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

Workgroup on the Uninsured Employers' Fund (UEF): The committees are concerned with the long-term solvency of UEF. An actuarial report published in 2020 projected that the fund would face insolvency by fiscal 2030, endangering its future ability to meet its obligations to injured workers. Although current trends are not as dire as the actuary's estimates, UEF's fund balance continues to be on a downward trend, and costs exceeded revenues in fiscal 2023. Operating costs have more than quadrupled in the past 10 years, from \$1.3 million in fiscal 2015 to a planned \$6.0 million in fiscal 2025. Although improved agency functioning in those years has also resulted in cost savings, continued cost increases are not sustainable in the long term

C96J00

without corresponding increases in revenue. To maintain solvency in the future, UEF will need to reduce costs, secure additional revenues, or a combination of both.

In an effort to better understand the challenges facing the agency and possible solutions to ensure UEF's long-term financial health, the committees direct UEF and the Workers' Compensation Commission (WCC) to establish a workgroup to study and report on potential changes to UEF's funding structure, operations, or other factors the workgroup deems relevant. In particular, the workgroup should consider options for increasing UEF's revenues and recommend whether legislative changes are needed to modify how the agency is currently funded.

At a minimum, the workgroup should include representatives from UEF, WCC, the Subsequent Injury Fund, the Maryland Insurance Administration, Chesapeake Employers' Insurance Company, and private workers' compensation insurers; and one member each from the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Economic Matters Committee.

The workgroup shall provide the committees with a report to be submitted by November 1, 2024, detailing the workgroup's findings and recommendations regarding UEF's long-term stability and solvency.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on findings and recommendations regarding UEF's long-term solvency	UEF WCC	November 1, 2024

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

Committee Narrative

D13A13.01 General Administration

Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenue, Spending, and Fund Balance: The committees are interested in ensuring transparency in Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) revenue assumptions and spending included in the budget as well as available fund balance and planned usages of revenues. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) provide an annual report on the revenue from the RGGI carbon dioxide emissions allowance auctions, set-aside allowances, and interest income in conjunction with the submission of the fiscal 2026 budget as an appendix to the Governor’s Fiscal 2026 Budget Books. The report shall include information on the actual fiscal 2024 budget, the fiscal 2025 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2026 allowance. The report shall detail:

- revenue assumptions used to calculate the available SEIF from RGGI auctions for each fiscal year, including the number of auctions, the number of allowances sold, the allowance price in each auction, and the anticipated revenue from set-aside allowances;
- interest income received on the SEIF;
- amount of the SEIF from RGGI auction revenue available to each agency that receives funding through each required statutory allocation, dues owed to RGGI, Inc, and transfers or diversions made to other funds; and
- fund balances for each SEIF subaccount, reflecting funds available to spend for the fiscal 2024 actual, the fiscal 2025 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2026 allowance.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on revenue assumptions, fund balance, and usage of SEIF revenues sourced from RGGI program auctions	DBM	With submission of the Governor’s Fiscal 2026 Budget Books

Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Funding for Energy-related Purposes: The committees are interested in tracking federal funds available to the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) from the IIJA and the IRA for energy-related purposes, and the status of implementation of programming using these funds. The committees request that MEA submit a report that includes a list of all IIJA and IRA programs for which it has submitted or anticipates submitting an application, the amount of

D13A13

funding available from each program (if funding allocations have been announced), the status of each application submitted or date funding was awarded, and the planned uses for funding from each program.

Additionally, the committees request that MEA provide an update on the implementation of the two home energy rebate programs through IRA funding, the Home Energy Performance-Based, Whole-House Rebate Program and the High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program. The report should include the status of approval of MEA's application for funding by the U.S. Department of Energy, program design and implementation activities completed, including outreach to the contractor community, and, if initial rebate awards have been made at the time of report submission, the number of rebates awarded under both programs, the average amount per rebate, and the total amount of rebates awarded. If initial rebate awards have not yet been made at the time of report submission, the report should include an anticipated timeline of when rebates under both programs will be available to the public.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on federal IJJA and IRA funding and implementation of home energy rebate programs	MEA	December 31, 2024

Usage of Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenues Transferred to the Dedicated Purpose Account (DPA): The fiscal 2025 allowance reflects the transfer of \$90 million of SEIF fund balance to the DPA to be used for implementation of unspecified provisions of Chapter 38 of 2022 (the Climate Solutions Now Act) and Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan, released in December 2023. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA), and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) jointly submit a report outlining the sources, uses, and planned uses of this funding.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the usage of SEIF revenues transferred to the DPA	DBM MDE MEA	December 31, 2024

D21
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

Budget Amendments

Administrative Headquarters

D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of the general fund appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) submits a report to the budget committees by November 1, 2024, regarding Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) awards and funding. The report shall include:

- (1) each grant award made on July 1, 2024, for the fiscal 2025 awards, including the grant number, implementing agency, project title, start date, end date, amount of award, whether the grant is supported with general funds or federal VOCA funds, jurisdiction of implementation, and a brief description/abstract of the grant;
- (2) the total amount of grants awarded from general funds and federal VOCA funds on July 1, 2024;
- (3) the amount of unexpended funds for each open three-year VOCA grant and the reason funds are unexpended, including whether the funds are being held in reserve for future grants;
- (4) for the federal fiscal 2020 and 2021 three-year funding cycles, an identification of the respective amount of funds expended for the purpose of direct provision of services, administration, and that which went unobligated; and
- (5) a comparison of aggregate-level performance measures or outcome measures of the VOCA program for fiscal 2018 through 2024 or as many recent years that GOCPP is able to provide.

In addition to the report submission, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted.

Explanation: The VOCA grant program is a major source of funding to victim services providers in the State. Chapters 625 and 626 of 2023 require that adequate general funds be provided in the budget so that \$60.0 million is available for the program each year beginning in fiscal 2025. This language restricts \$500,000 pending the submission of information related to

D21

VOCA awards and funding in fiscal 2025. For each open three-year grant cycle (federal fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024), GOCPP is required to include the amount of currently unexpended funds, the reason these funds remain unspent, and whether they will be held in reserve. The report is also required to provide further detail regarding the expenditure of funds for the two most recently completed funding cycles – federal fiscal 2020 and 2021. Finally, the report is required to provide a comparison of the program’s aggregate outcomes or performance measures in recent fiscal years.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual VOCA report	GOCPP	November 1, 2024
Amendment No. _____		

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Increase turnover expectancy for 16 new positions to 25% to be consistent with budgeted turnover for new positions.	-170,947	GF
Total Change	-170,947	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	71.00	71.00		0.00
General Fund	42,655,456	42,484,509	-170,947	
Special Fund	21,618,242	21,618,242	0	
Federal Fund	40,718,612	40,718,612	0	
Total Funds	104,992,310	104,821,363	-170,947	

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

Report on Invoice and Payment Methodology: The Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) is a grant administering agency and funded over 900 subgrants during fiscal 2023. The committees believe there may be opportunities to improve the efficiency of the

D21

agency's grant making processes, saving time and money for the agency and its grantees. It is the intent of the committees that GOCPP perform a systematic review of its invoice and payment methodologies. In addition, the committees request that GOCPP submit a report on any improvements made as a result of the review. The report should also identify any legal or regulatory obstacles or any resources needed by the agency to address identified flaws.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on invoice and payment methodology	GOCPP	October 1, 2024

Budget Amendments

D21A01.03 State Aid for Police Protection

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) may not distribute a law enforcement agency's share of \$5,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the State Aid for Police Protection enhancement funding until the law enforcement agency attests to GOCPP that employees have completed training on juvenile interrogation requirements.

Explanation: The fiscal 2025 allowance includes enhanced public safety aid through the State Aid for Police Protection Program (SAPP). This language requires that a portion of enhanced SAPP funding be distributed to law enforcement agencies only after agencies attest that their employees have completed training on juvenile interrogation requirements.

Amendment No. _____

D21

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation for State Aid for Police Protection enhancement funding to the level provided in fiscal 2023 and 2024.	-5,000,000	GF
 Total Change	 -5,000,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	126,382,798	121,382,798	-5,000,000	
Total Funds	126,382,798	121,382,798	-5,000,000	

Amendment No. _____

Victim Services Unit

D21A03.01 Victim Services Unit

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration may not be expended until the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy submits the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Fiscal 2024 Annual Report to the budget committees. The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2024, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Though the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) is required to submit this report on the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) and fund each year, no due date is prescribed in existing statute.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CICB Fiscal 2024 Annual Report	GOCPP	November 1, 2024

Amendment No. _____

D29

Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority

Committee Narrative

D29A01.01 Administration

Horse Racetrack Progress Reports: Chapter 111 of 2023 created the Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority (MTROA). As required, MTROA reported on its recommendations for the future of horse racing in Maryland. The authority recommends the Pimlico Plus Plan, which is to have a single thoroughbred racetrack in Pimlico in Baltimore City. Funds authorized for the renovation of Pimlico and Laurel Park would only support Pimlico renovations. It is unclear what will happen to facilities in Bowie Race Track or Laurel Park. The committees request regular updates on the status of all three properties. For Pimlico, the updates should include any memoranda of understanding (MOU) agreed to by MTROA, changes in ownership, and the status of planning and construction of the facility. For Laurel and Bowie, the update should include any changes in ownership, any MOUs agreed to by MTROA, and proposed uses of the facilities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Horse racetrack progress reports	MTROA	July 12, 2024 October 11, 2024 January 10, 2025 April 11, 2025

D40W01
Department of Planning

Budget Amendments

D40W01.04 Planning Coordination

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

. provided that \$125,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of the Maryland250 Commission may be expended only for the purpose of grants from the Department of Planning to county or municipal organizations throughout the State dedicated to the effort of celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by amendment or otherwise to any other purposes and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This language restricts \$125,000 of the \$250,000 appropriated for the Maryland250 Commission in the Maryland Department of Planning to be used only as grant funding to local nonprofit organizations that are undergoing efforts to celebrate the two-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the United States.

Amendment No. _____

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Committee Narrative

D52A01.01 Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund: The committees are interested in the ongoing funding structure planned for the Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund (RMRLF). The committees are also concerned about how local project funding applications are submitted and approved by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM). Therefore, the committees request that MDEM submit an update on the status of the RMRLF, including:

- the status of Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM) Act and any other funding contributing to the RMRLF along with the balance of the RMRLF;
- descriptions of activities and communications at and between MDEM and local emergency management departments regarding funding opportunities;
- a list of project funding applications submitted for the next round of STORM Act funding, including total estimated cost and amounts requested for each project and by jurisdiction; and
- the special fund revenue and repayment schedules associated with existing loans made through the RMRLF.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the RMRLF	MDEM	December 1, 2024

State and Local Cybersecurity Efforts: The committees are interested in the grant allocation schedule, funding availability, and local application process for the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP). As of January 2024, the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) expects to open the application process in February 2024 and issue notices of award in May 2024. The committees request that MDEM submit a report providing an update on the status of the SLCGP grant allocation, showing federal and general fund allocations separately, including:

- SLCGP grants awarded by jurisdiction and remaining unallocated balance;
- nonfederal match expenditures by use;
- descriptions of requested projects and requested funding amounts;

D52

- a plan for use of remaining unallocated funds in fiscal 2025; and
- a description of the need for further State-match funding beyond fiscal 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status of the SLCGP and Local Cybersecurity Support Fund	MDEM	November 1, 2024

D55P00
Department of Veteran Affairs

Committee Narrative

D55P00.05 Veterans Home Program

Quarterly Reports on Charlotte Hall Veterans Home (CHVH) Facility Operations, Staffing, and Federal Ratings: The Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) oversees the operation of CHVH, the only assisted-living and skilled-nursing care for veterans and their spouses in the State. The committees are interested in how the new management contractor operates CHVH and its efforts on increasing staffing and residency numbers. Additionally, the committees are concerned with the low ratings from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) surrounding nursing home facility performance. The committees request that MDVA submit quarterly reports in collaboration with the CHVH contractor on the progress of CHVH’s operations, census numbers, staffing levels, efforts to increase census and staffing numbers, the number of resident complaints and resident complaints by type of complaint, as well as any report, rating, or fine from CMS. In each quarterly report, the report should note the period covered by the data and corresponding dates.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Request on status of CHVH operations, staffing, and federal ratings	MDVA	July 1, 2024 October 1, 2024 January 1, 2025 April 1, 2025

D70J00
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund

Committee Narrative

D70J00.42 Insured Division

Quarterly Financial Statements for Insured and Uninsured Divisions: Annually, the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto) provides end-of-year financial statements including revenue, expenditure, and surplus figures for the closed-out, preceding year; estimates for the current year beginning at closeout; and projections for the immediate year ahead. Most revenue is derived from premiums in the Insured Division and a mandated appropriation of uninsured motorist fines under Section 17-106 of the Transportation Article for the Uninsured Division. However, both divisions derive revenue from investment dividends, which depend on investment portfolio decisions as well as stock market conditions. Comparisons of estimates to closeout and projections to end-of-year estimates suggest limited ability to forecast financial conditions for the full year. Given ongoing concerns about the financial stability of the agency and surplus levels in both divisions, the committees request quarterly updated financial statements for both divisions. The first report should cover data for the first two quarters of calendar 2024, and each subsequent report should cover the prior quarter.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly financial statements for Insured Division and Uninsured Division	Maryland Auto	July 31, 2024 October 31, 2024 March 15, 2025 May 15, 2025

D80Z01
Maryland Insurance Administration

Committee Narrative

D80Z01.02 Major Information Technology Development Projects

Insurance Tracking System (ITS) Project Status: After significant delays beginning in calendar 2020, active design and development of the ITS project has resumed. A project blueprint was delivered to the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) and approved by the Commissioner in September 2023. As of January 2024, MIA had received a detailed Design and Requirements proposal and new cost quotes. The fiscal 2025 allowance includes \$4 million for continued ITS project development. In order to continue monitoring this project and to be informed of any further delays or cost increases, the committees request that MIA submit initial and follow-up reports to update the committees, including:

- a summary of progress made on the project in the previous two quarters and projected tasks to be completed in the following two quarters, including a list of all identified project development benchmarks and target dates and actual completion dates for each major benchmark;
- actual project spending over the previous two quarters; and
- any updates to the estimated total project cost or anticipated project timeline.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ITS Major Information Technology Development Project status	MIA	July 10, 2024 January 10, 2025

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

Committee Narrative

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

E00A01.01 Executive Direction

Performance Measures for Tax Filing by Tax Year: Each year, the Comptroller submits data on electronic and paper tax filing volume and timeliness in its Managing for Results (MFR) performance submission. The Comptroller has historically reported this data on a fiscal year basis but reported that timeframe can distort taxpayer and Comptroller activity that is based on the tax year cycle. For the fiscal 2026 MFR submission, the committees request that the Comptroller submit performance data related to tax filings on a tax year basis and on a fiscal year basis separately to allow comparison to prior years with the fiscal 2026 budget.

Information Request	Authors	Due Date
MFR tax filing data on a tax year and fiscal year basis	Comptroller of Maryland	With submission of the fiscal 2026 budget

Five-year Staffing and Technology Resources Plan and Resulting Revenue Collections: The Comptroller reported in February 2024 that there is approximately \$3 billion in outstanding tax liabilities for individual income taxes that are known and collectible. There is a further estimated \$3 billion in unassessed and unpaid taxes from underreporting of income. While additional positions and funding for technology were provided in fiscal 2024 and 2025, the Comptroller reports that more staff and funding for technology are needed to efficiently work toward closing the tax gap. However, the Comptroller indicates that hiring and onboarding must be staggered to match the capacity of the human resource team to process new hires and coordinate training. The addition of new technology may also require time for the procurement process, incorporating the technology into operational plans and training staff in its use. The committees are interested in better understanding revenue collection capacity per staff member and technology resources. The committees request that the Comptroller submit a report providing a five-year plan and forecast of revenue collection and the closing of the tax gap, specifying additional staff and technology needs. The report should include:

- the number of additional positions needed each year, along with position descriptions;
- descriptions of new technology resources that would contribute to revenue collection;
- a schedule for acquiring and implementing the new technology resources listed; and
- a forecast of additional tax revenue that would be collected each year due to the proposed additional staff and technology resources.

E00A

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Proposed staffing and technology resources plan and resulting revenues	Comptroller	August 1, 2024

Budget Amendments

COMPLIANCE DIVISION

E00A05.01 Compliance Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce funding for increased health insurance costs as a technical correction. These expenditures are double budgeted as funding is already budgeted in the Statewide Account within the Department of Budget and Management for this purpose. The Comptroller is authorized to allocate this reduction across programs within the Comptroller of Maryland.	-1,037,484 GF -157,991 SF	
Total Change	-1,195,475	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	298.80	298.80		0.00
General Fund	25,671,571	24,634,087	-1,037,484	
Special Fund	6,992,065	6,834,074	-157,991	
Total Funds	32,663,636	31,468,161	-1,195,475	

Amendment No. _____

E17
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission

Committee Narrative

Alcohol and Tobacco Commission

E17A01.01 Administration and Enforcement

Managing for Results (MFR) Measures for Cannabis Violations: As of fiscal 2024 and the Cannabis Reform Act (Chapters 254 and 255) of 2023, the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission (ATCC) now carries out inspections of retail businesses selling cannabis products to identify violations of licensing and registration laws for cannabis business in Maryland. The existing MFR measures include indicators for the number of tobacco and alcohol retailer inspections and violations of law found by ATCC agents in the given fiscal year. While ATCC has added a MFR measure for the number of unlicensed cannabis inspections, no measures were added as indicators for violations found. The inclusion of such measures would be useful for the General Assembly and the public as one indicator of the level of illegal cannabis sale and use taking place in the State. The committees request that ATCC include additional measures related to enforcement, consistent with those reported for tobacco and alcohol, in the MFR submission with the fiscal 2026 budget.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR measures for cannabis violations	ATCC	With submission of the fiscal 2026 budget

E75D
Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency

Committee Narrative

E75D00.01 Administration and Operations

Monthly Reporting on Sports Wagering: The committees are interested in understanding the implementation of sports wagering within the State. The committees request that the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency include in the agency's published monthly reports for sports wagering additional information on the major types of bets being placed including promotional play spending, parlays, the total handle, the hold, as well as the type of sport(s) events being wagered on. The first of these reports should be published by July 5, 2024, with subsequent reports published monthly thereafter on the fifth of each month.

Report on Problem Gambling: The committees are interested in understanding the State's activities and funding related to the prevention and treatment of problem gambling. The committees request that the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency (MLGCA), the Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling, and the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submit a joint report on the programs and strategies each employs to address problem gambling. The report shall be submitted by December 11, 2024, and include data on:

- the estimated number of people impacted by problem gambling;
- efforts to address problem gambling by MLGCA, including efforts by the gaming facilities, specifically addressing voluntary exclusion programs and any other policies or programs;
- the number of individuals participating in voluntary exclusion programs;
- the number of individuals participating in any other programs to address problem gambling offered by MLGCA or gaming facilities;
- the programs offered by the Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling;
- the locations and number of people served by the Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling;
- the active public awareness campaigns administered by the Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling;
- any other programs or activities supported by MDH to address problem gambling; and

E75D

- the amount of actual expenditures dedicated to addressing problem gambling, separately by source of funding and activity, provided through MDH and MLGCA, including funding for the Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling, in fiscal 2023 and 2024 and funding available in fiscal 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on problem gambling	MLGCA Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling MDH	December 11, 2024

J00
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that projects and funding levels appropriated for capital projects, as well as total estimated project costs within the Consolidated Transportation Program, shall be expended in accordance with the plan approved during the legislative session. The department shall prepare a report to notify the budget committees of the proposed changes in the event that the department modifies the program to:

- (1) add a new project to the construction program or development and evaluation program meeting the definition of a “major project” under Section 2-103.1 of the Transportation Article that was not previously contained within a plan reviewed in a prior year by the General Assembly and will result in the need to expend funds in the current budget year; or
- (2) change the scope of a project in the construction program or development and evaluation program meeting the definition of a “major project” under Section 2-103.1 of the Transportation Article that will result in an increase of more than 10% or \$1,000,000, whichever is greater, in the total project costs as reviewed by the General Assembly during a prior session.

For each change, the report shall identify the project title, justification for adding the new project or modifying the scope of the existing project, current year funding levels, and the total project cost as approved by the General Assembly during the prior session compared with the proposed current year funding and total project cost estimate resulting from the project addition or change in scope.

Further provided that notification of project additions, as outlined in paragraph (1) above; changes in the scope of a project, as outlined in paragraph (2) above; or moving projects from the development and evaluation program to the construction program shall be made to the General Assembly 45 days prior to the expenditure of funds or the submission of any contract for approval to the Board of Public Works.

Explanation: This annual budget bill language requires the department to notify the budget committees of proposed changes to the transportation capital program that will add a new project that was not in the fiscal 2024 to 2029 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) or will increase a total project’s cost by more than 10%, or \$1 million, due to a change in scope. Reports are to be submitted with the draft and final versions of the CTP with each using the 2024 session CTP as the basis for comparison. In addition, notification is required as needed throughout the budget year if certain changes to projects are made.

J00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Capital budget changes from one CTP version to the next	Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)	With draft CTP With final CTP
Capital budget changes throughout the year	MDOT	45 days prior to the expenditure of funds or seeking Board of Public Works approval

Amendment No. _____

J00A01
The Secretary's Office
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

J00A01.02 Operating Grants-In-Aid

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that no more than \$5,509,125 of this appropriation may be expended for operating grants-in-aid, except for:

- (1) any additional special funds necessary to match unanticipated federal fund attainments;
or
- (2) any proposed increase either to provide funds for a new grantee or to increase funds for an existing grantee.

Further provided that no expenditures in excess of \$5,509,125 may occur unless the department provides notification to the budget committees to justify the need for additional expenditures due to either item (1) or (2) above, and the committees provide review and comment or 45 days elapse from the date such notification is provided to the committees.

Explanation: This annual language caps the level of special funds provided for operating grants-in-aid. The cap may be increased to match unanticipated federal dollars or to provide new or expanded grant funding upon notification to the budget committees.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Explanation of need for additional special funds for operating grants-in-aid	Maryland Department of Transportation	45 days prior to expenditure

Amendment No. _____

J00A01.03 Facilities and Capital Equipment

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that no funds may be expended by the Secretary's Office for any capital project or grant with a total project cost in excess of \$500,000 that is not currently included in the fiscal 2024 to 2029 Consolidated Transportation Program, except as outlined below:

J00A01

- (1) the Secretary shall notify the budget committees of any proposed capital project or grant with a total cost in excess of \$500,000, including the need and justification for the project and its total cost; and
- (2) the budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment on the proposed capital project or grant.

Explanation: This language provides legislative oversight of capital projects and grants exceeding \$500,000 that are not listed in the current Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP).

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Notification of the intent to fund a capital project or grant exceeding \$500,000 that is not listed in the current CTP	Maryland Department of Transportation	45 days prior to expenditure

Amendment No. _____

J00A04
Debt Service Requirements
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Consolidated Transportation Bonds may be issued in any amount, provided that the aggregate outstanding and unpaid balance of these bonds and bonds of prior issues may not exceed \$2,850,050,000 as of June 30, 2025. The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance of nontraditional debt, defined as any debt instrument that is not a Consolidated Transportation Bond or a Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle bond issued by the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), exclusive of debt for the Purple Line Light Rail Project, may not exceed \$887,865,000 as of June 30, 2025. The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance on debt for the Purple Line may not exceed \$2,219,374,000 as of June 30, 2025. Provided, however, that in addition to the limits established under this provision, MDOT may increase the aggregate outstanding unpaid and principal balance of Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt so long as:

- (1) MDOT provides notice to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee stating the specific reason for the additional issuance and providing specific information regarding the proposed issuance, including information specifying the total amount of Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt that would be outstanding on June 30, 2025, and the total amount by which the fiscal 2025 debt service payment for all Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt would increase following the additional issuance; and
- (2) the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee have 45 days to review and comment on the proposed additional issuance before the publication of a preliminary official statement. The Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee may hold a public hearing to discuss the proposed increase and shall signal their intent to hold a hearing within 45 days of receiving notice from MDOT.

Explanation: Section 3-202 of the Transportation Article requires the General Assembly to establish the maximum debt outstanding for Consolidated Transportation Bonds each year in the budget bill. The level is based on the outstanding debt as of June 30, 2023, plus projected debt to be issued during fiscal 2025 in support of the transportation capital program. No Consolidated Transportation Bond debt issuance is planned for fiscal 2024. For nontraditional debt, this language limits the amount of debt outstanding at the end of fiscal 2025, exclusive of debt issued for the Purple Line Light Rail Transit project, to the total amount that was outstanding from all previous nontraditional debt issuances as of December 31, 2023, plus anticipated issuances of \$75 million for a new fare collection system for the Maryland Transit Administration and \$235 million for the Concourse A/B Connector and Baggage Handling System Replacement project at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. Debt outstanding for

J00A04

the Purple Line Project is capped at the projected maximum debt outstanding level that will occur during the construction phase of the Purple Line Project. The language allows MDOT to increase the amount of Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt outstanding in fiscal 2025 by providing notification to the budget committees regarding the reason that the additional debt is required.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Justification for increasing Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt outstanding	MDOT	45 days prior to publication of a preliminary official statement

Amendment No. _____

Add the following language:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) shall submit with its annual September and January financial forecasts information on:

- (1) anticipated and actual nontraditional debt outstanding as of June 30 of each year; and
- (2) anticipated and actual debt service payments for each outstanding nontraditional debt issuance from fiscal 2024 through 2034.

Nontraditional debt is defined as any debt instrument that is not a Consolidated Transportation Bond or a Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle bond; such debt includes, but is not limited to, Certificates of Participation; debt backed by customer facility charges, passenger facility charges or other revenues; and debt issued by the Maryland Economic Development Corporation or any other third party on behalf of MDOT.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in monitoring the use of nontraditional debt by MDOT. The information provides the budget committees with additional information on the usage and annual costs of nontraditional debt.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Nontraditional debt outstanding and anticipated debt service payments	MDOT	With the September forecast With the January forecast

Amendment No. _____

J00D00
Maryland Port Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Committee Narrative

J00D00.02 Port Facilities and Capital Equipment

Howard Street Tunnel Project: The Howard Street Tunnel project is a priority project for the State of Maryland. It will allow double-stack trains in the Howard Street Tunnel, which will increase business at the Port of Baltimore, generate thousands of new jobs, and spur growth for Maryland's economy. The size and complexity of this project requires a partnership between CSX, the federal government, the State of Maryland, Baltimore City, and others. It is the intent of the committees that all parties work closely together to address permitting requirements and any issues that may arise on the project to ensure that the project stays on schedule and costs are contained.

