



SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2024 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 31, 2024
Schedule 15

PLEASE NOTE: February 5 – Bill introduction deadline.

All bills should be given to the Secretary of the Senate's office by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, February 5.

As required by Senate Rule 32(b), bills introduced after this date will be referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED January 31, 2024

SB 708 Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Departmental)

FAMILY LAW – KINSHIP CARE

Altering provisions of law relating to the kinship care program in the Department of Human Services and certain procedures for the placement of children in need of out-of-home placement.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

FL, § 5-534 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Department of Legislative Services

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Baltimore Area: 410-946-5400 — Washington Area: 301-970-5400

Other Maryland Areas: 1-800-492-7122 — Maryland Relay Service: 1-800-735-2258

SB 709 **Senator Kagan****ELECTION LAW – ABSENTEE BALLOTS – INTERNET–DELIVERED
ABSENTEE BALLOT STUDY**

Requiring the State Board of Elections to submit a report on the costs and resources required to process Internet–delivered absentee ballots during elections in the State to the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee on or before September 1, 2024.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 710 **Senator M. Washington****WATER UTILITIES SHUTOFF PROTECTIONS**

Authorizing a certain water utility to temporarily shut off service for reasons of health or safety or in a State or national emergency, notwithstanding certain provisions of law; prohibiting a water utility from shutting off service for certain reasons; prohibiting a water utility from shutting off service on receipt of certain information; and prohibiting the sale of property solely to enforce a lien imposed for unpaid water, sewer, or sanitary system charges, fees, or assessments except in certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

EN, §§ 9-2A-01 through 9-2A-03 - added and §§ 9-658(g)(2), 9-662, 9-663, 9-724, 9-939, and 9-951 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 711 **Senator Bailey****FISHERIES – STRIPED BASS OR ROCKFISH – JUVENILE SURVEY**

Expanding the scope of the annual young–of–the–year juvenile survey of striped bass or rockfish by requiring the Department of Natural Resources to conduct the survey at sampling sites in the central region of the Maryland waters of the Chesapeake Bay in addition to sampling sites in the northern and southern regions of the Maryland waters of the Chesapeake Bay; and establishing certain requirements for the central region sampling sites.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

NR, § 4-746 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 712 Senator Bailey**STATE-OWNED NURSING HOMES – DEFICIENCIES, CITATIONS, AND FINES – REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring the department charged with oversight of a State-owned nursing home operated by a contractor, instead of the contractor, to provide notice of certain deficiencies and enforcement actions to the Governor and certain members of the General Assembly; requiring the department charged with oversight, rather than the contractor, to provide certain information to certain persons within 30 days after the contractor's final acceptance of a plan of correction or completion of an informal dispute resolution; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

HG, §§ 19-14C-01 and 19-14C-02 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 713 Senator Kramer**SECURITY SYSTEMS TECHNICIANS – APPLICANTS – AUTHORITY TO PRACTICE**

Providing that an applicant for registration to provide security systems services may provide security system services and have access to circumventational information if the applicant applied for registration, received an application number confirming receipt, and the application was not rejected by the Secretary of Labor.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

BOP, § 18-3A-01 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 714 Senators Kramer and Hershey**STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR AUDIOLOGISTS, HEARING AID DISPENSERS, SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS, AND MUSIC THERAPISTS – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS**

Requiring the Governor to appoint the licensed audiologist members to the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists from a list submitted by the Maryland Academy of Audiology rather than by the Board.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

HO, § 2-202(a)(5) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 715 **Senator Kramer, et al****STATE AND PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AND STATE PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS – PROMPT PAYMENT AND INTEREST REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring a private construction contract to include a provision requiring the owner to pay the contractor within 45 days after the receipt of a proper invoice following completion of the work or, if the owner withholds all or part of an amount invoiced, to send a certain notification to the contractor; requiring a contract between a contractor and a subcontractor on a private or State construction contract to include a provision requiring the contractor to pay the subcontractor within 7 days after receipt of payment; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

BR, § 17-601 and SF, § 15-104 - amended and BR, § 17-604 and SF, § 13-228 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 716 **Senator Hettleman****MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE SERVICES – REIMBURSEMENT**

Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to reimburse physicians billing for maternal fetal medicine services at the rate set under the federal Medicare fee schedule.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

HG, § 15-112.1 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 717 **Senator Rosapepe****INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – LOSSES FROM THEFT OR FRAUD**

Allowing, subject to certain limitations, a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain personal casualty losses related to a theft or fraud scheme; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

TG, § 10-208(cc) - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 718 **Senators Lam and McKay****MARYLAND PATHWAY TO NURSING PILOT PROGRAM AND
ADVISORY COMMITTEE – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Maryland Pathway to Nursing Pilot Program in the Maryland Department of Health; requiring the Secretary of Health to report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on the implementation of the Program through 2029; requiring the Secretary to issue grants to at least two pilot sites located in diverse areas on or before July 1, 2025; and establishing the Maryland Pathway to Nursing Advisory Committee to assist the Secretary in the development and implementation of the Program.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

HG, §§ 13-5201 through 13-5203 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 719 **Senator Benson****CRIMINAL LAW – CRIMES AGAINST MINORS – SENSITIVE
LOCATIONS**

Prohibiting a person from committing a felony against a victim who is a minor within 5 miles of certain locations; and establishing that a violation of the Act is a felony and punishable with imprisonment up to 15 years.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

CR, § 3-602.3 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 720 **Senator Benson****CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – FORMERLY INCARCERATED
INDIVIDUALS AND INDIVIDUALS ON PROBATION – RE-ENTRY
SERVICES**

Establishing a program within the Division of Correction that provides formerly incarcerated individuals and individuals on probation with certain services; requiring the facility that administers the program to be located in Prince George's County; and requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill for fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter an appropriation of \$3,000,000 for the program.

This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

CS, § 3-1001 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 721 Senator Benson**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY – INCOME TAX – CREDIT FOR EMPLOYERS PROVIDING PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT LEAVE**

Allowing employers who provide certain parental engagement leave to certain qualified employees during the taxable year a credit against the State income tax; requiring the State Department of Education, in consultation with the Comptroller, to develop and make available a certain certification form; requiring a certain qualified employee to obtain the signatures of a certain county board member and certain school personnel under certain circumstances; and making the credit refundable under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

TG, § 10-758 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 722 Senator Benson**SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – SENIORS – STATE SUPPLEMENT**

Increasing the amount of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefit that the State is required to provide for a household that includes an individual who is at least 62 years old.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

HU, § 5-501 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 723 Senator Benson**BABY FOOD – TOXIC HEAVY METALS – TESTING AND LABELING**

Requiring, beginning January 1, 2025, manufacturers of baby food to conduct certain testing on baby food for toxic heavy metals before packaging individual units of baby food for sale or distribution in the State; and requiring, beginning January 1, 2026, manufacturers of baby food to make certain information related to the testing and a link to certain guidance and information publicly available on the manufacturer's website and to include the test results or a certain code on the baby food product label.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

HG, § 21-330.4 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 724 Senator Benson**MOTOR VEHICLES – SCHOOL BUSES – SEAT BELTS**

Prohibiting certain persons from allowing pupils to stand in a school bus while the school bus is in motion; requiring that school buses purchased after October 1, 2024, be equipped with seat belts that are accessible to passengers; requiring school buses in operation on October 1, 2024, to have seat belts installed that are accessible to passengers for every seat on the bus on or before October 1, 2026; prohibiting a person from operating a school bus unless the person and each occupant are restrained by a seat belt; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

ED, § 7-410 and TR, §§ 21-1118, 22-412, and 22-412.3 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 725 Senator Benson**REAL PROPERTY – RESIDENTIAL LEASES – RENTER’S INSURANCE REQUIREMENT**

Requiring a residential lease to include a requirement that a tenant hold a renter’s insurance policy; prohibiting a lease from containing certain requirements regarding a renter’s insurance policy; and requiring a landlord to acquire a renter’s insurance policy on behalf of a tenant if the tenant does not have a policy.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

RP, § 8-208 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 726 Senator Lewis Young**BAY RESTORATION FUND – AUTHORIZED USES – DECOMMISSION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT LAGOON**

