

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2023 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – JANUARY 27, 2023**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE /HEARING INFO AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
Note: Bills are listed in each category numerically by House Bills first (companion Senate Bill # underneath), then Senate Bills.				
<b>BUDGET – REVENUE--TAXES</b>				
HB0015	Increase income tax subtraction for military retirement and public safety retirement income to \$20,000 for years after 2023. Public Safety Retirement subtraction for 2023 increased to \$17,500.	W&M; Hearing 2/02 at 1 p.m.; Del. Rogers.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0063		B&T – Hearing 1/19 at 1 p.m.;	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0043	In property tax sales require each county to establish a process for a person entitled to any balance over the amount required for the payment of taxes, interest, penalties, and costs of sale to claim the balance after a tax sale foreclosure; and require notification to the prior property owner, within 90 days, of the balance amount and the process for claiming the balance.	W&M; Hearing 1/24 at 1 p.m.; Del. Atterbeary	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0067	Decreasing, from 6% to 5%, the sales and use tax rate for a 12-month period beginning July 1 if the inflation rate (CPI for urban users), as determined by the Comptroller, is at least 6%.	W&M; Hearing 2/02 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0089	Establish the People’s Fund. Requires the Comptroller to distribute 25% of the State estate tax revenue to the Maryland People’s Fund annually. The non-lapsing fund will be distributed as provided in the State budget.	APP – Hearing 1/24 at 1 p.m.; Del. Acevero	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	No specific purpose is identified for the People’s Fund. Reduces Estate Tax funds going to the General Fund by \$40 Million/yr.
HB0125	Modify MD Income Tax Subtraction for Retirement Income for individuals over 65 or disabled to 30% of adjusted MD income for 2023; 60% for 2024 and 100% for 2025 and after.	W&M – Hearing 2/02 at 1 p.m.; Del. Grammer	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0142	“More Local Income Tax Relief.” Increasing from 3.2% to 3.7%, the maximum tax rate that a <b>county</b> may impose on an individual's Maryland taxable income. The County must set income brackets and apply highest rate to individuals with MD taxable income in excess of two times the maximum state bracket (i.e.,	W&M – Hearing 2/02 at 1 p.m.; Del. Palakovich-Carr	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Note: Income brackets set by counties may differ from those of the State under HB142.

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	individual \$500,000 or \$600,000 for spouses) and lower the rate for lowest income bracket. The lowest rate may not be less than 2.25%.			
HB0180 SB0141	Increase amount of Income Tax subtraction for Adoption. Amt. increases to \$12,000 for adoption of a special needs child and \$10,000 for adoption of a child without special needs in the year of the adoption.	W&M - Hearing 2/09 at 1 p.m. Del. Reznik et al. B&T – Hearing 1/25 at 2 p.m.; Strs. Elfreth & Zucker	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0200 SB0181	State Budget for FY 2024	APP; Speaker. B&T; President	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader 1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0201 SB0182	Creation of a State Debt – Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2023, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2011 through 2023.	APP; Speaker.  B&T; President	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0202 SB0183	Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2023	APP; Speaker. B&T; President	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader 1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0076	Increase MD income tax subtraction for a volunteer for a bona fide MD police agency or fire, rescue or EMS organization or auxiliary; or the U.S Coast Guard auxiliary, the MD Defense Force or MD Civil Air Patrol to \$10,000 for years after 2023.	B&T – Hearing 1/19 at 1 p.m. Str. Bailey	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0094	Increase MD income tax subtraction modification for volunteer firemen, rescue and EMS to \$10,000/year for tax years beginning after 2023.	B&T – Hearing 1/19 at 1 p.m. Str. Jackson	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0134	Provides a County and State property tax credit on the dwelling house for disabled veterans that is equal to the percentage of the disabled veteran’s service–connected disability rating.	B&T – Hearing 1/19 at 1 p.m.; Str. Jackson	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Fiscal Note from prior year’s bill states there are 13,644 property owners with a 100% service related disability. Bill might increase those eligible by 39,700.
	<b>CANNABIS LEGALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION</b>			
HB0135	“Drug Kingpin” is an organizer, supervisor, financier, or manager who acts as a coconspirator in a conspiracy to manufacture, distribute, dispense, transport in, or bring into the State a controlled dangerous substance.	JUD – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Dels. Moon and Williams	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Note: HB135 provides that a person who manufactures, distributes, dispenses, or possesses 50 lbs. or more of

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	A Drug kingpin involving 50 lbs. or more of cannabis is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or both.			cannabis is guilty of a misdemeanor and if convicted faces up to 5 years in prison or \$50,000 fine or both.
HB0280	Cannabis Related Offenses – Civil Penalties. A finding of guilt involving the use or possession of an amount of cannabis exceeding the personal use amount is a civil offense punishable by a fine not exceeding \$250 or 75 hours of community services. Penalty does not increase for repeat offenders. Those under 18 are not allowed to prepay fine but must appear in court and can be required to complete to a rehabilitation education program.	JUD – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Dels. Davis et al.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0051	Providing that a determination of reasonable suspicion or probable cause relating to possession of contraband or other criminal activity may not be based solely on the odor of raw or burnt cannabis, or the possession of cannabis, or the presence of money in proximity to cannabis and that evidence obtained in violation of this Act is not admissible in court. There is an exception for a police officer investigating whether a person is driving, operating, or controlling a motor vehicle or vessel while impaired by drugs, except that the odor of cannabis may not be the basis for finding probable cause to justify the search of an area of a vehicle or vessel that is not readily accessible to the driver or operator.	JPC – Hearing 2/02 at 1 p.m.; Str. Carter	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
	<b>CIVIL RIGHTS – CRIMINAL LAW – LAW ENFORCEMENT</b>			
HB0049	Economic Justice & Racial Reconciliation Act to establish a Commission to study racial disparities in wealth and resources due to tax laws and systems in place in the State from the Reconstruction Era thru the enactment of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964. The	HGO; Del. Amprey	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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	Commission to make recommendations (1) relating to compensation of the State's African American communities for racial disparities identified, (2) on State funding sources, and (3) for needed legislation.			
HB0088	Require the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to prohibit police officers from affiliating with, supporting, or advocating for White supremacist groups, ideologies, or causes or participating in or actively promoting an international or domestic extremist group identified by the FBI that supports or encourages illegal violent conduct.	JUD – Hearing 1/24 at 1 p.m.; Del. Acevero	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0115	Liability for Violation of Civil Rights. A police officer who, under color of law, deprives an individual of or infringes on, or allows another to deprive an individual of an individual’s right secured by the Maryland Declaration of Rights or the Maryland constitution is liable for damages brought in a civil action against the police officer up to \$25,000 or 5% of any settlement. If Officer acted in “good faith” and action was legal employing agency will pay the settlement.	JUD; Hearing 1/19 at 1 p.m.; Del. Acevero.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0126	Prohibiting use of a camera for visual surveillance with prurient intent of a minor in a private place or residence. If the victim is a minor and the person conducting the visual surveillance is at least 4 years older than the victim, a person who violates this section by use of a camera is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine of \$2,500 or both.	JUD – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Del. Pippy	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0145	MD State Police Training & Standards Commission. Removes the requirement for certification as a police officer that a person who is a legal permanent resident and honorably discharged from the U.S. military apply	JUD – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Del. Fraser-Hidalgo	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0126		JPC – Hearing 2/01 at 1:30 pm Str. Kagan	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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	for citizenship and become a citizen or be terminated by the Commission.			
HB0164 SB0057	Sex Offense – Crime of Violence and Lifetime Supervision. Applies where victim is under 13 years of age and offender is an adult; or victim is under 16 years of age and the offender is 21 years old.	JUD – Hearing - 1/31 at 1 p.m. Del. Crosby JPC – Hearing - 2/01 at 1:30 p.m.; Str. Bailey.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0170	Minors convicted as Adults – Transfer to Juvenile Court. Requiring a court to consider certain factors before sentencing a minor convicted as an adult and to state on the record its consideration of the factors at sentencing. Establishing a presumption that the sentencing of a minor convicted as an adult should be transferred to the juvenile court, and authorizing the court to do so, if the individual who the minor committed the offense against committed a sex crime or human trafficking against the minor within 3 months before the minor’s offense. Requiring the juvenile court to make a juvenile determination.	JUD – Hearing 2/02 at 2:30 p.m.; Del. Simpson et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0173	Decriminalization of drug paraphernalia – Removes hypodermic syringe, needle, or any other object or combination of objects adapted to administer a controlled dangerous substance by hypodermic injection from the prohibited list of drug paraphernalia. Reduces penalty for other drug paraphernalia to \$500 for a 1 <sup>st</sup> offense and 1 year in prison and \$1,000 fine for additional. offenses.	JUD – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m. Del. Moon et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0174	Requiring an assistant State’s Attorney to meet with a victim of sexually assaultive behavior if the Office of the State’s Attorney has elected to dismiss charges or not to file charges against an alleged suspect; and generally relating to victims’ rights.	JUD – Hearing 2/02 at 2:30 p.m.; Del. Simpson et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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HB0193	Probation. Court may make findings of fact sufficient to support a guilty verdict, but stay a finding of guilt by signing an agreement that if the defendant violates the probation agreement the guilty finding & maximum sentence will be imposed. The defendant waives appeals.	JUD – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Del. Moon	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Note: Passed the House last year. Bill protects an illegal immigrant from receiving a formal sentence or Probation before Judgement (PBJ). A PBJ is grounds for deportation.
HB0212 SB0208	A person may not with prurient intent commit the common law crime of indecent exposure within the sight of a minor who is: (1) at least 2 years old; and (2) more than 4 years younger than the person. If convicted is guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or both.	JUD – Hearing – 2/07 at 1 p.m. Del. Crosby and Pippy.  JPC; Str. Bailey	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0223 SB0192	Criminal Procedure – Facial Recognition Technology. Facial recognition technology results may only be introduced in a <u>criminal</u> proceeding or in a <u>delinquency</u> proceeding for Title 3, Subtitle 8A of the Courts Article for establishing probable cause or positive identification, but cannot be the sole basis to establish probable cause or positive ID in a criminal investigation	JUD - Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Dels. Moon and Love.  JPC – Hearing 2/08 at 1 p.m.; Str. Sydnor	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Note: Current Courts Article Subtitle 3-8A-18 for a child to be charged with being delinquent requires proving allegation beyond a reasonable doubt. It appears HB 223 would rule out using Facial recognition to charge a minor.
HB0226 SB0021	Expanding the definition of “person in a position of authority” to one who is under contract with or is a volunteer, an intern or a paid employee of an institution, a program, or an activity of a public or private preschool, elementary or secondary school; a child care facility or after–school program; a commercial or nonprofit instructional program for music, dance, art, tutoring, academic enrichment, martial arts, or a program with a similar purpose; a sports, scouting, or recreational activity or program; a day or overnight camp; a religious institution; or unit of local, state, or federal government and, who in that	JUD – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Dels. Love et al  JPC – Hearing 2/01 at 1:30 p.m.; Str. West	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Closes loopholes.

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	capacity, directs or supervises minors participating in the program or activity. Prohibits engaging in a sexual act, sexual contact, or vaginal intercourse with a minor 14 or 15 years of age by a person at least 4 years older while participating in the institution, program, or activity where the person is in a position of authority and generally relating to persons in a position of authority and sexual offenses.			
HB0233  SB0226	A person may not knowingly possess and intentionally retain, OR KNOWINGLY OR INTENTIONALLY ACCESS WITH INTENT TO VIEW, a film, videotape, photograph, or other visual representation showing an actual child or a computer-generated image indistinguishable from an actual & identifiable child under the age of 16.	JUD – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Del. Grammer.  JPC – Hearing 2/14 at 1 p.m.; Str. Salling	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0015	Requires an intake officer to file a petition alleging that a child under 10 years of age is “a child in need of supervision” if the child is alleged to have committed an act that results in the death of a victim; and generally relating to juvenile law.	JPC – Hearing 2/08 at 1 p.m. Str. Carter	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0027	To establish the Restorative Justice Program within the Victim Services Unit of the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to ameliorate the harmful effects of offenses on a victim in a manner that treats the victim with dignity, respect, and sensitivity; and to address the rates of incarceration and commitment of offenders; and the harm to communities. Either a victim or an offender may request to participate in the program. Participation is voluntary.	JPC – Hearing 2/02 at 1 p.m.; Str. West	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0047	Fair Housing Tester – Wiretapping Legal. It is lawful for a person to intercept a wire, oral, or electronic communication if the person is working as a fair housing tester for a fair housing testing program	JPC – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Str. Sydnor	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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	operated by: The federal government; the state; a local government; or <b>a nonprofit civil rights organization</b> ; if the person is a party to the communication; and the interception is being made for the purpose of obtaining evidence of a fair housing violation under federal, state, or local law.			
SB0074	Prior Conviction for grossly negligent or drunk or drugged operation of a vehicle or vessel. A prior conviction under Transportation article 21-902 will count as a prior conviction for drugged or drunken operation of a vessel.	JPC – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Str. Bailey	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
	<b>EDUCATION</b>			
HB0069	Requiring a public school principal to provide written notice to a parent or guardian of a student who engages in two or more incidents of violent and disruptive behavior in a public school during a school year and establishing that it is unlawful for said parent or guardian to fail to seek and participate in counseling with their child after receiving notice of violent and disruptive behavior. Court can impose community service for parent for failure to participate.	W&M- Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m. Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0085	This bill repeals the prohibition against a public school employer and employee organization negotiating the maximum number of students assigned to a class during collective bargaining.	W&M – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Del. J. Lewis.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0206		FIN – Hearing 2/09 at 1 p.m.; Str. Beidle.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0119	Primary & Secondary Education –Requires State Dept of Education with the State Dept. of Health to develop a <b>Comprehensive Health Education Framework</b> ; local Bds of Ed. to develop age-appropriate health education curriculum for each grade and provide a parent opt out for Family Life-Human Sexuality and/or Gender Identity and Sexual Preference topics but not for topics related to HIV or AIDs prevention.	W&M – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Del. Atterbeary	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Oppose. View current plan at: <a href="https://marylandpublicschools.org">https://marylandpublicschools.org</a> key in Comprehensive Health Education Framework to read the plan for pre-K up to 12 <sup>th</sup> grade. Note: Types of family doesn't list 2-parent families. Are human sexuality topics age appropriate?
SB0199		EEE; Hearing /08 at 1 p.m.; Str. Lam et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	



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HB0137	A member of the administrative, educational, or support staff of any public, private, or parochial school acting in an official capacity is immune from civil liability for any personal injury or property damage resulting from an intervention in an altercation between students or other student disturbance if: (1) the member intervened in a reasonably prudent manner; and (2) the actions taken by the member in intervening do not constitute grossly negligent, willful, wanton, or intentionally tortious conduct.	JUD – Hearing 1/25 at 2:30 p.m.; Del. Grammer	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0203	Requiring a law enforcement agency making an arrest of a student for a reportable offense or an offense related to the student's membership in a criminal organization to report the arrest to the Maryland Center for School Safety, the State Board of Education, and the State's Attorney; requiring the State's Attorney to notify the Maryland Center for School Safety and the State Board of the disposition of the offense;	JUD – Hearing 2/02 at 2:30 p.m.; Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0300	Requiring local school systems to consider whether new schools should be constructed with solar panels on the roofs of the schools through June 2034; Local school systems must provide the Interagency Commission on School Construction an explanation for a decision not to include solar panels as part of the construction or major renovation of a school.	APP – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Dels. Bhandari et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0095	Each year, every county board of education shall prepare a report that identifies: (1) for each public school, those areas of the county where a student who is regularly assigned to the school would be ineligible for transportation services based on the distance between a residence and the school; and (2) identify pathways that a student residing in an area may use to travel between the student’s residence and regularly	EEE; Str. Ellis	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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	assigned school using only a safe alternative route or a contiguous series of safe alternative routes; (3) and post the report to the county’s website. The County Government shall review the report and construct any sidewalks and crosswalks necessary to create safe alternative routes for students in the report.			
SB149	Beginning in the 2024–2025 school year, each public school and nonpublic school that participates in state–funded education programs shall include in the curriculum a unit of instruction on the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The state board shall develop guidelines for instructional content on the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks that is age–appropriate, interdisciplinary, and consistent with other required grade–level instruction.	EEE; Str. Salling;	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
	<b>ELECTIONS - VOTING</b>			
HB0022	Requires a local board of elections to verify (1) the voter’s signature on the return ballot envelope (2) and a witness signature before removing absentee ballot from a ballot/return envelope or counting the vote. Witness exception for ballots of overseas military personnel and dependents.	W&M; Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m. Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Strongly Support
HB0035	VOTER ID to Vote. Requiring an election judge to establish a voter's identity by requiring the voter to present a valid government-issued photo identification or a valid nongovernment-issued photo identification and a current bill, statement or check that states the voter's name and address as proof of identity; requiring a voter to vote a provisional ballot if the voter is unable to provide proof of identity; and prohibiting a person from knowingly and willfully voting or attempting to vote under a false form of identification.	W&M; Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Strongly Support

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HB0041	Establish curbside voting rules for voters who cannot enter the polling place or have health conditions or pregnancy or other St. Bd. reasons for curbside voting. Requires curbside voting at EV centers & polling places.	W&M – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Del. Wilkins	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0114	Requires a local board of elections to change a voter's registration from a Decline to affiliate with a political party when voter registration is closed if the request is received by the local board by 5 p.m. on the day before early voting begins; and the change is effective on the first day of early voting.	W&M - Hearing 1/24 at 1 p.m. Del. Qi.	1st Reader	
SB0039		EEE: Str. Kagan.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0130	Elections. Prohibits State or Local Bd. of Elections from contracting with foreign manufacture of election systems and allowing termination of contracts.	W&M – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Del. Rosenberg	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0176	After the governing body of a county has implemented a system of public campaign financing for its executive and legislative offices for at least one complete election cycle, the governing body of the county may establish, by law, a system of public campaign financing for the offices of State’s Attorney, Sheriff, Register of Wills, Judge of the Circuit Court, Judge of the Orphans Court and the Board of Education for the county.	W&M – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Del Feldmark et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Note: HB 213 prohibits public financing for the student member of a County Board of Education.
HB0213		W&M – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Del. Watson et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0177	The state board and each applicable local board shall post in a manner widely accessible to the public for at least 65 days before the general election the complete text of a State Constitution or amendment or a state law petitioned, or a county charter or amendment, etc. And prohibiting the question from appearing on the ballot unless the proposed language of the enactment has been written.	W&M - Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m. Del. Feldmark et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0089		EEE; Str. Carter	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0192	Prohibiting a campaign finance entity from depositing funds in a cryptocurrency account; or making or accepting contributions or donations using	W&M - Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m. Del. Palakovich Carr et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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	cryptocurrency; or a person acting on behalf of a campaign finance entity from making an expenditure using cryptocurrency. The State Board may investigate violations and refer violations to the State Prosecutor.			
HB0269	Prohibiting a municipality from authorizing a property owner who is not a resident of the municipality to vote in a municipal election; and prohibiting a municipality from authorizing a person who is not an individual to vote in a municipal election.	W&M – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Del. Moon & Wilkins	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0334	<b>Prohibiting the State Board of Elections from certifying a voting system unless the State Board determines that the voting system will be capable of tabulating ballots cast in an election conducted using ranked choice voting;</b> requiring the State Board to acquire <b>additional voting machines and independent software to tabulate ranked choice voting results</b> if City of Takoma Park municipal elections are approved by the State Board to appear on the State ballot to <b>mitigate additional time added to the voting process by ranked choice voting (RCV);</b> and the city of Takoma Park is not required to reimburse the State Board or the Montgomery County Board of Elections for additional costs incurred under this subsection.	W&M – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Montgomery County Delegation	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Strongly OPPOSE. This requirement will affect voting systems and tabulators statewide. Sets the stage for Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) statewide. Takoma Park allows non-citizens to vote in their municipal elections as do 10 other municipalities in MD. Will allow Takoma Park municipal candidates to be on the same state ballot with candidates for county, state and federal offices and increases the chance of non-citizens voting in those elections. See HB 344 for notes on RCV.
HB0344	Authorizing the Montgomery County Council to adopt, by law, <b>a ranked choice voting method or an approval voting method for elections</b> for the offices of County Executive, County Council, Judge of the Circuit Court, State’s Attorney, Register of Wills, Sheriff and Board of Education. <b>“Approval voting”</b> means a method of casting and tabulating votes in which voters may choose any number of candidates and the candidate chosen most often is elected. (iii) <b>“ranked choice</b>	W&M – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Montgomery County Delegation Sponsor only for Oral Testimony	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Strongly OPPOSE. Send WRITTEN Testimony or e-mails to W&M members. This is precedent setting for the entire state. It affects constitutional offices of Sheriff and Judge of the Circuit Court and Register of Wills as well as all local offices. Will substantially increase voter wait

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	<b>voting</b> ” means a method of casting and tabulating votes in which voters rank candidates in order of preference and votes are tabulated in a manner that reflects voter preference.			times to vote for 3 choices for each office. Will significantly increase time to count votes. Voter fatigue will discourage voters from voting in down-ballot (local) offices such as Board of Education
SB0132	Requiring State's Attorneys, Clerks of the Circuit Court, Registers of Wills, Sheriffs, and Judges of the Orphans' Court to be elected on a non-partisan basis; and establishing procedures for their nomination and election on a nonpartisan basis.	JPC & EEE – Hearing 2/16 at 1 p.m.; Str. Jackson	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Strongly Oppose. Reduces voters’ choices. Reduces opportunity for Republican or other minority party or unaffiliated candidates to compete in the General Election.
SB0176	The State Board of Elections shall extend the filing deadline for a primary election for an office other than the office of Governor or Lt. governor until 7 days after the filing deadline, if during the 48–hour period immediately preceding the deadline (1) an unopposed candidate dies, is disqualified, or withdraws; or (2) the number of candidates for a political party that have filed a candidacy for the office is less than the number of nominations the political party is allowed for the office. The same time extension is made for the office of Governor or Lt. Governor if both die, are disqualified or withdraw; but, If no candidates file for Governor and Lt. Governor by the extended deadline the State Central Committee of the Political Party shall select a candidate for the two offices.	EEE; Str. Kagan		
SB0195	Requiring that candidates for judge of the orphans' court appear on the ballot without party designation.	JPC- Hearing 2/09 at 1 p.m.; Str. West	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Oppose. See also SB 132
	<b>ENERGY – ENVIRONMENT -- ECONOMY</b>			
HB0147	Require counties to develop a Climate Crisis Plan to require all electric homes, businesses, etc. Increase use of renewable energy. Require all vehicles, buses,	ENT; Del. Fraser-Hidalgo	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Oppose. Excessive. Does not promote a balanced energy policy

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	etc. to be zero emissions. Conduct a baseline greenhouse gas emissions inventory of existing conditions in the county and establish greenhouse gas reduction targets for the county. Submit plan to MD Dept. Environment and update every 3 years. Make changes per MDE.			to promote multiple, reliable and affordable energy choices.
HB0169  SB0144	Require Dept of Housing & Community Development to procure or provide for low-income electricity customers energy efficiency and conservation programs and services designed to achieve at least a target annual incremental gross energy savings of .53% for 2024; .72% in 2025 and 1% in 2026 program cycle. Requiring the Department to update the weather-normalized gross retail sales against which savings are measured for EmPower MD Surcharge and U.S. Dept. of Energy programs. Establishes the Green and Healthy Task Force, staffed by DHCD and several reporting and planning requirements to include DHCD developing a plan to provide energy efficiency retrofits to all low-income households by 2030. On or before September 1, 2023, the DHCD shall submit a plan to the Public Service Commission that details proposals for achieving the electricity savings and demand reduction target for 2024 and update every 3 years thereafter.	ECM; Del. Charkoudian;  EEE – Hearing 1/31 at 2 p.m.; Str. Feldman	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Note: A low-income program is one that delivers energy efficiency & conservation measures to reduce utility expenses for <b>building owners, managers and tenants with residents who qualify</b> for low-income assistance programs. Last year’s bill was vetoed by Gov. Hogan as too costly to MD ratepayers. The Fiscal Note stated cost would increase from \$26.9 Million in FY 23 to \$219.8M in FY 2027. EmPOWER MD surcharge is assessed on all electricity customers including state, local govt’s. and small businesses to pay for these programs.
HB0190  SB0077	Establish the Homeowner’s Extreme Weather Mitigation and Preparation Grant Program in the Department of Housing and Community Development to assist homeowners (\$5,000 grant), local governments (\$50,000 grant) and nonprofit organizations in preparing and repairing single-family residential properties to mitigate water damage caused by extreme weather; and generally relating to	ENT; Del. Ivey;  EEE – Hearing 1/26 at 3 p.m.; Str. Jackson	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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	the Homeowner’s Extreme Weather Mitigation and Preparation Grant Program.			
HB0198	Wastewater Treatment Plants. Requiring an independent third party to oversee all water quality testing conducted at a wastewater treatment plant that falsifies or does not accurately report water quality test results to the Department of the Environment or is experiencing a catastrophic or continuing mechanical failure of operational equipment. Requires the Department to select the independent third party.	ENT- Hearing 2/02 at 1:30 p.m.; Del. R. Long.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0230  SB0224	Requiring the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations on or before December 1, 2023, establishing <b>requirements for the sale of new zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles</b> in the State; defining a "heavy-duty vehicle" as one with a gross vehicle weight rating equal to or greater than 14,001 pounds; and incorporating by reference California’s Air Resources Bd’s Vehicle Standards as revised and updated.	ENT – Hearing 2/08 at 1:30 p.m.; Del. Love et al.  EEE – Hearing 2/09 at 1 p.m.; Str. Augustine et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Oppose. Note: In Dec. 2022 California asked its residents not to charge their electric vehicles during certain hours. What would happen if all vehicles were electric? CA has had wildfires due to poorly maintained electric grid. Maryland should separate itself from California’s vehicle standards.
HB0239	Establishing the Accessory Dwelling Unit Promotion and Policy Task Force <b>to study</b> state & local govt. <b>efforts to promote creation of accessory dwelling units on land zoned for single-family residential use &amp; make legislative or other policy recommendations</b> , that promote and encourage the creation and operation of accessory dwelling units on land zoned for single-family residential use.	ENT – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Del. J. Long et al		
SB0081	Labor and Employment – State Minimum Wage Rate – Acceleration (Fight for Fifteen Acceleration Act of 2023). Raise minimum wage to \$13.40/hour on July 1, 2023 and \$15.00/hour on July 1, 2024.	FIN; Str. Waldstreicher	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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SB0170	Energy Generating Plants. “Covered project” means a generation station with a cumulative nameplate capacity of 2 megawatts or more for which the Public Service Commission has approved: (i) a certificate of public convenience and necessity under § 7–207 of the public utilities article; or (ii) an exemption. A “covered project” does not include an off–shore wind project. Sets conditions for employment of contractors using the prevailing wage rate for each category of workers and forbids strikes, lockouts, etc.	FIN – Hearing 2/09 at 1 p.m.; Str. Feldman	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0186	Establish a Green & Renewable Energy for Non-profit Organizations Loan Program. “Qualifying energy system” means a system that: (1) generates electricity or usable thermal energy used to meet onsite demand; (2) assists the state in meeting the greenhouse gas reduction goals. MD Energy Comsn. to set selection requirements including preference for organizations that own rather than rent a building; geographic and racial/ethnic diversity; economic diversity; and organization mission diversity. Set repayment rules. Governor shall include \$5 million/year in budget.	<b>B&amp;T- Hearing 1/25 at 2 p.m.;</b> Str. Kagan	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
	<b>HEALTH RELATED</b>			
HB0025	Health Maryland Program – Establish a <b>comprehensive universal single-payer health coverage system &amp; cost control system</b> for every Maryland resident <b>REGARDLESS of IMMIGRATION STATUS.</b> The state w/seek waivers & other approvals relating to Medicaid, the Maryland Children’s Health Insurance program, <b>Medicare</b> , the Affordable Care Act, & <b>any other federal programs</b> related to provision of health care so that any federal funds & other subsidies that would be paid to the state, state residents, & health	HGO; Del. Acevero	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Not sure if this affects Federal employee health plans.



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	care providers are paid to the state & deposited to Healthy Maryland Trust Fund for providing health care coverage. Employer payroll fee possible. Establishes a Board to implement.			
HB0048  SB0101	Maryland Medical Assistance Program Collaborative Model. Repealing the Collaborative Care Pilot Program; and requiring the Maryland Dept. of Health to expand access to and provide reimbursement for services provided according to the Collaborative Care Model under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.	HGO – Hearing is 2/07 at 3 p.m.; Del Bagnall.  FIN – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Str. Augustine	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Medicaid expenditures increase by about \$15.7 million (61% federal funds, 39% general funds) in FY 2024 & \$20.9 million a year after. Fiscal Note says the impact on small businesses is meaningful.
HB0082  SB0201	School Based Behavioral Health Programs. By 12/23 seek a State Plan Amendment from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Programs for reimbursement (to the maximum extent permitted) for <b>medically necessary behavioral health services provided in a school setting</b> to all individuals enrolled in these programs or the MD CHIP regardless of whether services are provided under an individualized educational program or individualized family service plan by a mental health provider working within their scope of practice, including: school counselors, psychologists, social workers, nurses, and other behavioral health professionals and paraprofessionals certified by the MD State Dept. of Education; and marriage and family therapists licensed under title 17 of the health occupations article.	HGO; Dels. Charkoudin & Cullison.  FIN – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m. Str. Hester	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Reminder: SB 41 of <b>2021 lowered age to 12 years old that a minor is considered mature enough to give informed consent to consultation, diagnosis and treatment for mental or emotional disorders</b> . Health care provider may withhold info from parent if they think disclosure will lead to harm or deter the minor from seeking care. Likely related to the Left’s push for sexual identity transition care (drugs & surgery) for “Gender dysphoria”. Read: <u>Irreversible Damage</u> by Abigail Shrier.
HB0111	Requiring Maryland Dept. of Health to establish an <b>Express Lane Eligibility Program</b> by January 1, 2025, subject to budget limits, to (1) automatically enroll individuals in the <b>Maryland Medical Assistance Program &amp; the Maryland Children's Health Program</b> based on eligibility findings by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; & not consider other	HGO- Hearing 2/07 at 3 p.m.; Del Charkoudin	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Automatically enrolls individuals eligible for one assistance program in the remaining programs for which they are eligible.

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SB0026	income or eligibility requirements. (2) Requiring the Dept. of Human Services to enroll any individual who meets the financial eligibility requirements of the dept. for a recipient of Supplemental Security Income, in the <b>Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program</b> ; and (3) requiring <b>the Office of Home Energy Programs</b> to enroll in any fuel and utility assistance program any individual who meets the financial eligibility requirements for a recipient of: 1. the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; 2. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; 3. Supplemental Security Income; or 4. Means–tested Veterans Affairs Benefits.	FIN – Hearing 2/02 at 1 p.m. Str. Augustine	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0119  SB0199	Primary & Secondary Education –Requires State Dept of Education with the State Dept. of Health to develop a <b>Comprehensive Health Education Framework</b> ; local Bds of Ed. to develop age-appropriate health education curriculum for each grade and provide a parent opt out for Family Life-Human Sexuality and/or Gender Identity and Sexual Preference topics but not for topics related to HIV or AIDs prevention.	W&M – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m. Del. Atterbeary  EEE; Str. Lam	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	See Education topic for more comments.
HB0214	Establish a Commission on Public Health to do an assessment of foundational public health services in the State and consider the following factors: The state’s response to covid–19; The state’s response to overdose deaths; Racial and ethnic disparities in maternal mortality and birth outcomes in the state; and up to 3 other factors they deem appropriate. Commission to hold 3 public meetings in different areas of the state to receive public comments. Submit a report of recommendations to the Governor & Legislature by October 1, 2025.	HGO – Hearing 1/26 at 3 p.m. Del. Kelly et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	The Commission members are mostly medical, public health and university officials, but includes: “a state business leader with demonstrated expertise in improving population health in all jurisdictions in the state.”
HB0287	FOR the purpose of <b>repealing</b> the prohibition on an individual from <b>knowingly transferring</b> or attempting	JUD – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Del. Fair	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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	to transfer <b>the human immunodeficiency virus to another individual</b> ; and generally relating to transfer of human immunodeficiency virus.			