J00E00
Motor Vehicle Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Committee Narrative

J00E00.01 Motor Vehicle Operations

Improper Out-of-state Tags: The committees are concerned about Maryland residents with out-of-state vehicle registrations, particularly given a January 2024 assessment by the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) that identified nearly 34,000 individuals with Maryland addresses and vehicles registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Maryland law requires that new residents of the State title and register their vehicles with MVA within 60 days. Maryland residents using improper out-of-state tags results in decreased State revenues associated with vehicle registration, titling, and the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program. Given these concerns, the committees request that MVA submit a report describing the issue of improper out-of-state tags, including statutory and regulatory background, frequency and effectiveness of MVA enforcement and due diligence actions, and recent trends of motorists using improper out of-state tags in the State. The report should also include a comparison of Maryland’s laws, enforcement actions, and fee structures to neighboring states.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on improper out-of-state tags	MVA	October 15, 2024

Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund Uninsured Division Solvency: The committees remain concerned about the financial solvency of the Uninsured Division of the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund (Maryland Auto), which is primarily supported by uninsured motorist fines assessed by the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA). Maryland Auto and the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) have identified that the current uninsured motorist assessment rate may be too low to disincentivize drivers from failing to maintain auto insurance policies. The committees are therefore interested in obtaining additional information on the payment of assessed uninsured motorist fines and the population that would be impacted by a change in the rate. The committees request that MVA, in collaboration with Maryland Auto and MIA, submit a report that includes data on the total amount of uninsured motorist fines assessed, billed, and collected in fiscal 2022 and 2023, and the share of motorists who pay assessed fines within one year, two years, or who have never paid the fine. The report should also include an assessment, if known, of how increasing the rate may impact motorists by jurisdiction and demographic group and how Maryland’s uninsured motorist fines compare to neighboring states.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the uninsured motorist fine	MVA MIA Maryland Auto	September 15, 2024

J00H01
Maryland Transit Administration
Maryland Department of Transportation

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that \$250,000 of the special fund appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration in program J00H01.01 Transit Administration and \$250,000 of the special fund appropriation made for the purpose of departmental administration in program J00A01.01 Executive Direction of The Secretary's Office (TSO) may not be expended until the Maryland Transit Administration and TSO submit a report to the budget committees on the impacts of the fall 2023 service changes to the CityLink Brown and LocalLink33 bus routes. The report shall include:

- (1) an impact assessment of the fall 2023 service adjustments to the CityLink Brown and LocalLink33 routes, including:
 - (a) demographic information on the rider population and service area, prior to the change;
 - (b) monthly ridership data from July 2022 through July 2023;
 - (c) descriptions of the schools and businesses in the service area;
 - (d) projected impacts of the service change to residents, commuters, students, and other populations in the service area; and
 - (e) any impacts to the corresponding paratransit service area; and
- (2) a summary of the agency's annual outreach efforts prior to route changes and how outreach could be improved to better inform impacted riders, with a particular focus on disadvantaged riders such as those lacking internet access or the ability to attend public meetings.

The report shall be submitted by December 1, 2024, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Each year, the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) proposes various service adjustments in the core bus system in Baltimore City to adapt to changing travel needs and trends. MTA holds public hearings to solicit stakeholder and community feedback prior to route changes becoming effective. However, the committees are concerned that sufficient information on impacted riders is not publicly available prior to service changes and that certain populations

J00H01

may not have access to public meetings or opportunities to share feedback. This language restricts funding pending a report on improving the process surrounding annual fixed route service changes and an impact assessment of the calendar 2023 changes to the CityLink Brown and LocalLink33 route in Baltimore City.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on CityLink Brown and LocalLink33 bus route changes	MTA TSO	December 1, 2024
		Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

J00H01.01 Transit Administration

Purple Line Project Status Reports: Given continued challenges and cost overruns associated with completing construction on the Purple Line Light Rail project, the committees request that the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) submit six bimonthly construction status reports for the Purple Line project to the committees. The status reports shall provide:

- the completion percentages for the project as a whole and for each major category of work;
- the running total amount expended for construction; and
- an explanation of any material change to the total construction cost estimate or construction schedule as set forth in the revised public-private partnership agreement as amended to add Maryland Transit Solutions as the replacement design-build contractor for the project.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reports on Purple Line construction progress	MTA	July 1, 2024, and bimonthly thereafter ending with the May 1, 2025, report

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

Committee Narrative

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

K00A01.01 Secretariat

Office of Outdoor Recreation Reporting Requirement: The committees are interested in understanding more about the work of the Office of Outdoor Recreation and the impact of this work. Therefore, the committees request that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) quantify the goals of the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic (MORE) Commission and develop Managing for Results (MFR) input, output, and outcome measures that correspond to these numerical goals to be submitted with the fiscal 2026 budget submission. In addition, the committees request that DNR submit a plan for the Office of Outdoor Recreation’s implementation of the recommendations of the MORE Commission. The plan should include the following: the status of implementation of the commission’s five main recommendations; strategies for implementing the recommendations that have not already been completed; an updated analysis of the value that outdoor recreation generates in Maryland as a whole and, if available, by county using Bureau of Economic Analysis data; the state of outdoor recreation and heritage tourism in Maryland using information from the updated Maryland Land Recreation and Preservation Plan; and the opportunities that a Chesapeake Bay National Recreation Area creates for Maryland. The plan is requested to be submitted by October 1, 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR input, output, and outcome measures for commission goals	DNR	Fiscal 2026 budget submission
Office of Outdoor Recreation Plan for meeting commission goals	DNR	October 1, 2024

Cultural and Historical Resources Preservation Plan for Department of Natural Resources (DNR)-managed Lands: The committees are concerned that DNR manages over 500,000 acres of land with numerous cultural and historical sites without a plan that ensures that these sites are preserved. Therefore, the committees request that DNR submit a report detailing the department’s efforts to establish a cultural and historical resources protection plan. The plan shall address the following: development of a systemwide survey to inventory all historical and cultural sites on DNR-managed lands; creation of a centralized cultural resources management unit; specification of the staffing and funding needs of a centralized cultural resources management unit; dedication of capital improvement funding for historic preservation projects; and establishment of a research budget to conduct architectural studies and archeological

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investigations and synthesize data collected from these efforts into interpretive materials to be shared with the public. The report is requested to be submitted by December 1, 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Cultural and historical resources preservation plan for DNR-managed lands	DNR	December 1, 2024

MARYLAND PARK SERVICE

K00A04.01 Statewide Operations

Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan to Optimize Canada Geese Wintering: The committees are concerned that the Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary is not being managed to optimize its role as the wintering ground for the largest concentration of Canada geese on the Chesapeake Bay's western shore, despite a summer 2023 agreement to develop a responsive management plan. Therefore, the committees request that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) develop and submit a management plan for the Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary that optimizes the property's role as a prime wintering ground for Canada geese. The plan is requested to be submitted by October 1, 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary management plan to optimize Canada goose wintering	DNR	October 1, 2024

LAND ACQUISITION AND PLANNING

K00A05.05 Land Acquisition and Planning

Report on Consideration of Mentored Hunt Program Participant Access to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Conservation Easements: The committees recognize that Maryland will be increasing its land acquisition efforts as required by Chapter 546 of 2023 (Maryland the Beautiful Act). Chapter 546 established the intent of the General Assembly that (1) by calendar 2030, 30% of lands in the State be conserved and (2) by calendar 2024, 40% of lands in the State be conserved. Conservation easements purchased by the State on private lands apply conditions of use that remain in perpetuity. From a hunting perspective, the conditions of use determined at the time that the State buys conservation easements on private lands could result in hunters never having access to these conserved lands. This would reduce the size and number of hunting areas and thus potentially reduce the number of people who hunt in Maryland. To counter the decline in hunting, DNR adopted a Mentored Hunt Program. The Mentored Hunt

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Program is intended to promote hunting consistent with and responsive to the nationwide recruitment, retention, and reactivation initiative. Therefore, the committees request that DNR encourage landowners to provide access to their lands for individuals participating in the Mentored Hunt Program when the landowners negotiate a land conservation easement agreement under Program Open Space (POS) or the Rural Legacy Program. In addition, the committees request that DNR report on the outcome of its efforts to encourage landowners negotiating State conservation easements under POS and the Rural Legacy Program to provide access to Mentored Hunt Program participants by October 1, 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on consideration of Mentored Hunt Program participant access to DNR conservation easements	DNR	October 1, 2024

CHESAPEAKE AND COASTAL SERVICE

K00A14.02 Chesapeake and Coastal Service

Summary of Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending: The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) provide a report on Chesapeake Bay restoration spending. The report shall be drafted subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) in terms of both electronic format to be used and data to be included. The scope of the report is as follows: Chesapeake Bay restoration operating and capital expenditures by agency, fund type, and particular fund source based on programs that have over 50% of their activities directly related to Chesapeake Bay restoration for the fiscal 2024 actual, fiscal 2025 working appropriation, and fiscal 2026 allowance to be included as an appendix in the fiscal 2026 budget volumes and submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Summary of Chesapeake Bay restoration spending for programs that have over 50% of their activities directly related to Chesapeake Bay restoration	DBM DNR MDE	Fiscal 2026 budget submission

K00A

Historical and Projected Chesapeake Bay Restoration Spending: The committees are interested in the status of Chesapeake Bay restoration. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) provide a report by December 1, 2024, on recent and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending and associated impacts and the overall framework to meet the calendar 2025 requirement of having all best management practices (BMP) in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay. The report is requested to include the following:

- fiscal 2024 annual spending by fund, fund source, program, and State government agency; associated nutrient and sediment reductions; and the impact on living resources and ambient water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen, water clarity, and “chlorophyll a” for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries to be submitted electronically in disaggregated form to the Department of Legislative Services (DLS);
- projected fiscal 2025 to 2026 annual spending by fund, fund source, program, and State government agency; associated nutrient and sediment reductions; and the impact on living resources and ambient water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen, water clarity, and “chlorophyll a” for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries to be submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS;
- an overall framework discussing the needed regulations, revenues, laws, and administrative actions and their impacts on individuals, organizations, governments, and businesses by year from fiscal 2024 to 2025 in order to reach the calendar 2025 requirement of having all BMPs in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay, to be both written in narrative form and tabulated in spreadsheet form that is submitted electronically in disaggregated form to DLS;
- an analysis of the various options for financing Chesapeake Bay restoration, including public-private partnerships, a regional financing authority, nutrient trading, technological developments, and any other policy innovations that would improve the effectiveness of Maryland and other states’ efforts toward Chesapeake Bay restoration;
- an analysis on how cost effective the existing State funding sources, such as the Bay Restoration Fund, Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund, Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund, and Clean Water Commerce Account among others are for Chesapeake Bay restoration purposes; and
- updated information on the Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan implementation and how the loads associated with the Conowingo Dam infill, growth of people and animals, and climate change will be addressed.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Historical and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending	MDP DNR MDA MDE DBM	December 1, 2024

Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund Annual Work and Expenditure Plans: The committees are concerned that § 8-2A-03(d) of the Natural Resources Article requires the Governor to submit the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans to the General Assembly as part of the annual budget submission, but the Governor has not done so on a regular basis. Therefore, the committees request that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) submit the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans with the fiscal 2026 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans	DNR	Fiscal 2026 budget submission

FISHING AND BOATING SERVICES

K00A17.01 Fishing and Boating Services

Report on Recreational Striped Bass Reporting Methods and Task Force Recommendations Implementation: The committees are interested in the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) recreational striped bass reporting methods. The committees are also interested in the status of implementation of the December 1, 2022 report recommendations of the Task Force on Recreational Fishing Data Collection and Licensing – established by Chapters 409 and 410 of 2022. Therefore, the committees request that DNR report on (1) methods to provide licensed fishermen the ability to record electronically per day the number of caught kept striped bass and caught discarded striped bass and (2) the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force on Recreational Fishing Data Collection and Licensing. The report is requested to be submitted by December 1, 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on recreational striped bass reporting methods and task force recommendations implementation	DNR	December 1, 2024

L00A
Department of Agriculture

Committee Narrative

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

L00A11.05 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation

Report on Consideration of Mentored Hunt Program Participant Access to Maryland Department of Agricultural Conservation Easements: The committees recognize that Maryland will be increasing its land acquisition efforts as required by Chapter 546 of 2023 (Maryland the Beautiful Act). Chapter 546 established the intent of the General Assembly that (1) by calendar 2030, 30% of lands in the State be conserved and (2) by calendar 2024, 40% of lands in the State be conserved. Conservation easements purchased by the State on private lands apply conditions of use that remain in perpetuity. From a hunting perspective, the conditions of use determined at the time that the State buys conservation easements on private lands could result in hunters never having access to these conserved lands. This would reduce the size and number of hunting areas and thus potentially reduce the number of people who hunt in Maryland. To counter the decline in hunting, the Department of Natural Resources adopted a Mentored Hunt Program. The Mentored Hunt Program is intended to promote hunting consistent with and responsive to the nationwide recruitment, retention, and reactivation initiative. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) encourage landowners to provide access to their lands for individuals participating in the Mentored Hunt Program when the landowners negotiate a land conservation easement agreement under the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program (MALPP). In addition, the committees request that MDA report on the outcome of its efforts to encourage landowners negotiating State conservation easements under MALPP to provide access to Mentored Hunt Program participants by October 1, 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on consideration of Mentored Hunt Program participant access to MDA conservation easements	MDA	October 1, 2024

OFFICE OF MARKETING, ANIMAL INDUSTRIES, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

L00A12.10 Marketing and Agriculture Development

Status and Future of Value-added Agriculture in Maryland: The committees are interested in learning more about the status and future of value-added agriculture in Maryland given that that the Business Economic and Community Outreach Network of Salisbury University estimates that Maryland’s value-added agriculture industry supports close to 74,000 jobs and

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brings a total economic impact of more than \$20.6 billion annually to the State's economy. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) develop Managing for Results (MFR) measures and submit a report on the state of value-added agriculture in Maryland. The MFR measures are requested to include input, output, and outcome measures that correspond to a numerical goal for the number of value-added agricultural businesses that are launched or relocate to Maryland each fiscal year. The report is requested to include the following information: information related to value-added agriculture from the 2022 Census of Agriculture; updated information on the jobs and total economic impact of value-added agriculture; an assessment of the potential and growth of value-added enterprises in Maryland; information about State and local educational institutions that provide training for value-added entrepreneurs; an assessment of the need for supporting infrastructure, such as processing equipment, meat processing facilities, and commercial/shared-use kitchens; and the resources available for supporting research and technology in the value-added agriculture policy area.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status and future of value-added agriculture in Maryland	MDA	October 1, 2024

Report on Blue Catfish Marketing: The committees are interested in learning more about the Maryland Department of Agriculture's (MDA) marketing of blue catfish. Therefore, the committees request that MDA, in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), report on its efforts to increase the marketing, processing, and sale of blue catfish in Maryland. The report shall review past and ongoing efforts to promote the creation of a market for blue catfish, identify and explore potential sectors for the blue catfish market, and identify any actions that the State can take to promote and expand the market for blue catfish. The report is requested to be submitted by December 1, 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on blue catfish marketing	MDA DNR	December 1, 2024

Q00A
Administration and Offices
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

Q00A01.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a written plan to comply with the Public Information Act (PIA). The written plan shall include a recent history of actions taken to resolve cases brought before the Maryland PIA Compliance Board. The written plan shall include detailed descriptions of objectives that will bring the department into compliance with the PIA. The written plan shall include objectives that address training and education of staff, systemic sources of nonresponding to requests or wrongful denial of records, regulatory changes needed, ways that the department can proactively share information with the public to preempt the need for a PIA request, and other challenges to complying with the law. The written plan shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than July 1, 2024. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The PIA allows citizens to access public records that pose no public interest to withhold. The Maryland PIA Compliance Board was first established in calendar 2015 to decide on unreasonable fees but was expanded effective July 1, 2022, to now resolve and review complaints that a custodian wrongfully denied inspection of public records; a custodian charged an unreasonable fee higher than \$350 for public records; a custodian failed to respond to a request for public records; and/ or a PIA applicant's request is “frivolous, vexatious, or in bad faith.” This board only hears cases that were first mediated through the Public Access Ombudsman process but remained unresolved. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) is the only State agency to have multiple cases of nonresponding to requests and wrongful denial of records. Since the expansion of the board, DPSCS has been ruled against in all six cases decided so far with rulings in three cases to waive fees. The budget committees are concerned with the lack of transparency and that citizens must go to such great lengths to obtain information that belongs to the public. This action requires a written plan to comply with the PIA, including plans to train and educate staff with regard to the law, plans to prevent future cases from being brought before the Maryland PIA Compliance Board, and plans to ensure appropriate records are reviewable.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Written plan for PIA compliance	DPSCS	July 1, 2024

Amendment No. _____

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended for that purpose until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits a report on the development of apprenticeship programs to address labor shortages. The report shall detail all efforts by the department to create internal and external apprenticeship pathways, including specific milestones that have already been achieved and milestones that will be achieved, along with dates and expected deadlines. The report shall identify risk factors that may delay or prevent the development of departmental apprenticeship programs and the resources needed to support them. The report shall identify the potential impact of youth and adult apprenticeship pathways on existing labor shortages. The report shall also discuss the collaboration between DPSCS and the Department of Budget and Management and the Maryland Department of Labor on public safety apprenticeships. The report shall be submitted by August 10, 2024, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: While most positions within DPSCS are not typically entered into via apprenticeship, most are considered apprenticeable according to COMAR 09.12.43.04. According to the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship, there are over 250 apprenticeable occupations, and correctional officer (CO) is one such occupation. The typical apprenticeship for COs is one year and is slightly more common than health care and engineering apprenticeships but much less common than construction. Other DPSCS classifications would also be apprenticeable, including food service workers, maintenance workers, and equipment specialists. DPSCS has expressed interest in creating apprenticeship programs and worked with the Department of Budget and Management and the Maryland Department of Labor on developing such programs. While some progress has been reported on adult apprenticeships for existing employees, the budget committees are concerned that progress is too slow and limited to make the intended impact on critical labor shortages. This language requires a more detailed overview of apprenticeship usage within DPSCS and the plans for expanding apprenticeship pathways to mitigate labor shortages.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Public safety apprenticeship	DPSCS	August 10, 2024

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) Report: The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by December 1, 2024, on the following items:

- annual updates on the number of offenders petitioning and approved for the JRA provisions including, but not limited to, administrative release, medical/geriatric parole, certificates of rehabilitation, and graduated sanctions;
- the number of offenders affected by the JRA diminution and earned compliance credit rules; and
- annual JRA cost savings updates along with any efforts/initiatives to increase savings.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
JRA report	DPSCS	December 1, 2024

Report on Recidivism: The committees are interested in the impact of incarceration on the future outcomes of returning offenders. The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by November 15, 2024, on the following:

- three-year recidivism numbers for the fiscal 2016 through 2021 release cohorts; and
- an analysis of recent recidivism trends, including a comparison to past years and a comparison to other states.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Recidivism report	DPSCS	November 15, 2024

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Correctional Program Participation Measures: The committees are concerned that there is little information available to track the participation of offenders in the various programs, services, and opportunities available to them. The availability of programs and services was reduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, and there was little opportunity for the budget committees to review the effect this had on offender rehabilitative efforts. The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) add data tables to the department's annual Managing for Results submission starting with the fiscal 2026 allowance that provide annual counts of programming participants by primary assignment and facility; counts of participants by secondary, tertiary, or subsequent programming assignments by facility; and annual counts of nonparticipants by facility.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Correctional program participation measures	DPSCS	With the submission of the fiscal 2026 allowance and annually thereafter

Medical Contract Award Notification: The committees are concerned about the ongoing efforts to procure new medical and mental health care contracts for the separate incarcerated and pretrial populations in Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) custody. The incumbent medical contract has had several issues before, during, and following the COVID-19 emergency period. The budget committees request that DPSCS submit a report notifying the budget committees at least 14 days prior to presenting a contract to the Board of Public Works (BPW) for correctional or pretrial medical and mental health services.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Correctional medical and mental health care contract award notification	DPSCS	7 days prior to BPW presentation of the correctional medical contract.
Pretrial medical and mental health care contract award notification	DPSCS	7 days prior to BPW presentation of the pretrial medical contract.

Q00B
Corrections
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

Q00B01.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of General Administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits the second of four quarterly hiring and attrition reports to the budget committees. The reports shall include a breakdown of all hires and separations for each of the three months in question by category of employee (correctional officer, community supervision agent, or administrative employee) and by reason for separation. The report shall also include narrative summarizing all hiring events and changes to the hiring process that occurred during the quarter; the quantity, type, and cost of bonuses disbursed; as well as overall applications received, tested, and interviewed. The first quarterly report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than October 25, 2024, and the second report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than January 25, 2025. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the second quarterly report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Correctional officer hiring within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has declined again. The quarterly reports requested in fiscal 2025 will continue the cooperation between DPSCS and the budget committees to track all departmental hiring and the success of recent staffing initiatives.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly hiring and attrition reports	DPSCS	October 25, 2024 January 25, 2025 April 25, 2025 July 12, 2025

Amendment No. _____

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of overtime earnings may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a report on a plan to eliminate the use of mandatory overtime. The report scope shall include the

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entire department. The report shall first include a detailed strategic plan to eliminate the need for mandatory overtime, including the identification of staffing levels that the department must achieve at each facility so that voluntary overtime levels are sufficient to cover all staffing needs. The plan shall identify the amount of mandatory overtime use by reason and the number of staff that would need to be hired to satisfy the overtime needs in each category. The plan shall justify these levels using a National Institute of Corrections approved staffing matrix. The plan shall identify how the department prioritizes overtime for qualified officers with low pay rates to minimize unnecessary expenses. In addition to the strategic plan, the report shall also include:

- (1) a breakdown of total correctional officer (CO) overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from July 2023 to October 2024, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual;
- (2) a breakdown of mandatory CO overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from July 2023 to October 2024, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual; and
- (3) an update on the U.S. Department of Labor investigation into overtime pay errors, including the number of individuals affected, the time frame affected, and the total and median amounts required to be paid.

The report shall be submitted by November 1, 2024, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Excessive overtime has become a drain on human resources in the department and led to a riskier work environment for State employees, offenders, and volunteers. The amounts have trended steeply since the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has struggled to fill CO positions. Assaults have also been elevated, particularly in detention facilities. There have also been systemic errors in accounting for overtime that led to a now-concluded U.S. Department of Labor investigation into unpaid wages. The investigation resulted in retroactive payments of \$23.2 million in fiscal 2023 and 2024. The budget committees are deeply troubled by the continuing trends of staffing decline and growth of overtime. This language restricts overtime funding in the fiscal 2025 budget for the Division of Correction – Headquarters until a report is submitted detailing overtime trends, efforts to reduce overtime, and a plan to eliminate mandatory overtime use.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Overtime strategic plan	DPSCS	November 1, 2024

Amendment No. _____

Q00B

Committee Narrative

Racial Discrimination and Retaliation: The committees are deeply troubled by the allegations and evidence contained within an ongoing U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland civil lawsuit related to an alleged culture of racial discrimination and retaliation that exists at the Maryland Correctional Training Center (MCTC) in Hagerstown. Plaintiffs claim that they and other similarly situated individuals received unequal and harsher discipline compared to similarly situated Caucasian employees and that their rights to equal opportunity under the law were violated in a conspiratorial manner based on race. While the committees recognize the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) is limited in its ability to share information about ongoing legal cases, the committees would like more information on what the department is doing to prevent discrimination, racial retaliation, or criminal conspiracies within the ranks of the department's correctional officers. The committees request the department submit a report, due July 15, 2024, providing fiscal 2023 and 2024 de-identified data on the following:

- rank of MCTC officers disaggregated by race and ethnicity;
- promotions, raises, and bonuses for MCTC officers disaggregated by race and ethnicity;
- overtime opportunities for MCTC officers disaggregated by race and ethnicity;
- disciplinary actions taken against MCTC employees disaggregated by race and ethnicity;
- complaints filed against MCTC employees related to racial discrimination and disciplinary retaliation disaggregated by race and ethnicity;
- employee turnover at MCTC disaggregated by race and ethnicity;
- wait times for MCTC officers to take promotional tests disaggregated by race and ethnicity;
- policies and procedures aimed at preventing racial discrimination in hiring, promotion, and disciplinary actions;
- training materials provided to employees and supervisors and training data regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion;
- an expert legal evaluation of these policies, procedures, and trainings for possible entry points for implicit or explicit racial biases;
- redacted copies of internal communications related to issues of diversity and racial discrimination; and

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- a list and short description of investigations conducted by internal DPSCS investigators, other local investigators, or federal investigators into DPSCS racial discrimination in employment for fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Racial discrimination and retaliation	DPSCS	July 15, 2024

Reentry Passport Program Rollout: The committees are concerned with the slow rollout of the Reentry Passport program. Previous expectations set the passport to be available for all returning citizens by fall 2023. However, the program remains in the pilot phase, and more work is needed to be done by the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) so that all returning citizens will have access to this necessary service moving forward. The Reentry Passport is expected to provide all previously incarcerated individuals with access to an online portal after release where they can store and retrieve critical documents like their Social Security card or their birth certificate. Improving an individual's access to critical documents helps to ensure a successful reentry process. The committees request that DPSCS submit a report by October 1, 2024, on the Reentry Passport program rollout. The report should document the progress of rolling out the existing pilot and future plans to fully roll out the program, including:

- the number of individuals who already have Reentry Passport accounts;
- the dates that those individuals gained access to the passport;
- the list of functional passport functions;
- the list of nonfunctional/upcoming passport functions;
- the exact timeline by which all returning citizens will be able to access the passport;
- historic levels of returning citizens monthly;
- projected levels of returning citizens that will require new access to the passport monthly;
- projected levels of returning citizens that will require ongoing access to the passport monthly;
- the list of documents that must be uploaded;
- the list of documents that may be uploaded;

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- the process by which documents are uploaded, and by whom;
- the process by which returning citizens access documents;
- ways that the Maryland Total Human-services Integrated Network supports the initiative;
- challenges to full rollout; and
- the potential impact on recidivism.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Reentry Passport program rollout	DPSCS	October 1, 2024

Report on Treatment of Transgender Individuals: The committees have been concerned with reports that transgender individuals are subject to high rates of sexual abuse and violence and are placed into inappropriate housing assignments, such as unwarranted restrictive housing. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) should submit a report to the committees by October 1, 2024, in collaboration with experts, technical assistants, and transgender stakeholders. The report should also contain data for fiscal 2021 through 2024 on the following items:

- annual totals of transgender individuals in each DPSCS correctional facility by gender identity;
- annual totals of transgender individuals in each DPSCS correctional facility by housing placement category, including administrative segregation, disciplinary segregation, mental health unit, medical unit, dormitory, double cell, single cell, and all other housing placement categories, disaggregated by the gender of the housing placement and by the gender identity of the transgender individual;
- annual totals of transgender individuals placed in restrictive housing disaggregated by reason for placement into such housing;
- annual average and median length of time that transgender individuals are placed into restrictive housing overall and disaggregated by reason for placement into restrictive housing compared to cisgender peers for each DPSCS correctional facility;
- annual number of requests by transgender individuals to transfer housing assignments, disaggregated by type of housing transfer request (including but not limited to transfer

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to a different gendered unit or facility, transfer into or out of a medical or mental health unit or facility, or transfer into or out of restrictive confinement) and the outcomes of those requests;

- annual number of housing placement assessments for transgender individuals pursuant to DPSCS Executive Directive OPS.131.0001;
- annual number of requests by transgender individuals to receive gender-affirming care and the outcomes of those requests disaggregated by type of medical care;
- annual number of requests by individuals identified as vulnerable under Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standard 115.41 and by transgender individuals for privacy in showers, bathrooms, and while changing clothing, and the outcomes of those requests;
- annual number of PREA complaints filed and investigated and the outcome for complaints made by transgender individuals compared to cisgender peers; and
- annual number of complaints received, number of complaints that were investigated, and outcomes of each complaint for each correctional facility regarding:
 - violence, harassment, sexual abuse, and discrimination against transgender individuals;
 - access to gender-affirming health care; and
 - access to gendered commissary items.

The committees further request that DPSCS provide all policies regarding transgender individuals and/or gender dysphoria, including but not limited to intake procedures, identification of transgender individuals, provision of gender-affirming health care, housing assignment, safety from violence and sexual abuse, and access to gendered commissary items. The department should identify a plan to fully comply with PREA Standard 115.42 and the challenges to ensuring compliance. Finally, the report should include an analysis of whether the above DPSCS policies are being implemented and followed at each correctional facility and an analysis of the education and training that DPSCS staff receive regarding LGBTQ+ individuals.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on transgender individuals	DPSCS	October 1, 2024

Q00C
Community Supervision
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Committee Narrative

Q00C02.01 Division of Parole and Probation – Support Services

Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) Caseload Report: In recent fiscal years, DPP has been working to reduce supervision caseloads to a manageable level for its parole and probation agents. Caseload ratios increased by one case per agent in fiscal 2023. The committees are concerned not only with overall caseload ratios but also the distribution of cases by supervision level and inconsistencies between regions, offices, and individual agents. The committees are also concerned with the ongoing high levels of involvement by supervisees in homicides and nonfatal shootings, which increased approximately 1% in total from calendar 2022 to 2023. Supervisees suspected of homicides or nonfatal shootings increased in calendar 2023 from approximately 7% of supervisees to approximately 8% of supervisees. Those suspected of rape and firearm offenses also increased substantially in that period of time. The distribution of cases among agents and the methodology for deciding that distribution continues to be of interest to the committees. The committees request a report due by September 15, 2024, from DPP on the following:

- the exact breakdown of support staff and general supervision caseloads by office into DPP supervision levels for fiscal 2024;
- the exact breakdown of case closures by reason, region, and office;
- an examination of best practices for distributing caseload assignments to agents based on community supervision level in consultation with the American Parole and Probation Association and other leading community supervision organizations;
- the number of community supervision agents as distributed across several ranges of caseload size;
- the number of agents with caseloads higher than recommended based on American Parole and Probation Association standards for each agent’s specific caseload; and
- a description of strategies that DPP is using to reduce caseload ratios and prevent agents from taking on too many cases.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
DPP caseload report	DPP	September 15, 2024

Q00C

Report on Assessment Tools: The Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) has begun the process of replacing the assessment tools used to classify offenders placed on community supervision and the role of these tools in case management. This issue is of particular concern with regard to maintaining proper caseloads for agents as well as providing agents with a reliable framework for addressing the individual needs of each offender. The committees request that DPP submit a report, due November 1, 2024, on the transition to new screening tools used in community supervision. The report should include the following:

- a description of the new tools and process;
- areas in the current process that represent improvements over the previous processes;
- the transition timeline;
- challenges to implementation;
- alternatives considered, including the reasons for deciding against alternatives; and
- an analysis of the reliability of the new screening tools to predict security risk and/or compliance with conditions of supervision.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on assessment tools	DPP	November 1, 2024

Q00G
Police and Correctional Training Commissions
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

Q00G00.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

. provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purposes of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a report to the budget committees on specific timelines and spending amounts for the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission (MPTSC) Strategic Plan for the MPTSC Fund. The report shall list all spending, revenues, and end-of-year balances for the MPTSC Fund since establishment, including projections for fiscal 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028. The report shall include specific dates for making each expenditure, including the dates by which funds are expected to be encumbered and the dates by which implementation is expected to finish. The report shall identify risk factors for completing the work on time and the impact that delays might have on addressing gaps and deficiencies in training. The report shall identify how each expenditure is expected to further one or more of the commission’s Strategic Plan goals, objectives, or performance measures. The report shall also identify any changes to the Strategic Plan since the December 2023 report including any changes to incorporate Department of Legislative Services recommendations. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than August 1, 2024. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The MPTSC Fund receives \$2 million each year through special court fees and was established at the end of fiscal 2019 to provide a dedicated pool of resources to enhance the training of public safety officials in the State. Spending has moderately accelerated since establishment of the MPTSC Fund. However, the dedicated court fees remain annually underutilized. The fund balance grew to \$9.6 million by the outset of fiscal 2024. While the growing fund balance builds interest revenues each year, there is still concern that these dedicated resources remain underutilized. The department previously shared a strategic plan, but the plan lacked specific dates for each proposed project, and the strategic plan itself had several flaws in measuring success. The budget committees intend for the department to further refine its plans and provide the legislature with necessary details for effective oversight.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Police training fund expenditure dates	DPSCS	August 1, 2024

Amendment No. _____

U00A
Department of the Environment

Committee Narrative

WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION

U00A04.01 Water and Science Administration

Maryland State Certified Sod Standard Enforcement Report: The committees are concerned that not all development projects within the State are using Maryland State Certified sod for stormwater and sediment control stabilization as required by State law and the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. It is the committees' understanding that the required use of Maryland State Certified sod was promulgated with the aim of upholding rigorous standards for soil and water health in our State and is a crucial aspect of environmental stewardship. Currently, enforcement efforts are fragmented between delegated and nondelegated jurisdictions, leading to inconsistencies and uncertainties in compliance. A number of development sites are presently using non-Maryland State Certified sod on their projects. Non-Maryland State Certified sod may not meet rigorous nutrient management requirements leading to additional pollutants entering the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) submit a report on actions taken and proposed to ensure consistent enforcement of the Maryland State Certified sod standard. The report shall include the efforts by MDE to educate inspectors, delegated local governments, and soil conservation district offices on the State requirements to utilize Maryland State Certified sod at all development sites in the State. MDE is requested to submit the report by December 1, 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Mayland State Certified sod standard enforcement report	MDE	December 1, 2024

LAND AND MATERIALS ADMINISTRATION

U00A06.01 Land and Materials Administration

Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund Annual Report: The committees are concerned that Section 9-275(c) of the Environment Article specifies that an annual status report on the Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund is due on or before November 1 of each year, which was not consistently met before the inclusion of annual budget bill language. Therefore, the committees request that the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) submit the Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund annual status report on November 1, 2024.

U00A

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund annual report	MDE	November 1, 2024

Budget Amendments

COORDINATING OFFICES

U00A10.01 Coordinating Offices

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), in cooperation with the Department of Budget and Management, submits a confirmatory letter to the budget committees indicating that MDE's fiscal 2024 actual personnel expenditures and the fiscal 2025 working appropriation personnel expenditures are budgeted in the correct statewide subobjects. The confirmatory letter shall be submitted with the fiscal 2026 budget submission, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the confirmatory letter to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a confirmatory letter may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the confirmatory letter is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: MDE incorrectly reflects fringe benefit expenditures – health insurance, pension contributions, and turnover adjustments, among others – almost entirely as Social Security contributions, which makes it difficult to do historical data comparisons. Therefore, funding is restricted until MDE and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) submit a confirmatory letter with the fiscal 2026 budget submission, indicating that fiscal 2024 actual personnel expenditures and fiscal 2025 working appropriation personnel expenditures are budgeted in the correct statewide subobjects.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Budgeting of fiscal 2024 actual and fiscal 2025 working appropriation personnel expenditures	MDE DBM	Fiscal 2026 budget submission

Amendment No. _____

U00A

Committee Narrative

Enforcement and Inspection Position Strength Assessment: The committees are interested in the enforcement and inspection positions strength of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). Therefore, the committees request that MDE and MDA a report on the following:

- an evaluation of the adequacy of Maryland’s current authorized compliance and enforcement positions in the departments. In completing the assessment, the departments shall provide information on the delegation of authority by the federal government to the departments, including any evaluations of this delegated authority, and on the delegation of authority by the departments to other entities; and assess the impact of the role that technology has played on compliance and enforcement responsibilities;
- a comparison of the size, roles, responsibilities, and inspection workload of the departments’ compliance and enforcement positions to neighboring or similar states;
- a list of all inspection activities conducted by the MDE Water and Science Administration, the Land and Materials Administration, the Air and Radiation Administration, and the MDA Office of Resource Conservation;
- the number of regular positions and contractual full-time equivalents associated with the inspections, including the number of vacancies for fiscal 2013 through 2024 actuals, and fiscal 2025 current and fiscal 2026 estimated appropriations; and
- a description of the use of and outcomes from any next generation compliance techniques to increase compliance with Maryland’s environmental regulations.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Enforcement and inspection position strength assessment	MDA MDE	January 1, 2025

Timeline for Environmental Triggers Development and Go-live Date for Environmental Accidents Text Alert System: The committees remain concerned that affected parties are not notified of environmental accidents, such as the release of hazardous materials or illegal discharges from wastewater treatment plants, in a timely manner. In the 2023 Joint Chairmen’s Report, the committees requested that the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) conduct a study to determine the feasibility and cost of implementing a text alert system for environmental accidents along the lines of the current weather and AMBER alert systems. The submitted report discussed the

U00A

need to determine environmental triggers for the text alert system but did not provide a timeline for the development of the triggers or a go-live date for the text alert system. Therefore, the committees request that MDE and MDEM submit a report that establishes a timeline for the development of the environmental triggers and the go-live date for the text alert system. The report is requested to be submitted by October 15, 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Timeline for environmental triggers development and go-live date for environmental accidents text alert system	MDE MDEM	October 15, 2024

U10B00
Maryland Environmental Service

Committee Narrative

U10B00.41 General Administration

Maryland Environmental Service (MES) Funding Statement: The committees request that MES continue to provide a report on the following:

- undesignated unrestricted net assets for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 estimated and an explanation for any changes between each of these years, including revenues credited to and expenditures debited from the net assets;
- overhead rate for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 estimated;
- project reserve fund status by beginning balance, approved retainage, funds withdrawn, and interest earned for fiscal 2024 and 2025 for the State Reimbursable Project Contingency Fund, the Eastern Correctional Institution (ECI) Steam Turbine Contingency Fund, the Department of Natural Resources Project Contingency Fund, the ECI Energy Upgrade Project Reserve Fund, and any other project reserve funds created by MES, including justification for any approved retainage or funds withdrawn in any project reserve fund during fiscal 2024 or 2025; and
- justification for the changes in reimbursable project funding for fiscal 2024, 2025, and 2026 estimated.

The report should be submitted in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) with the fiscal 2026 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MES funding statement	MES DBM	Fiscal 2026 budget submission

V00A
Department of Juvenile Services

Budget Amendments

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

V00D01.01 Office of the Secretary

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Juvenile Services submits a report to the budget committees on the wait times that the youth it places experience before receiving a community-based placement, hospitalization, family home placement, or a non-community-based placement, including a breakdown of wait times by jurisdiction. Data should be provided for calendar 2024 and any previous years for which data is available. The report shall be submitted by January 1, 2025, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) is the second largest youth-placing agency for youth who require an out-of-home placement (OOHP). DJS treats youth who are involved in Maryland’s juvenile justice system. During the 2023 session, the committees were concerned that youth may require treatment and must wait for services to be provided. The committees requested that DJS provide a report by January 1, 2024, on the wait times that the youth it places experience before receiving a community-based placement, hospitalization, family home placement, or a non-community-based placement, including a breakdown of wait times by jurisdiction. A report on this topic requested by the budget committees in the 2023 session was submitted on February 6, 2024, but did not contain all the requested information. Though the department currently provides the average daily population and average length of stay for its pending placement population through the annual publication of its Data Resource Guide, wait times are not available by placement type. Data should be provided for calendar 2024 and any previous years for which data is available.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on OOHP wait times	DJS	January 15, 2025

Amendment No. _____

V00A

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Juvenile Services submits a report to the budget committees containing its next facilities master plan, including a long-range plan for future capital projects. The report shall be submitted by December 31, 2024, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The committees are interested in a comprehensive review of the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) facility conditions and the needs of the detained and committed populations. Since the last facilities master plan (FMP) was created in 2015, its residential populations have decreased and many of the proposed detention and treatment projects did not receive capital funding.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the FMP	DJS	December 31, 2024

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

Report on Services for Youth in Alternatives to Detention (ATD): The Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) provides several ATDs for youth including community detention with or without electronic/global positioning system (GPS) monitoring, evening reporting centers, the Pre-Adjudication Coordination and Transition Center, and shelter care. The committees are concerned that youth may be provided with an ATD – particularly community detention with electronic/GPS monitoring – and not receive other service or programming interventions from DJS. It is the intent of the committees that DJS provide a report on the services and programs that are currently offered to youth in each type of ATD and the department’s plan for extending additional services and programs to youths in an ATD. The report should include data on the utilization of services and programs by youths in an ATD as well as data on youth who reoffend during the pretrial release period. The report should identify the department’s recent expenditure on such services and programs as well as how funds provided to enhance the DJS services continuum would be used to extend additional services and programming and reduce the recidivism rate for youths during the pretrial release period.

V00A

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on services for youth in ATDs	DJS	July 1, 2024

W00A
Department of State Police

Budget Amendments

W00A01.01 Office of the Superintendent

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation to delete funds for the supplemental retirement account match, which is budgeted in the Department of Budget and Management.	-15,000	GF
 Total Change	 -15,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	190.00	190.00		0.00
General Fund	46,857,010	46,842,010	-15,000	
Total Funds	46,857,010	46,842,010	-15,000	

Amendment No. _____

W00A

W00A01.02 Field Operations Bureau

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation to delete funds for the supplemental retirement account match, which is budgeted in the Department of Budget and Management.	-26,000	GF
 Total Change	 -26,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	1,271.00	1,271.00		0.00
General Fund	181,126,578	181,100,578	-26,000	
Special Fund	94,819,946	94,819,946	0	
Total Funds	275,946,524	275,920,524	-26,000	

Amendment No. _____

W00A

W00A01.03 Criminal Investigation Bureau

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation to delete funds for the supplemental retirement account match, which is budgeted in the Department of Budget and Management.	-39,000	GF
 Total Change	 -39,000	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	554.00	554.00		0.00
General Fund	117,084,958	117,045,958	-39,000	
Federal Fund	1,075,000	1,075,000	0	
Total Funds	118,159,958	118,120,958	-39,000	

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

Quarterly Report on Permitting Applications: The Licensing Division within the Department of State Police (DSP) administers provisions of State law and regulations related to the licensing and registration of firearms, handgun permits, security guards, and other licensing functions. The Public Safety Article establishes various requirements related to how quickly the division must turn around applications. The committees request that information on applications received and processing days needed for an application to receive a final disposition be submitted once per quarter on the following dates: July 1, 2024; October 1, 2024; January 1, 2025; and April 1, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly report on permitting applications	DSP	July 1, 2024 October 1, 2024 January 1, 2025 April 1, 2025

W00A

Report on Forensic Laboratory Capacity and Expenditure: The Department of State Police (DSP) operates forensic laboratories and relies on the services of private and out-of-state laboratories. The committees request that DSP submit a report providing information on the cost of using State-owned laboratories compared with the cost of using those privately owned or out-of-state. The report should include data on the capacity of State-owned forensic laboratories as well as the department’s demand for testing. DSP should include expenditure information related to the State-owned forensic laboratories for fiscal 2023 through 2025 and describe any changes to its laboratory capacity in the same period.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on forensic laboratory capacity and expenditure	DSP	July 1, 2024

Budget Amendments

W00A01.04 Support Services Bureau

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation to delete funds for the supplemental retirement account match, which is budgeted in the Department of Budget and Management.	-33,500	GF
 Total Change	 -33,500	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	487.00	487.00		0.00
General Fund	96,402,534	96,369,034	-33,500	
Special Fund	45,261,372	45,261,372	0	
Federal Fund	9,094,660	9,094,660	0	
Total Funds	150,758,566	150,725,066	-33,500	

Amendment No. _____

Sections

Budget Amendments

Add the following section:

Section 38 Uniform Crime Report

SECTION 38. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation within the Department of State Police (DSP) may not be expended until DSP submits the Crime in Maryland, 2023 Uniform Crime Report (UCR) to the budget committees. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of the report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Further provided that, if DSP encounters difficulty obtaining, or validating the accuracy of, the necessary crime data by November 1, 2024, from local jurisdictions who provide the data for inclusion in the UCR, DSP shall notify the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP). From each jurisdiction's third quarterly State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) disbursement, the office shall withhold a portion, totaling at least 15% but no more than 50%, of that jurisdiction's SAPP grant for fiscal 2025 upon receipt of notification from DSP. GOCPP shall withhold SAPP funds until such a time that the jurisdiction submits its crime data to DSP, and DSP verifies the accuracy of the data. DSP and GOCPP shall submit a report to the budget committees indicating any jurisdiction from which crime data was not received by November 1, 2024, and the amount of SAPP funding from each jurisdiction.

Explanation: The annual language was originally added because DSP had not been submitting its annual crime report in a timely manner due to issues related to receiving crime data from the local jurisdictions. Though data contributors were able to provide the department with 2021 and 2022 crime data on time, there were delays in compiling the 2021 and 2022 UCRs due to the inability for all contributors to submit data in compliance with the new federal reporting system.

This language withholds a portion of the general fund appropriation until the budget committees receive the 2023 UCR. The language also specifies that GOCPP, upon receipt of notification from DSP, must withhold a portion of a delinquent jurisdiction's SAPP grant until certain crime data is received by DSP. Finally, DSP and GOCPP must submit a report to the budget committees that includes information on any jurisdiction that did not report crime data by November 1, 2024, and the amount of SAPP funding that is withheld from each jurisdiction.

Sections

Information Request	Author	Due Date
2023 UCR data verification	DSP	November 1, 2024
2023 UCR	DSP	45 days prior to expenditure of funds

Amendment No. _____