Altering the authorized uses of the Bay Restoration Fund to include, beginning in fiscal year 2026, certain costs related to the decommissioning of certain wastewater treatment lagoons.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

EN, § 9-1605.2(i)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 727 Senator Carter (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)**MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION RECORDS – ACCESS TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES AND SIGNATURES – BALTIMORE CITY AGENCIES**

Authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to make a digital photographic image or signature of an individual, or the actual stored data thereof, recorded by the Administration available to the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development or any other agency designated by the Mayor of Baltimore City to enforce certain provisions of law.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

TR, § 12-111 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 728 Senator Carter**CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – PAROLE SUPERVISION FEES AND DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE TEST PAYMENT – REPEAL**

Repealing the requirement for the Maryland Parole Commission to assess a fee against an individual on parole and supervised by the Division of Parole and Probation under certain circumstances; and repealing authorization for the Division of Parole and Probation to require a supervisee of the Division who is on parole to pay for certain drug or alcohol abuse testing under certain circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

CS, § 7-702 - repealed

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 729 Senator Carter**SECURITY GUARDS – USE OF FORCE REPORTING – HEALTH CARE–RELATED PHYSICAL INTERVENTIONS**

Providing that a health care–related physical intervention does not constitute use of force for purposes relating to a certain report required to be made to the Secretary of State Police; and prohibiting a certain report from including information that is prohibited from disclosure by State or federal law.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

BOP, § 19-414 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 730 **Senator Carter****MOTOR VEHICLES – MOTORCYCLES – PASSENGER RESTRICTIONS**

Requiring a rear passenger on a motorcycle to be able to firmly position the passenger's feet on the footrests of the motorcycle, subject to an exception for permanent physical disability.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

TR, § 21-1302 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 731 **Senator Carter****STATE FACILITIES – PROCEDURES FOR CHANGES AND CLOSURES
– DEFINITION AND REPORTING**

Specifying that requirements for purchasing, leasing, changing the use of, or closing State facilities apply to facilities owned, leased, or operated for the purpose of providing benefits to clients; and requiring the Department of Human Services, on or before August 1, 2024, to submit a report on any State facility owned, leased, or operated by the Department for the purpose of providing benefits to clients that was closed on or after January 1, 2023 to certain committees of the General Assembly.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

SG, § 8-306 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 732 **Senator Carter****DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES AND MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – INPATIENT PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN**

Requiring the Department of Juvenile Services and the Maryland Department of Health to establish a certain inpatient program for children who have been adjudicated delinquent to provide rehabilitation, comprehensive care, and holistic therapies that address health, mental health, and substance abuse issues.

EMERGENCY BILL

HU, § 9-247 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 733 **Senator Carter****TASK FORCE TO STUDY TRANSPARENCY IN TAX INCENTIVES**

Establishing the Task Force to Study Transparency in Tax Incentives to study and recommend a uniform process for evaluating tax increment financing, payments in lieu of taxes, the Enterprise Zone property tax credit, and the Brownfields Revitalization Incentive Program; and requiring the Task Force to submit a report of its findings and recommendations on or before July 1, 2025, to the Governor, the General Assembly, and certain local governments.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 734 **Harford County Senators****HARFORD COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – PERFORMING ARTS NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION LICENSE**

Repealing the performing arts theater beer and wine license in Harford County; establishing in Harford County a performing arts nonprofit organization license that authorizes the holder to sell or serve beer, wine, and liquor at certain locations for on-premises consumption; and establishing an annual license fee of \$750.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

AB, § 22-1005.2 - repealed and added and § 22-1501(b)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 735 **Harford County Senators****HARFORD COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – CLASS L LICENSE**

Establishing a Class L beer, wine, and liquor license in Harford County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Harford County to issue the license to a holder of a manufacturer's license; authorizing the license holder to hold another license or permit issued by the Board; specifying that the license authorizes the license holder to sell certain beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption under certain circumstances; requiring the license holder to provide prepackaged snacks; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

AB, § 22-911 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 736 Harford County Senators**HARFORD COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES – GOLF SIMULATOR FACILITY**

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Harford County to issue a Class GSF (golf simulator facility) license to a golf simulator facility under certain circumstances; authorizing the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption under certain circumstances; requiring the license holder to submit an annual gross sales report to the Board before a license may be renewed; and establishing an annual license fee of \$1,500.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