SB0187	Health Occupations Certification of Immigrants. Require each applicant for a license to disclose and record the social security number or individual taxpayer identification number of the applicant. "Immigrant" means an individual: (1) whose country of origin is other than the United States; (2) who is not a citizen of the United States; and (3) who is a resident of the state. A health occupations board may not deny a license, certification, or registration to an immigrant if the individual otherwise meets all educational, training, or professional requirements for licensure, certification, or registration	FIN - Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Str. Kagan	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Oppose. SB 187 will allow illegal immigrants to be certified for any health occupation license or certification and compete against Americans for employment. Authorizes the use of a Tax ID number in place of a Social Security Number. Circumvents Federal law of hiring illegal immigrants.
	<b>SECOND AMENDMENT – FIREARMS RELATED</b>			
HB0159	Allows for police officer to arrest without a warrant a person who is knowingly a participant in a straw purchase of a regulated firearm for a minor or a person prohibited from possession of a regulated firearm under § 5–141 of the public safety article.	JUD – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0162	Requires the MD State Police Dept. to establish and maintain the MD Voluntary Do Not Sell Firearm Registry in which a person may voluntarily enroll for the purpose of being prohibited from obtaining a firearm. A person can request removal from the list.	JUD – Hearing 2/01 at 2:30 p.m.; Del. Moon et al.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0159	Requires the MD State Police Dept. to establish and maintain the MD Voluntary Do Not Sell Firearm Registry in which a person may voluntarily enroll for the purpose of being prohibited from obtaining a firearm. A person can request removal from the list.	JPC – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Str. Hettleman	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB0259	Civil Actions – Public Nuisances – Firearms. "Firearm industry member" is a person engaged in the sale, manufacture, distribution, importation, or marketing of a firearm–related product (a firearm, ammunition, a component or part of a firearm, or a firearm accessory) sold, manufactured, distributed, or marketed in the state. They must institute "reasonable controls" for	JUD – Hearing 2/01 at 2:30 p.m.; Dels. Atterbeary & Rosenberg.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Oppose. Very extreme.
SB 0113	Civil Actions – Public Nuisances – Firearms. "Firearm industry member" is a person engaged in the sale, manufacture, distribution, importation, or marketing of a firearm–related product (a firearm, ammunition, a component or part of a firearm, or a firearm accessory) sold, manufactured, distributed, or marketed in the state. They must institute "reasonable controls" for	JPC – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m.; Str. Waldestreicher	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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	their products. The Attorney General may bring an action against a firearm industry member for a public nuisance caused by a violation or a person may bring an action for damages for injury or loss sustained as a result of a violation of this section.			
SB0001	Criminal Law: Firearms – Prohibits knowingly wearing, carrying or transporting a firearm within 100 feet of a place of public accommodation; any property owned by state or local subdivision or private property without express permission of the owner to the individual or to the public generally.	JPC – Hearing 2/07 at 1 p.m. Str. Waldstreicher	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Oppose. It appears the only places left are your own home or a place of worship.
	<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
HB0009	Equity in Transportation Sector Guidelines & Analysis. The 2024 attainment report on transportation system performance shall recommend measurable transportation indicators for racial and ethnic disparities & impacts on persons with disabilities. The administration shall develop transit equity analysis policies and guidelines with thresholds if a reduction or cancellation of a capital expansion project in the construction program of the Consolidated Transportation Program requires analysis for disproportionate burden or disparate impact and to conduct a transit equity analysis and alternatives.	ENT – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Del Ruth et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0019		FIN – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Str. Carter		
HB0051	Modifies provisions to MDOT’s issuance of bonds backed by future federal transit aid. MDOT may issue bonds backed by future federal aid not to exceed \$750 million in aggregate outstanding & unpaid debt principal as of June 30 of any year. Proceeds only to be used for: design/construction of Baltimore Red Line; electric bus purchases & related infrastructure; or to rehabilitate/replace Susquehanna River Rail Bridge; replace Baltimore and Potomac Tunnel with Frederick	APP- Hearing 1/24 at 1 p.m.; Del. Korman	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB0024		B&T- Hearing 1/19 at 1:30 p.m.; Str. McCray	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

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	Douglass Tunnel; develop/construction of Southern Maryland Rapid Transit Corridor; or improving capacity of service on Brunswick, Camden, or Penn Lines of MARC rail system.			
SB0117	The State Highway Administration shall, twice a month during growing season, first, collect litter and then mow the grass along state highways and the interstate highways that the Administration is responsible for maintaining. During the non-growing season collect litter twice a month weather permitting. The SHA shall contract with Maryland companies for these services and give preference to companies located in the county where mowing is to occur and to companies who hire formerly incarcerated individuals.	FIN – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Str. Ellis	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	