AB, § 22-1003.2 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 737 Harford County Senators**HIGHER EDUCATION – HARFORD COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES – ALTERATIONS**

Requiring that a member of the Harford Community College Board of Trustees be a resident of Harford County for the duration of the member's term; altering, beginning July 1, 2024, the residency requirements of the appointed members from Harford County councilmanic districts in a certain manner; and altering meeting requirements so that the Harford Community College Board of Trustees and the Harford County Board of Education are no longer required to attend certain meetings.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

ED, § 16-408 - amended and § 16-408.1 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 738 Senator King, et al**FREEDOM TO READ ACT**

Establishing the State standards for libraries for the operation of each library that receives funding from the State; altering the duties of the State Library Board, the State Library Agency, and regional resource centers to incorporate the State standards for libraries; making funding for certain libraries contingent on adoption of a written policy consistent with the State standards for libraries; authorizing the State Comptroller to withhold funding from libraries under certain circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

ED, §§ 4-142 and 23-102.1 - added and Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 739 Senator Hester**ALGORITHMIC ADDICTION FUND – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Algorithmic Addiction Fund; providing that the Fund includes all revenue received by the State from a judgment against, or settlement with, technology conglomerates, technology companies, social media conglomerates, or social media companies relating to claims made by the State; requiring the Secretary of Health to develop certain goals, objectives, and indicators relating to algorithm addiction treatment and prevention efforts; requiring the Secretary to establish a certain grant program; etc.

CONTINGENT – EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024

SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)189. and 190. - amended and § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)191. and 7-332 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 740 Senator Gile, et al**OPERATING A VESSEL WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL – ENFORCEMENT (NICK’S LAW)**

Altering the time period within which a court may prohibit a person convicted under certain circumstances of operating a vessel while under the influence of alcohol from operating a vessel on the waters of the State; and requiring the Department of Natural Resources, in coordination with the Natural Resources Police Force, to establish and maintain a database of persons prohibited from operating a vessel on the waters of the State due to a certain conviction for operating a vessel while under the influence of alcohol.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

NR, § 8-738 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 741 Senators Gile and M. Washington**PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS – PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS – POLICY REQUIREMENTS (PREGNANT AND PARENTING SUPPORT ACT)**

Requiring each public senior higher education institution to adopt a policy regarding pregnant and parenting students using certain guidelines; and requiring each public senior higher education institution to post the policy on the institution’s website by August 1, 2025.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

ED, § 15-138 - added

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

SB 742 Anne Arundel County Senators**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – FEES FOR CLASS C PER DIEM LICENSES**

Increasing in Anne Arundel County the fees for certain Class C per diem alcoholic beverages licenses when issued for a 1–day event with more than 1,000 attendees.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

AB, § 11-1311 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 743 Senator Waldstreicher**FAMILY LAW – PROTECTIVE ORDERS – CRIMES OF VIOLENCE AND STALKING**

Adding stalking to the list of offenses for which a certain individual may petition for a protective order; and altering certain provisions of law relating to the issuance of a permanent protective order.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

FL, § 4-501(m) - amended and § 4-506(k) - repealed and added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 744 The President and Senator Smith**JUVENILE LAW – REFORM**

Altering the jurisdiction of the juvenile court over a child of a certain age alleged to have committed a certain offense; altering certain procedures relating to juvenile intake, juvenile detention, and juvenile probation; repealing certain provisions relating to the State Advisory Board for Juvenile Services; altering certain provisions relating to the Juvenile Justice Monitoring Unit; altering certain provisions relating to the Commission on Juvenile Justice Reform and Emerging and Best Practices; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024

CJ, CP, HU, and SG, Various Sections - amended and repealed and Chapter 42 of the Acts of 2022, § 2 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED January 31, 2024

SJ 3

Senator Bailey

COMMERCIAL FISHERY DISASTER DECLARATION DUE TO
INVASIVE SPECIES

Supporting the Governor's request for a federal commercial fishery disaster declaration; and encouraging further efforts to obtain federal assistance to protect and rehabilitate the State's commercial fisheries as a result of an abundance of invasive species.

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment