

Decision Document

**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee
2025 Session**

C00A00
Judiciary

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language: <u>Provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$687,742 in general funds and 5 new positions shall be abolished. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.</u> Explanation: This action will abolish 5 new positions in the Judiciary’s fiscal 2026 allowance in the following programs: circuit court judges (2); District Court (2); and Clerks of the Circuit Court (1). These positions are being abolished due to a lack of demonstrated need for the new positions.			Concur in part – Judiciary accepts the deletion of 2 case manager positions and disagrees with the cuts for St. Mary's County Circuit Court.	Adopt.	
2. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation: <u>Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$393,939 in general funds to increase turnover expectancy among new positions. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.</u> Explanation: This reduction is made in order to increase the turnover rate for new positions within the Judiciary from 5.72% to 25.00%.			Disagree.	Adopt.	
3. Reduce \$600,000 in general funds made for the purpose of duplicating equipment expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.	-\$ 600,000 GF		Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.	Modify, see below.	
First House Modification					
Reduce general funds made for the purpose of duplicating equipment expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$ 600,000 GF			Adopt.	

C00A00
Judiciary

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
4.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:		Concur.	Adopt.	
	<u>, provided that \$8,600,000 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.</u>				
	Explanation: This language restricts the use of \$8.6 million of the Judiciary's general fund appropriation for the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond to that purpose only.				
5.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:		Concur in part – Judiciary accepts the recommendation to request a report but disagrees on what data should be provided. It has indicated that different data would be more helpful for evaluation. Judiciary also disagrees with the restriction of funds.	Modify, see below.	
	<u>Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of operating the Appointed Attorney Program may not be expended until the Judiciary submits a report to the budget committees on the costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program, including the results of initial appearances before District Court commissioners when attorneys were appointed to represent indigent defendants as part of the Appointed Attorney Program and the total number of defendants provided with representation by the program. The report shall be submitted by December 15, 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.</u>				
	Explanation: This language restricts funds pending the submission of the annual report on the costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program.				

C00A00
Judiciary

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date			
Appointed Attorney Program costs and utilization	Judiciary	December 15, 2025			

First House Modification

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Adopt.

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of operating the Appointed Attorney Program may not be expended until the Judiciary submits a report to the budget committees on the costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program, including the number of initial appearances by District and County, the number of attorney shifts in the program by District and County, the waiver rate of defendants waiving their right to counsel at their initial appearance, the total annual appointed attorney shifts and hours scheduled by District, the total number of attorneys enrolled in the program, the total annual costs of the program by District, and the total number of initial appearances with an appointed attorney, private attorney, or public defender representing the defendant by District and County. The report shall be submitted by December 15, 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: This language restricts funds pending the submission of the annual report on the costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Appointed Attorney Program costs and utilization	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

C00A00
Judiciary

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
6. Reduce \$670,000 in general funds made for salary increases for contractual personnel to align with increases for State employees.	-\$ 670,000	GF	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.	Modify, see below.	
First House Modification					
Reduce \$670,000 in general funds made for salary increases for contractual personnel to align with increases for State employees. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$ 670,000	GF		Adopt.	
7. Reduce \$1,000,000 in general funds made for the purpose of equipment repairs and maintenance expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.	-\$ 1,000,000	GF	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.	Modify, see below.	
First House Modification					
Reduce \$1,000,000 in general funds made for the purpose of equipment repairs and maintenance expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$ 1,000,000	GF		Adopt.	
8. Increase contractual employee turnover expectancy to better align with fiscal 2025 levels.	-\$ 435,000	GF	Reduce \$435,000 in general funds made for the purpose of contractual employee turnover expenses.	Modify, see below.	

C00A00
Judiciary

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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First House Modification

Increase contractual employee turnover expectancy to better align with fiscal 2025 levels. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this cut across the Judiciary.

-\$ 435,000 GF

Adopt.

9. Reduce \$150,000 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 to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.

-\$ 150,000 GF

Concur.

Adopt.

10. Reduce \$175,000 in general funds made for the purpose of travel expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.

-\$ 175,000 GF

Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.

Modify, see below.

First House Modification

Reduce \$175,000 in general funds made for the purpose of travel expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.

-\$ 175,000 GF

Adopt.

11. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Adopt.

Annual Court Performance Measures: The committees request a report on the performance of the circuit and District courts, to be submitted by December 15, 2025, with annual court performance measures data for the circuit and District courts.

C00A00
Judiciary

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual court performance measures report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

12. Adopt the following narrative: Concur. Adopt.

Problem-Solving Court (PSC) Performance and Funding: The committees request a report on the work of the Judiciary's PSCs, to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should show the funding allocated and performance data for all PSC types in fiscal 2025, including the average length of time that a defendant's case is active in each type of court, the reasons defendants fail to successfully complete a program, and the average cost per defendant in each type of PSC. The report should also include the anticipated costs by PSC type and location for fiscal 2026 and 2027.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
PSC funding and performance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

13. Adopt the following narrative: Concur. Adopt.

Judgeship Need for Fiscal 2027: The committees request a report on judgeship needs at the Judiciary to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should include a detailed analysis of the Judiciary's fiscal 2027 judgeship needs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Judgeship needs for fiscal 2027	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

C00A00
Judiciary

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
14. Reduce \$500,000 in general funds made for the purpose of communications expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.	-\$ 500,000	GF	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.	Modify, see below.	
First House Modification					
Reduce \$500,000 in general funds made for the purpose of communications expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$ 500,000	GF		Adopt.	
15. Reduce \$900,000 in general funds made for the purpose of printing expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.	-\$ 900,000	GF	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.	Modify, see below.	
First House Modification					
Reduce \$900,000 in general funds made for the purpose of printing expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$ 900,000	GF		Adopt.	
16. Reduce \$1,200,000 in general funds made for the purpose of software license expenses to decrease the funding available for additional software licenses.	-\$ 1,200,000	GF	Disagree – Judiciary states that this reduction will impact its ability to renew licenses for financial reporting, performance testing, and quality assurance, and will limit the growth of licenses for courtroom video conferencing and end user support services.	Modify, see below.	

C00A00
Judiciary

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
First House Modification					
Reduce \$1,200,000 in general funds made for the purpose of software license expenses to decrease the funding available for additional software licenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$ 1,200,000 GF			Adopt.	
17. Reduce \$1,250,000 in general funds made for the purpose of contracted Information Technology services to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.	-\$ 1,250,000 GF		Disagree – Judiciary states that this would impact data infrastructure cabling statewide, which would result in the inability to maintain equipment replacement schedules.	Modify, see below.	

First House Modification

Reduce \$1,250,000 in general funds made for the purpose of contracted Information Technology services to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-\$ 1,250,000 GF			Adopt.	
18. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Adopt.	

Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Status Report:

The committees request a report on the Judiciary's MITDPs to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should include actual costs for all projects in fiscal 2025 and anticipated costs for all projects through fiscal 2029, along with status updates for all projects.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MITDP status report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

C00A00
Judiciary

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response Hearing Notes

House
Decisions

Senate
Decisions

19. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Adopt.

Land Records Improvement Fund (LRIF) Balance Report: The committees request a report on the status of the LRIF to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should include the fiscal 2025 revenues and expenditures for the fund along with forecasted revenues and expenditures for fiscal 2026 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, 2025

20. Adopt the following narrative:

Private Home Detention Monitoring Reports: The committees request quarterly reports providing data on private home detention monitoring funded by the Judiciary. Each report should provide, at a minimum, the following information:

- the number of defendants enrolled in private home detention monitoring;
- the number of defendants removed from the program due to noncompliance;
- the number of defendants removed from the program for specific other reasons;
- the total funds spent on private home detention monitoring in the prior quarter;
- the total funds remaining for private home detention monitoring; and
- anticipated costs for the remainder of the year.

Concur in part – Judiciary agrees with the recommendation to produce the report but asks that the request for data regarding removals from the program be removed from the request.

Modify, see below.

C00A00
Judiciary

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response Hearing Notes

House
Decisions

Senate
Decisions

In addition, the first report should include the Judiciary's guidelines for when invoices need to be submitted by private home detention monitoring providers.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Private home detention
monitoring quarterly reports

Judiciary

October 15, 2025
January 15, 2026
April 15, 2026
July 15, 2026

First House Modification

Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Private Home Detention Monitoring Reports: The committees request quarterly reports providing data on private home detention monitoring funded by the Judiciary. Each report should provide, at a minimum, the following information:

- the number of defendants enrolled in private home detention monitoring;
- the total funds spent on private home detention monitoring in the prior quarter;
- the total funds remaining for private home detention monitoring; and
- anticipated costs for the remainder of the year.

In addition, the first report should include the Judiciary's guidelines for when invoices need to be submitted by private home detention monitoring providers.

C00A00
Judiciary

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date				
Private home detention monitoring quarterly reports	Judiciary	October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026 July 15, 2026				

C80B00
Office of the Public Defender

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.	-\$ 94,198 GF		Disagree.	Adopt.	
2. Reduce \$1,697,900 in general funds and delete 12 new office secretary positions, 9 new office clerk positions, 2 new administrative positions, and 2 new information technology-related positions.	-\$ 1,697,900 GF	-25.00	Disagree.	Reject.	

C81C
Office of the Attorney General

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Modify, see
below.

Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) Final Implementation and Future Costs

Report: With final implementation of the ACE program slated to occur in fiscal 2026, the committees request a report on the status of the program at final implementation, including the total cost of the implementation of the program, the status of the coordinated intake program, the total number of participating legal services providers, the total funding granted to each provider in fiscal 2025, the program's procedures for ensuring adequate coverage in each jurisdiction, the total number of cases in fiscal 2025, the results of all cases in fiscal 2025, and the number of rejected tenants and the reasons for rejection in fiscal 2025. The report should also include a breakdown of all funding available in fiscal 2026 and the total estimated cost to operate the program in fiscal 2026, the estimated cost of operating the program in fiscal 2027, and information on all funding available for the program in fiscal 2027.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Final implementation of ACE and future cost report	Maryland Legal Services Corporation	November 15, 2025
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First House Modification

Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) Final Implementation and Future Costs

Report: With final implementation of the ACE program slated to occur in fiscal 2026, the committees request a report on the status of the program at final implementation, including the total cost of the implementation of the program, the status of the coordinated intake program, the total number of participating legal services providers, the total funding granted to each provider in fiscal 2025, the program's procedures for ensuring adequate coverage in each jurisdiction, the total number of cases in fiscal 2025, the results of all cases in fiscal 2025, and the number of rejected tenants and the reasons for rejection in fiscal 2025. The report should also include a breakdown of all funding available in fiscal 2026 and the total estimated

Adopt.

C81C
Office of the Attorney General

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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cost to operate the program in fiscal 2026, the estimated cost of operating the program in fiscal 2027, information on all funding available for the program in fiscal 2027, and a recommendation on a permanent funding source for the program.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Final implementation of ACE and future cost report	Maryland Legal Services Corporation	November 15, 2025

C82D00
Office of the State Prosecutor

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

Adopt.

C85E00
Maryland Tax Court

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

C90G00
Public Service Commission

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Adopt.

Arrearage and Termination Data: Given the reduced energy assistance benefits provided by the Department of Human Services Office of Home Energy Programs, high energy prices, and prolonged cold weather in the 2024 to 2025 winter as well as the unavailability of this data currently on the Public Service Commission (PSC) website while the new portal is under development, the committees are interested in receiving data on residential utility terminations and arrearages by month. The committees request that PSC provide residential terminations and arrearages data separately by utility and month in two reports. The first report should cover data from June 2024 through May 2025 and be submitted by July 15, 2025, and the second report should cover data from June 2025 through November 2025 and be submitted by December 15, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Monthly data on residential utility terminations and arrearages	PSC	July 15, 2025 December 15, 2025

C90G00
Public Service Commission

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation: Adopt.

2. ~~C90G00.08 Public Utility Law Judge~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 8 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for two additional positions and operating expenses to support agency workload.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Public Utility Law Judge I Public Service Commission	1.00	90,852
Assistant General Counsel II, PSC	1.00	90,852
		Fringe

Benefits

	83,966	
Turnover Expectancy	<u>58,963</u>	
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		

206,707

Object .04 Travel	14,244	
Object .09 Supplies and Materials	3,534	
Object .11 Equipment Additional		

3,534

228,019

Special Fund Appropriation
228,019

Explanation: Delete 2.0 new positions and associated funding provided in Supplemental Budget No.1. The Public Service Commission has 33 vacant positions as of December 31, 2024. The roles for the new positions can be filled by reclassifying existing vacant positions.

C91H00
Office of People's Counsel

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

Concur.

Adopt.

C94I00
Subsequent Injury Fund

	<u>Amount</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Position</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House</u> <u>Decisions</u>	<u>Senate</u> <u>Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

C96J00
Uninsured Employers' Fund

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Adopt.

Report on Operational Needs: The committees are concerned about the significant increase in operating expenditures due to the procurement of a contract with a third-party administrator (TPA) to perform many core functions of the agency. The committees direct that, in conjunction with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Uninsured Employers' Fund (UEF) produce a report documenting whether a TPA is needed for the entire current five-year contract. The report should also provide an analysis of the agency's current and future staffing needs and consider the possible shift of claim management functions in-house.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
UEF operational needs	UEF DBM	December 1, 2025

C98F00
Workers' Compensation Commission

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Increase the turnover expectancy to 7.0%. The Workers' Compensation Commission currently has 18 vacant positions, which is much higher than the 3.76 necessary vacancies to meet the fiscal 2026 budgeted turnover rate of 3.27%. At a 7.0% turnover expectancy, the agency will need to maintain 8.05 vacant positions. That number of vacant positions is approximately 10 fewer positions than the agency's current number of vacancies.	-\$ 554,685 SF		Concur.	Adopt.	

CHESBAY*
Chesapeake Bay Overview

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1.	Nonbudgeted.			Concur.	Adopt.	

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Reduce funds allocated for reclassification, which are double budgeted. The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) indicates that funds within the reclassification subobject account for the conversion of the contractual positions that took place in fiscal 2024. However, this expense is also accounted within the regular earnings subobject in MEA.	-\$ 116,518 SF		No response – MEA did not address this reduction in its testimony.	Adopt.	
2. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Adopt.	
<p>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 provide an annual report on the revenue from RGGI carbon dioxide emissions allowance auctions, set-aside allowances, and interest income in conjunction with the submission of the fiscal 2027 budget as an appendix to the Governor’s Fiscal 2027 Budget Books. The report shall include information on the actual fiscal 2025 budget, the fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2027 allowance. The report shall detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 					

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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- fund balances for each SEIF subaccount, reflecting funds available to spend for the fiscal 2025 actual accounting for encumbered funds, the fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2027 allowance.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on revenue assumptions, fund balance, and usage of SEIF revenues sourced from RGGI program auctions	Department of Budget and Management	With submission of the Governor's Fiscal 2027 Budget Books

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| 3. Adopt the following narrative: | Concur. | Modify, see below. |
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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 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

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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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 IIJA and IRA funding and implementation of home energy rebate programs	MEA	December 31, 2025

First House Modification

Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

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 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

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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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. The report should also outline contingency plans in the event that federal funds become unavailable.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on federal IIJA and IRA funding and implementation of home energy rebate programs	MEA	December 31, 2025

4. Adopt the following narrative: Concur. Adopt.

Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) Funding in Detail: The committees request that MEA provide a report with details on the department's funding with submission of the fiscal 2027 budget. The report should include information on the actual fiscal 2025 budget, the fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and the fiscal 2027 allowance. The report should detail for each budgetary program the programmatic activities by fund source within MEA.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MEA funding	MEA	With the submission of fiscal 2027 budget

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
5. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Adopt.	

Usage of Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) Revenues Transferred to the Dedicated Purpose Account (DPA): The fiscal 2026 allowance reflects the transfer of \$180 million of SEIF fund balance to the DPA to be used for implementation of the State’s Climate Pollution Reduction Plan. The committees request that the Department of Budget and Management and the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) jointly submit a report outlining the sources, uses and planned uses of this funding. The committees also request MEA to submit a report outlining the uses and planned uses of the remainder of the \$90 million of SEIF fund balance transferred to the DPA in fiscal 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the usage of SEIF revenues transferred to the DPA	Department of Budget and Management MEA	December 31, 2025

D13A13
Maryland Energy Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Adopt.

, provided that this appropriation for local government clean energy projects is contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the use of Alternative Compliance Payment revenues in the Strategic Energy Investment Fund in fiscal 2026 only.

Explanation: Supplemental Budget No. 1 provides \$50.0 million for local government clean energy projects. Under current law, these funds must be used to directly benefit low- and moderate-income communities or households, overburdened communities, or underserved communities. This action makes the appropriation contingent on legislation authorizing the expanded use of funds.

D21
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:			Concur.	Adopt.	
<u>Further provided that \$250,000 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, 2025, regarding Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) awards and funding. The report shall include:</u>					
<u>(1) each grant award made on July 1, 2025, for the fiscal 2026 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;</u>					
<u>(2) the total amount of grants awarded from general funds and federal VOCA funds on July 1, 2025;</u>					
<u>(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;</u>					
<u>(4) for the federal fiscal 2021 and 2022 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</u>					
<u>(5) a comparison of aggregate-level performance measures or outcome measures of the VOCA program for fiscal 2019 through 2025 or as many recent years that GOCPP is able to provide.</u>					
<u>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</u>					

D21
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

Agency Response Hearing Notes

**House
Decisions**

**Senate
Decisions**

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. This language restricts \$250,000 pending the submission of information related to VOCA awards and funding in fiscal 2026. For each open three-year grant cycle (federal fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025), 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 2021 and 2022. 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, 2025

- | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------------|--|---------|
| 2. | Delete funding for the Police Accountability grant due to the expiration of an enhanced public safety funding initiative. | -\$ 4,000,000 GF | Disagree – The purpose of this grant is to enhance law enforcement and community relationships. This funding increases communication, collaboration, and training. | Reject. |
| 3. | Delete enhancement funding for the State Aid for Police Protection program due to the expiration of an enhanced public safety funding initiative. | -\$ 45,878,143 GF | Disagree – The State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) program is a very flexible funding source for local law enforcement agencies, large or small. Due to its less restrictive criteria and reporting requirements, SAPP allows local law enforcement agencies to fund their highest needs. | Reject. |

D21
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
4.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriation: <u>, provided that \$225,341 in general funds are reduced and the following 3 new regular positions are deleted: N2617703; N2617704; and N2617705.</u>		Disagree. The agency's currently vacant positions are all designated for other purposes and half (7 grant monitor positions) cannot be filled in fiscal 2025 due to cost containment actions.	Adopt.	
Explanation: This action reduces general fund expenditures and 3.0 new positions in the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy’s fiscal 2026 budget due to the availability of vacant positions, which could be reclassified to support these activities.					
5.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriation: <u>Further 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 2025 Annual Report to the budget committees. The report shall include information about the agency’s implementation of Chapter 705 of 2024 and indicate whether additional support from the General Fund may be required in fiscal 2026 to ensure a balance in the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund. The report shall be submitted by November 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.</u>		Concur.	Adopt.	
Explanation: Though the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) is required to submit this report, Chapter 705 of 2024 makes alterations to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) program, with most provisions taking effect July 1, 2025. The legislation also authorizes the Governor for fiscal 2026 and each year thereafter to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF) that is adequate to ensure a balance in the fund. The provision authorizing an appropriation to CICF takes effect July 1, 2024. This report will provide the committees with information about fiscal 2025 claims and the CICF balance prior to the 2026 legislative session.					

D21
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date				
CICB fiscal 2025 annual report	GOCPP	November 1, 2025				

D21
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

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| 1. Adopt the following narrative: | Adopt. |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

Report on the State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) Enhancement: SAPP funds provide support to local and county police agency operations. The statutory funding formula considers jurisdictional populations, the number of police officers in the recipient agency, and total jurisdictional taxable income. Baltimore City does not receive funding under the original formula in exchange for the State operating the Baltimore City Detention Center. In each year from fiscal 2023 through 2025, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) received an additional \$45,878,143 for an enhancement to SAPP. In each year, the enhancement funds were allocated to jurisdictions, including Baltimore City, based on a share that corresponded with the most recently available violent crime data. The committees request that GOCPP submit a report describing, separately by year for fiscal 2023 through 2025, the amount of funding awarded under the formula and the enhancement in each jurisdiction as well as how much SAPP funding was actually spent. To the extent that the jurisdictions may have used enhancement funding differently than funding is used under the SAPP formula, the report should also describe these purposes for each jurisdiction in fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the SAPP enhancement	GOCPP	November 1, 2025

D23
Maryland Cannabis Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1.	Concur with Governor's allowance.		Concur.	Reject.	

D23
Maryland Cannabis Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

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| 1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation: | Adopt. |
|--|--------|

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Maryland Cannabis Administration (MCA) submits a report to the budget committees that details MCA's community engagement efforts with neighborhood and community groups, local government officials, and private business impacted by the development of the Maryland Economic Development Corporation cannabis incubator facility capital project. The report shall be submitted by September 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 be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: The General Assembly is interested in learning more about the Maryland Economic Development Corporation cannabis incubator facility project and MCA's engagement with the community and other stakeholders regarding this capital project.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on cannabis incubator project	MCA	September 1, 2025

D29
Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Adopt the following narrative:			No response.	Adopt.	

Pimlico and Training Facility Capital Construction Update: The Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority (MTROA) is authorized to implement Pimlico Plus, which consolidates thoroughbred horse racing at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore City. The plan is to renovate Pimlico and purchase a training facility to support Pimlico so that the facilities are ready for the 2027 racing season. To support this, the Racing and Community Development Financing Fund was created and has an estimated \$527 million available for capital projects. MTROA should update the committees on status of Pimlico renovations and the training facility construction by August 29, 2025, and by December 19, 2025. For each project, this update should include (1) how far along design documents are; (2) when construction is scheduled to begin or when it began; (3) how long it will take to complete construction; (4) when the facilities will be ready to operate; and (5) when the facility will need to be done to begin thoroughbred horse racing in Pimlico in 2027.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Pimlico and training facility capital construction update	MTROA	August 28, 2025 December 19, 2025

D40W01
Department of Planning

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. In light of the State's fiscal situation, reduce funding for the Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit program's competitive commercial credits. The fiscal 2026 allowance includes the mandated \$20 million for competitive commercial credits.	-\$ 2,000,000	GF	Disagree – MDP disagrees with the reduction overall, but if it moves forward, recommends taking the reduction from the small commercial component of the Historic Revitalization Tax Credit since past-year funds will be available for that program.	Modify, see below.	

First House Modification

Reduce funding for the Maryland Historic Revitalization Tax Credit program's small commercial tax credits.	-\$ 2,000,000	GF		Adopt.	
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D40W01
Department of Planning

<u>Amount</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Position</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House</u> <u>Decisions</u>	<u>Senate</u> <u>Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

Adopt.

~~21. D40W01.04 — Planning Coordination~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 22 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for two positions to support the work of CH 213 of 2024 and the Permitting Council.~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Administrator IV	1.00	95,533	
GIS Analyst Lead/Advanced	1.00	74,727	
Fringe Benefits		80,856	
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		252,116	

General Fund Appropriation	252,116
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Explanation: This action deletes new positions and associated funding provided in Supplemental Budget No. 1. The agency has sufficient vacancies to fill these roles.

D40W01
Department of Planning

<u>Amount</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Position</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House</u> <u>Decisions</u>	<u>Senate</u> <u>Decisions</u>
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2. Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

Adopt.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

20. ~~D40W01.04~~ — ~~Planning Coordination~~

~~To become available immediately upon passage of this budget to supplement the appropriation for fiscal year 2025 to provide funds for two positions to support the work of CH 213 of 2024 and the Permitting Council.~~

Personnel Detail:

Administrator IV	1.00	95,533	
GIS Analyst Lead/Advanced	1.00	74,727	
Fringe Benefits		50,470	
Turnover		<u>-188,471</u>	
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		<u>33,259</u>	

General Fund Appropriation	33,259
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Explanation: This action deletes new positions and associated funding provided in Supplemental Budget No. 1. The agency has sufficient vacancies to fill these roles.

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Adopt the following narrative:			No response.	Adopt.	
<p>Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund: In total, only three counties have submitted applications for funding from the Maryland Department of Emergency Management’s (MDEM) Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund (RMRLF) since it was established in calendar 2021. The RMRLF was established to fund local projects with State funds and to receive funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund (STRLF) program. Because MDEM has stated that the reason for the limited number of applications could be that local governments do not have the expertise or resources to develop a project proposal and application, the committees are interested in what resources MDEM can provide to assist local governments with applying for RMRLF and STRLF funding. The committees request that MDEM submit an update on the status of the RMRLF, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the status of STRLF awards; • descriptions of activities and communications at and between MDEM and local emergency management departments regarding funding opportunities; • descriptions of technical assistance and other support MDEM offers local governments to prepare applications; • a list of project funding applications submitted for federal and RMRLF awards, including total estimated cost and amounts requested and awarded for each project and by jurisdiction; and • the special fund revenue and repayment schedules associated with existing loans made through the RMRLF. 					

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the RMRLF	MDEM	July 1, 2025

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| 2. Adopt the following narrative: | Concur. | Adopt. |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--------|

State and Local Cybersecurity Efforts: The State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) is funded through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and is jointly managed federally by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. The Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) receives the money and disburses it to local jurisdictions. In November 2024, MDEM issued a report summarizing how the SLCGP money from federal fiscal 2022 was awarded. The committees request that MDEM submit a report that provides the following information for federal fiscal 2023 and 2024:

- SLCGP grants awarded by jurisdiction and remaining unallocated balance;
- nonfederal match expenditures by use;
- descriptions of requested projects, requested funding amounts, and actual funding awards;
- a plan for the use of any remaining unallocated funds; and
- a description of the need for further State-match funding beyond fiscal 2026.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
SLCGP information for federal fiscal 2023 and 2024	MDEM	November 1, 2025

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
3. Delete funding for 2 new positions (PINs 2617548 and 2617549). The Maryland Department of Emergency Management had 20.0 vacant positions as of December 31, 2024, and should reclassify 2 vacant positions instead of adding 2 new positions.	-\$ 101,264 GF -\$ 101,264 FF	-2.00	Disagree – Given the high level of uncertainty surrounding federal funding and the importance of the State Disaster Recovery Fund program development and administration, the department disagrees with the Department of Legislative Services' recommendation to remove funding for the positions identified in the Governor's Allowance. The Maryland Department of Emergency Management currently has 4 PINs that have been vacant for at least one year, all of which are in process of reclassification or hiring.	Adopt.	

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Disaster Relief for Businesses: The committees request that the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM), in consultation with the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, submit a report on disaster relief for businesses in Maryland. In the report, MDEM and the Maryland Chamber of Commerce should study and make recommendations regarding:

- the State's established policies and procedures to respond to natural disasters that impact businesses in the State;
- private sector strategies that may be utilized to respond to natural disasters that impact businesses; and
- the efficacy of establishing a private sector program to assist businesses in recovery efforts following a natural disaster.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on disaster relief for businesses	MDEM	December 1, 2025

D55P00
Department of Veterans and Military Families

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:	Concur.	Adopt.
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Quarterly Reports on Charlotte Hall Veterans Home (CHVH) Facility Operations, Staffing, and Federal Ratings: The Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMF) 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 would like to continue to monitor the low ratings from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) surrounding nursing home facility performance. The committees request that DVMF 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 the corresponding dates.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on status of CHVH operations, staffing, and federal ratings	DVMF	July 1, 2025 October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026

2. Adopt the following narrative:	Concur.	Adopt.
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Report on the Maryland Joins Forces (MJF) Initiative and Its Progress: MJF is a new initiative that was launched in November 2023. This initiative focuses on five main areas: employment; food and housing insecurity; education; health and wellness; and volunteer services. The committees are interested in monitoring the progress of this initiative and the Department of Veterans and Military Families’ (DVMF) plans to address the five focus areas identified. The committees request DVMF to submit a report highlighting the number of veterans and military families

D55P00
Department of Veterans and Military Families

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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served by this initiative, including the number of veterans and military families who actually benefitted from this initiative, its partnerships with other organizations, and activities conducted through this initiative. The report should also include information on the effectiveness and challenges in administering this initiative.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the MJF initiative and its progress	DVMF	December 1, 2025

D70J00
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur in part as MAIF requests the due dates to be moved.	Reject.	

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 §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 2025, 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, 2025 October 31, 2025 March 15, 2026 May 15, 2026

D70J00
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

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| 1. Adopt the following narrative: | Adopt. |
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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 §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 reports with updated financial statements and fund balances for both divisions. Additionally, in each quarterly report, Maryland Auto should include discussions of potential shortfalls, rate increases, dates of any actual or projected rate increases, estimated amounts to be collected from actual or projected rate increases, and data regarding policy counts. In each quarterly report, Maryland Auto should also discuss estimated and actual amounts collected from the assessment occurring in calendar 2025 as well as any other potential assessments. The first report should cover data for the first two quarters of calendar 2025, 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, 2025 October 31, 2025 March 15, 2026 May 15, 2026

D74
Office of the Correctional Ombudsman

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

D80Z01
Maryland Insurance Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Adopt.

Insurance Tracking System Project Status: After significant delays beginning in calendar 2020, active development of the Insurance Tracking System project is underway. The Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) has begun Phase 1 of development in which there are four releases planned, with two releases anticipated to be completed as of January 2025. The fiscal 2026 allowance includes \$7.7 million for continued Insurance Tracking System 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
Insurance Tracking System Major Information Technology Development Project status	MIA	July 10, 2025 January 10, 2026

D80Z01
Maryland Insurance Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Adopt the following narrative:
- Adopt.

Insurance Fraud Investigation Status: The Insurance Fraud Division within the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) is responsible for investigating complaints relating to alleged insurance fraud committed by insurance companies, insurance producers, or consumers. Previously, the division had tracked referrals investigated and referred for criminal prosecution and referrals investigated and charged. The division has updated the methodology for tracking these measures with a tiered system of referrals. As of March 10, 2025, the division has not provided any referral data using the new tiered system for fiscal 2025 or previous fiscal years. Given that data using the tiered system has not been published, the committees request that MIA submit a report containing updated performance data for the Insured Fraud Division under the new tiered system, including the percentage and number of cases referred for charges by tier as well as the number of prosecutions by tier.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Insurance fraud investigation status	MIA	October 1, 2025

D99A11
Office of Administrative Hearings

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Modify, see below.	

Alternative Dispute Resolution Techniques Usage Measures: The committees request that the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) begin including additional measures regarding the use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) techniques in the agency’s annual Managing for Results (MFR) submission. The measures should include a list of case types for which ADR techniques may be utilized, the percentage of each case type resolved with ADR techniques, the average length of time from receipt of an appeal to the conclusion of the appeal when ADR techniques lead to a settlement, and the average length of time from receipt of appeal to conclusion in cases for which ADR techniques are not utilized.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ADR techniques usage measures	OAH	With the fiscal 2027 MFR submission

First House Modification

Adopt the following narrative:	Adopt.
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Alternative Dispute Resolution Techniques Usage Measures: The committees request that the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) begin including additional measures regarding the use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) techniques in the agency’s annual Managing for Results (MFR) submission. The measures should include a list of case types for which ADR techniques may be utilized, the percentage of each case type where ADR is requested and where cases are resolved with ADR techniques, the average length of time from receipt of an appeal to the conclusion of the appeal when ADR is requested and leads to a settlement, and the average length of time from receipt of appeal to conclusion in cases for which ADR techniques are not utilized.

D99A11
Office of Administrative Hearings

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date				
ADR techniques usage measures	OAH	With the fiscal 2027 MFR submission				

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Reject.	

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Actions

1. Adopt the following narrative: Adopt.

Requirements to Accept Cryptocurrency Payments: The committees request that the Comptroller of Maryland submit a report on the feasibility of the agency to receive payments for taxes, fees, and fines in the form of cryptocurrencies. The report should discuss how the Comptroller could begin accepting such payments, including the hardware or software that would be needed, cybersecurity requirements, and any other necessary provisions. The report should also describe the potential timeline, budgetary impacts, and any challenges or considerations for expanding tax, fee, and fine collection to include cryptocurrencies.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on requirements to accept cryptocurrency payments	Comptroller of Maryland	August 1, 2025

2. Adopt the following narrative: Adopt.

Baby Bond Accounts: Baby bonds are government-funded accounts that are established at a child's birth and provide money for future asset-building investments such as college education and home purchases. The committees request that the Comptroller of Maryland submit a report on baby bond accounts, including:

- the feasibility and fiscal impact on Maryland of implementing a State baby bond account program;
- current baby bond programs operated in other jurisdictions and their eligibility requirements;
- the recommended State entity to administer a State baby bond account program and how that entity may implement the program;

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the estimated costs for the State, including funding options; and recommended eligibility criteria for participation in a State baby bond account program. 					

The report should also discuss the current economic, social, and political factors that may affect a baby bond account program’s implementation, including information on how the program may close wealth gaps in the State and help Marylanders:

- pay for college;
- purchase homes; and
- start businesses.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on State baby bond accounts	Comptroller of Maryland	November 1, 2025

E17
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Adopt.

Managing for Results (MFR) Measures for Cannabis Violations and Confiscated Contraband: Chapters 254 and 255 of 2023 required the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission (ATCC) to carry out inspections of retail businesses selling cannabis products to identify violations of licensing and registration laws for cannabis business in Maryland. ATCC’s annual MFR submission includes indicators for the number of tobacco and alcohol retailer inspections, violations of law found, and amount of contraband confiscated by ATCC agents. While ATCC has added performance measures for the number of unlicensed cannabis inspections and the number of compliance inspections conducted targeting underage sales, no measures were added as indicators for violations found or amount of contraband confiscated. The committees request that ATCC include additional measures for the number of cannabis violations found and the amount of confiscated contraband, consistent with measures reported for tobacco and alcohol, in the MFR submission with the fiscal 2027 budget.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
MFR measures for cannabis violations and confiscated contraband	ATCC	With submission of the fiscal 2027 budget

E75D
State Lottery and Gaming Control Agency

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

J00*
Maryland Department of Transportation Overview

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language:			Concur.	Adopt.	
<u>Further 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:</u>					
(1) <u>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</u>					
(2) <u>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.</u>					
<u>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.</u>					
<u>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.</u>					

J00*
Maryland Department of Transportation Overview

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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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 2025 to 2030 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 2025 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.

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

J00A01
MDOT – The Secretary’s Office

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Delete funding for a new administrator V position. The Secretary’s Office had 40 vacant positions as of January 1, 2025, and should reclassify a vacant position instead of adding a new one.	-\$ 132,760 SF	-1.00	Disagree.	Adopt.	
2. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation: <u>, provided that no more than \$6,951,128 of this appropriation may be expended for operating grants-in-aid, except for:</u> <u>(1) any additional special funds necessary to match unanticipated federal fund attainments; or</u> <u>(2) any proposed increase either to provide funds for a new grantee or to increase funds for an existing grantee.</u>			Concur.	Adopt.	

Further provided that no expenditures in excess of \$6,951,128 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

J00A01
MDOT – The Secretary’s Office

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

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| 1. Adopt the following narrative: | Adopt. |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

Purple Line Security Cooperation: The Maryland Transit Administration will be responsible for providing law enforcement for the Purple Line Light Rail and will have to stand up a unit. The fiscal 2026 budget as introduced included over 70 positions to begin this process. Four stations on the Purple Line, however, will have connections to Metrorail lines and stations operated by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), which has its own police force responsible for providing law enforcement for WMATA facilities. The budget committees request that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) develop a memorandum of understanding or other contractual arrangement to allow for WMATA to provide law enforcement services for stations or segments of the Purple Line in areas where it is already patrolling. MDOT should provide a report to the budget committees by December 1, 2025, that details the progress of this effort, discusses any issues that need to be addressed to make the effort successful, and provides an estimate of the savings that could be achieved through such an arrangement.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on efforts to develop a security cooperation agreement with WMATA for the Purple Line	MDOT	December 1, 2025

J00A0103
MDOT – Secretary’s Office – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:			Concur.	Adopt.	
<u>, 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 2025 to 2030 Consolidated Transportation Program, except as outlined below:</u>					
(1)	<u>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</u>				
(2)	<u>the budget committees shall have 45 days to review and comment on the proposed capital project or grant.</u>				

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

J00A0103
MDOT – Secretary’s Office – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
2. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:				Adopt.	
<u>, provided that this appropriation for the purpose of implementation of the State’s Climate Pollution Reduction Plan is contingent on the enactment of legislation expanding the use Alternative Compliance Payment revenues in the Strategic Energy Investment Fund in fiscal 2026 only.</u>					
Explanation: This action makes the special fund appropriation in Supplemental No. 1 for solar energy projects contingent on legislation authorizing the expanded use of the funds.					

J00A0104
MDOT – Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority – Operating Budget

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

J00A0105
MDOT – Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority – Capital Budget

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

J00A04
MDOT – Debt Service Requirements

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language:			Concur.	Adopt.	
<u>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 \$2,863,795,000 as of June 30, 2026. 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 \$820,420,000 as of June 30, 2026. The total aggregate outstanding and unpaid principal balance on debt for the Purple Line may not exceed \$2,506,171,000 as of June 30, 2026. 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:</u>					
(1)	<u>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, 2026, and the total amount by which the fiscal 2026 debt service payment for all Consolidated Transportation Bond debt or nontraditional debt would increase following the additional issuance; and</u>				
(2)	<u>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.</u>				

J00A04
MDOT – Debt Service Requirements

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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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, 2024, plus projected debt to be issued during fiscal 2025 and 2026 in support of the transportation capital program. For nontraditional debt, this language limits the amount of debt outstanding at the end of fiscal 2026, 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, 2024, plus anticipated issuances of \$75 million for a new fare collection system for the Maryland Transit Administration. Debt outstanding for 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 2026 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

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|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
| 2. Add the following language: | Concur. | Adopt. |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|

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 2025 through 2035.

J00A04
MDOT – Debt Service Requirements

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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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 the Maryland Department of Transportation (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	<p>With the September forecast</p> <p>With the January forecast</p>

J00B01
MDOT – State Highway Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Delete funding for 8 new positions (PINs: J00B01089187; J00B01089190; J00B01089191; J00B01089192; J00B01089193; J00B01089194; J00B01089195; J00B01089196). The State Highway Administration had 210 vacant positions as of January 1, 2025, and should reclassify positions instead of adding new ones.	-\$ 853,894 SF	-8.00	Disagree.	Adopt.	

J00B01
MDOT – State Highway Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Adopt-a-Road Program: The committees request that the State Highway Administration (SHA) provide the following information regarding invasive vines/weeds alongside State highways:

- the extent to which insecticides/pesticides are used to kill invasive vines/weeds, including the preferred insecticides/pesticides being used;
- current methods undertaken by SHA to remove invasive vines/weeds on State highways;
- the role an Adopt-a-Road volunteer program could have to reduce or eradicate invasive vines/weeds along State highways;
- the amount of funds expended in fiscal 2023 and 2024 on activities related to the reduction or eradication of invasive vines/weeds along State highways, including a breakout of the funds expended for the purchase of insecticides/pesticides used to reduce or eradicate invasive vines/weeds along State highways; and
- any available crash data related to crashes in which vine-infested and/or dead trees were a contributing factor.

SHA is requested to submit this information by October 1, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Information related to invasive vines/weeds along State highways	SHA	October 1, 2025

J00B01
MDOT – State Highway Administration

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response Hearing Notes

House
Decisions

Senate
Decisions

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Vehicle Rentals: The committees request that the State Highway Administration (SHA) submit a report by December 1, 2025, detailing, by fiscal year for fiscal 2023 through 2025:

- the number of days vehicles were rented (by vehicle type);
- the cost for the rentals; and
- an identification of the rentals that were necessary due to a SHA vehicle being out of service.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on rental vehicles

SHA

December 1, 2025

J00B0101
MDOT – State Highway Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Reject.	

J00B0101
MDOT – State Highway Administration – PAYGO Capital

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Old Georgetown Road (MD 187) Bike Lanes: The committees request that the State Highway Administration (SHA) provide the following information regarding the bike lanes on Old Georgetown Road (MD 187) between Tilden Lane and West Cedar Lane:

- a detailed analysis of any cut-through traffic impacts on surrounding neighborhood streets as a result of the bike lanes;
- northbound and southbound travel times during both peak and off-peak hours, including travel times for emergency and police vehicles;
- bike lane utilization counts;
- year-over-year data for crash statistics from March 15 to August 1 from 2018 to 2025 specifying the type of crash;
- specific crash data for segments of the bike lanes;
- vehicle volume counts for northbound and southbound during both peak and off-peak hours;
- an analysis of the impact of the lanes on the sidewalks, including pedestrian usage with any accompanying data during peak and off-peak hours;
- information about communications with first responders and any impact of the bike lanes on first responders;

J00B0101
MDOT – State Highway Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how the bike lanes are addressed during winter weather, including how they performed during winter 2024 through 2025; • cost information for maintenance or other fiscal impact of maintaining the bike lanes in fiscal 2024 and year-to-date 2025; and • an analysis of pedestrian activity during both peak and off-peak hours. 					

SHA is requested to submit this information by October 1, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Information related to bike lanes on Old Georgetown Road (MD 187)	SHA	October 1, 2025

2. Adopt the following narrative: Adopt.

Addressing Road and Bridge Safety: The committees request that the State Highway Administration (SHA) submit a report by December 1, 2025, answering the following questions:

With respect to bridges:

- What is the plan to address the 22 bridges rated “poor” and to keep the I-795 bridges (70% of which have components rated “fair”) from deteriorating?
- Given the lack of funding needed to fully fund all bridge projects, what process will be used to prioritize use of available funding?

With respect to roads and highways:

J00B0101
MDOT – State Highway Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is the need to resurface a road determined and what is the average lifecycle for pavement on heavily traveled roads? How are road resurfacing and repair funding allocations among regions of the State determined by road type? Is lack of funding impacting the materials or methods being used for resurfacing from what has typically been used in the past and/or would be considered best practices? If so, how does this impact the life of the resurfaced road? 					

With respect to work zone safety:

What have the results been of increased fines for work zone violations with respect to the number of fines and total revenue collected by month?

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on road and bridge safety	SHA	December 1, 2025

J00D00
MDOT – Maryland Port Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Delete funding for a new cybersecurity position (PIN J00D01889810). The Maryland Port Administration had 17 vacant positions as of January 1, 2025, and should reclassify 1 vacant position instead of adding a new position.	-\$ 143,348 SF	-1.00	Disagree.	Reject.	
2. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Adopt.	

Howard Street Tunnel Project Quarterly Reporting: The committees are interested in monitoring the progress being made on the Howard Street Tunnel project and request that the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) provide four quarterly reports on the status of the project, including percentage completion and any material changes to the project schedule or cost. The committees request that the first report be submitted by July 1, 2025, with subsequent reports submitted every three months thereafter.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status reports on the Howard Street Tunnel project	MPA	July 1, 2025 October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026

J00D00
MDOT – Maryland Port Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Actions

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| 1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation: | Adopt. |
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, provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of modal administration may not be expended until the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) submits a report to the budget committees outlining MPA’s long-term plan for the continued import and distribution of road salt at the North Locust Point Terminal. The report shall be submitted by October 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 be canceled if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: Planning for the rehabilitation or reconstruction of the North Locust Point Terminal is currently underway. The North Locust Point Terminal is currently used for the import and distribution of road salt. This language requests a report on the long-term plan for operations at this terminal.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Long-term plan for road salt import and distribution operations at the North Locust Point Terminal	MPA	October 1, 2025

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| 2. Adopt the following narrative: | Adopt. |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

Reports on Port Recovery Metrics: The committees request that the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) provide two reports updating the committees on progress that the Port of Baltimore is making in recovering from the temporary port closure caused by the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. The reports should provide information on cargo tonnage and other activity metrics for calendar 2024 and 2025 to date with comparisons to the same period before the collapse of the bridge. The first report should be submitted June 1, 2025, and the second report should be submitted December 1, 2025.

J00D00
MDOT – Maryland Port Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Port recovery metrics reports	MPA	June 1, 2025 December 1, 2025

3. Adopt the following narrative: Adopt.

Quarterly Reports on Federal Funds: The committees request that the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) submit quarterly reports on federal funds. The reports should include a discussion on withdrawals of federal funds (if any) related to grants for which MPA has received an award and the impacts the withdrawals have had and/or will have in the future. The first report should be submitted July 1, 2025, with subsequent reports submitted every three months.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly reports on federal funds	MPA	July 1, 2025 October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026

4. Adopt the following narrative: Adopt.

Clean Ports Program Update: The committees request that the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) submit a report to the committees by December 1, 2025, on the status of expenditures of and activities related to the two grants that it was awarded under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Clean Ports Program. The report should summarize the purposes of two grant awards that it received and indicate the level of expenditures to date along with an anticipated spend schedule for remaining funds.

J00D00
MDOT – Maryland Port Administration

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date				
Report on Clean Ports Program awards	MPA	December 1, 2025				

J00D0002

MDOT – Maryland Port Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

J00E00
MDOT – Motor Vehicle Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Reject.	

J00E00
MDOT – Motor Vehicle Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Actions

1. Adopt the following narrative: Adopt.

Insurance Coverage Verification: The committees request that the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) submit a report by November 1, 2025, summarizing the new insurance verification process that took effect January 2025 and providing statistics on the results of the new process.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on new insurance verification process.	MVA	November 1, 2025

2. Adopt the following narrative: Adopt.

Impact of Electric Vehicle Adoption on the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program: The committees request that the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) submit a report by November 1, 2025:

- summarizing the process and results of the recent procurement for a vendor to operate Maryland’s Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP), including the performance to date of the vendor and the budget/cost impacts of the fee model provided for in the new contract;
- providing an update on the trends in the adoption of electric vehicles (EV), especially any changes in those trends in calendar 2025 and how EV adoption has impacted the VEIP program; and
- the feasibility and costs associated with expanding the VEIP program to require testing of vehicles registered in counties currently exempt from testing requirements.

J00E00
MDOT – Motor Vehicle Administration

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date				
Report on VEIP procurement and the impact of EV adoption on VEIP	MVA	November 1, 2025				

J00E0007

MDOT – Motor Vehicle Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

J00H01
MDOT – Maryland Transit Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Modify, see below.	
<p>Purple Line Project Status Reports: Given 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 to the committees. The status reports shall provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, 2025, and bimonthly thereafter ending with the May 1, 2026 report			

J00H01
MDOT – Maryland Transit Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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First House Modification

Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Purple Line Project Status Reports: Given 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 to the committees. The status reports shall provide:

- the completion percentages for the project as a whole and for each major category of work, including (1) the overall project; (2) utility relocations; (3) civil design; (4) systems design; (5) construction possession of property acquisitions; (6) civil construction; (7) rail installation; (8) systems and station construction; (9) the Glenridge Operations and Maintenance Facility; (10) rail vehicles ready to ship; and (11) Capital Crescent Trail Construction;
- 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 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, 2025, and bimonthly thereafter ending with the May 1, 2026 report

J00H01
MDOT – Maryland Transit Administration

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Actions

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|--|------------------|--------|--|--------|
| 1. Delete funding for 76 new Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) Police positions. Based on the current anticipated completion date of the Purple Line project, additional MTA Police positions will not be needed in fiscal 2026. | -\$ 6,622,089 SF | -76.00 | | Adopt. |
|--|------------------|--------|--|--------|

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--------|
| 2. Adopt the following narrative: | | | | Adopt. |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--------|

MARC Train Service Expansion and Improvements: The committees request that the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) submit a report on ongoing service expansion and improvements to MARC Train service. The report should include specific updates on service expansion and improvements on the MARC Penn and Brunswick Lines. The report should also include an update on negotiations with CSX Transportation to create an alternative arrangement to the original mid-day service plan that was agreed to in 2024.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MARC train service expansion	MTA	November 1, 2025

J00H0105

MDOT – Maryland Transit Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

J00I00
MDOT – Maryland Aviation Administration

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Delete funding for a new information technology tech support position (PIN J00I00089224). The Maryland Aviation Administration had 36 vacant positions as of January 1, 2025, and should reclassify a vacant position instead of adding a new position.	-\$ 122,476 SF	-1.00	Disagree.	Adopt.	

J00I0003

MDOT – Maryland Aviation Administration – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

J00J00
MDOT – Maryland Transportation Authority

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1.	Nonbudgeted.			Concur.	Reject.	

J00J00
MDOT – Maryland Transportation Authority

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Francis Scott Key Bridge Reconstruction: The committees are interested in the progress being made on the reconstruction of the Francis Scott Key Bridge and request that the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) provide four quarterly updates on the status of the project. The reports shall provide:

- the current status of design, engineering, federal permitting, preconstruction, and construction activities including completion percentages for each project category;
- the running total amount expended for the project;
- the current availability and projected timeline for seeking federal reimbursement for the project, including the total amount of federal funds that have been received; and
- any material changes to the project schedule or cost.

The committees request that the first report be submitted by July 1, 2025, with subsequent reports submitted every three months thereafter.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status reports on the Francis Scott Key Bridge reconstruction	MDTA	July 1, 2025 October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026

J00J00
MDOT – Maryland Transportation Authority

**Amount
Change**

**Position
Change**

Agency Response Hearing Notes

**House
Decisions**

**Senate
Decisions**

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Feasibility of Capturing Images of Only Rear License Plates of Vehicles: The committees are interested in the feasibility of capturing the image of only the rear license plate of a vehicle at toll facilities in the State, rather than images of both the front and rear license plates. The committees request that the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) submit a report by December 1, 2025, discussing any system and equipment upgrades necessary to switch to a process of capturing only the image of the rear license plate of a vehicle and any potential impacts that may occur as the result of only capturing the image of the rear license plate of a vehicle rather than both the front and rear license plates.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Report on the feasibility of capturing images of only rear license plates of vehicles

MDTA

December 1, 2025

3. Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Collection of Outstanding Toll Debt: The committees are interested in continuing to monitor the Maryland Transportation Authority's (MDTA) efforts to collect outstanding tolls incurred at MDTA facilities, given the potential for significant impacts that outstanding tolls may have on MDTA's revenues. The committees therefore request that MDTA submit a report by September 1, 2025, including:

- the current amounts of outstanding tolls and related fines, fees, and interest owed from in-state and out-of-state motorists, delineated by motorists' state of residence, and a breakdown of the portion of that total that has been outstanding for six months or less, six months to one year, one to three years, and three years or more;

J00J00
MDOT – Maryland Transportation Authority

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the amount of outstanding tolls that MDTA was successful in collecting during fiscal 2025, delineated by motorists' state of residence; updates on the status of the establishment of a reciprocity agreement with Pennsylvania, as well as reciprocity agreements with all other neighboring states, and the use of collection agencies to collect tolls from out-of-state motorists; and the length of time elapsed after which outstanding unpaid toll debt information is reported to the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) for the purpose of placing a flag on the driver's license of an in-State motorist with unpaid toll debt, and the procedures and timelines that MDTA follows for reporting this data to MVA. 					

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the collection of outstanding toll debt	MDTA	September 1, 2025

J00J0042

MDOT – Maryland Transportation Authority – PAYGO Capital

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Nonbudgeted.			Concur.	Adopt.	

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Adopt.

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 2025 actual, fiscal 2026 working appropriation, and fiscal 2027 allowance to be included as an appendix in the fiscal 2027 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 2027 budget submission

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur in part. The Administration requests that the scope of the requested report be scaled back from what historically has been requested.

Adopt.

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, 2025, 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

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
management practices (BMP) in place to meet water quality standards for restoring the Chesapeake Bay. The report is requested to include the following:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• fiscal 2025 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 2026 to 2027 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 2025 to 2026 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;				

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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- an analysis on how cost effective the existing State funding sources, such as the Bay Restoration Fund, the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund, the Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund, the Clean Water Commerce Account, and the Whole Watershed Fund 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Historical and projected Chesapeake Bay restoration spending	MDP DNR MDA MDE DBM	December 1, 2025

3. Adopt the following narrative:	Concur.	Adopt.
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Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund Annual Work and Expenditure Plans: The committees are concerned that Section 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 2027 budget submission.

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date				
Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund annual work and expenditure plans	DNR	Fiscal 2027 budget submission				

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Actions

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| 1. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation: | Adopt. |
|--|--------|

, provided that \$1,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of protecting or restoring State-owned and State-managed lakes as supported by the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund may not be expended for that purpose but instead may be used only to fund a Deep Creek Lake Pilot Program. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall be canceled.

Explanation: This action restricts the mandated appropriation for the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund to be used for a pilot program at one State-managed lake, Deep Creek Lake. Chapter 698 of 2018, as amended by Chapter 39 of 2022, required the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$1.0 million to the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund through June 30, 2025, to protect or restore State-owned and State-managed lakes. The \$1.0 million mandated appropriation continues through fiscal 2026, since Chapter 698 was in effect when the Governor introduced the annual budget bill for fiscal 2026 during the 2025 legislative session.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 2. Adopt the following narrative: | Adopt. |
|-----------------------------------|--------|

Whole Watershed Act Funding Report: The committees recognize the importance of the communication process for successful implementation of the Whole Watershed Act. Therefore, the committees request that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in cooperation with its partner BayStat agencies, submit a report with the fiscal 2027 allowance describing the Whole Watershed Act funding by amount and source; the projects that were selected by March 1, 2025, and the status of each project; use of the fiscal 2027 funding given that the request for proposals is every five years; how projects will be funded over multiple years assuming uncertain appropriations to the Whole Watershed Fund each fiscal year; and preliminary outcomes of the projects selected, including State support provided to project sponsors, nutrient and sediment

K00A
Department of Natural Resources

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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reductions, and any other relevant co-benefits. The report is requested to be submitted with the Governor's fiscal 2027 budget submission.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Whole Watershed Act funding report	DNR	With the Governor's fiscal 2027 budget submission

L00A
Department of Agriculture

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language: <u>Provided that \$176,492 in general funds and \$290,870 in special funds are reduced and the following new regular positions are deleted: N2616630; N2617652; N2617155; N2617152; N2617153; and N2617154.</u> Explanation: This action reduces the 6.0 new positions and associated funding in the Maryland Department of Agriculture’s (MDA) fiscal 2026 budget. MDA also has 8.0 contractual conversions in the fiscal 2026 budget, which are not affected by this action. Given the high number of vacancies and positions above budgeted turnover, MDA can reclassify existing vacant positions instead.			Disagree. MDA has filled a number of positions since the December 31, 2024 data was released reducing its vacancy rate to 7.03% as of February 1, 2025, and an estimated 4.68% by March 1, 2025. Remaining vacancies are for specific roles and programs and cannot be transferred to fulfill roles elsewhere.	Modify, see below.	
First House Modification Add the following language: <u>Provided that \$121,456 in special funds are reduced and the following new regular positions are deleted: N2617155 and N2617153.</u> Explanation: This action reduces 2.0 new positions and associated funding in the Maryland Department of Agriculture’s (MDA) fiscal 2026 budget. MDA also has 4.0 new positions and 8.0 contractual conversions in the fiscal 2026 budget, which are not affected by this action. Given the high number of vacancies and positions above budgeted turnover, MDA can reclassify existing vacant positions instead.				Adopt.	
2. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation: <u>Further provided that the appropriation made for the purpose of the Maryland Leaders in Environmentally Engaged Farming (LEEF) Program shall be reduced by \$500,000 contingent on the failure of SB 428 and HB 506 establishing the LEEF Program.</u>			Disagree – Detailed information on the program has been provided in response to the fiscal note for SB 428/HB 506, including detailed costs for salaries, contractual services, and grants and subsidies for farmers as incentives to participate in the program.	Adopt.	

L00A
Department of Agriculture

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<p><u>Further provided that \$100,000 of the appropriation made for the purpose of the LEEF Program that is contingent on the enactment of SB 428 or HB 506 establishing the program may not be expended until the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) submits a report to the budget committees on the implementation of the program. The report shall describe the program's final parameters, a detailed spending plan, the criteria for establishing each of the proposed engagement tiers, the incentives available to program participants under each tier, the relationship with other MDA policy and funding programs, and proposed Managing for Results measures and goals to determine program success, including how the program is anticipated to improve agriculture sector outcomes for Chesapeake Bay restoration and increase farming profitability. The report shall be submitted by September 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.</u></p>					

Explanation: The fiscal 2026 budget as introduced includes a \$900,000 general fund appropriation for the new Maryland Leaders in Environmentally Engaged Farming Program, established by SB 428/HB 506 of the 2025 legislative session. The program's parameters have not been fully defined. Therefore, this budget bill language makes a portion of the funding contingent on the policy bills establishing the program and restricts a portion of the funding pending the submission of a report on the program's parameters.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
LEEF Program report	MDA	September 1, 2025

L00A
Department of Agriculture

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
3. Reduce \$400,000 in general fund grant funding for the new Maryland Leaders in Environmentally Engaged Farming program. The fiscal 2026 budget includes a \$900,000 general fund appropriation for the new program, established by SB 428/HB 506 of the 2025 session. Program funding is unclear due to multiple possible interpretations of the funding parameters in the bills and a related provision in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2025. In addition, the fiscal condition of the State does not warrant the level of expenditure proposed.	-\$ 400,000	GF	Disagree. The requested funding is the minimum funding level needed in the first year to develop the program. Any reductions will limit the effectiveness of the program by reducing the funding available as incentives to farmers to participate in the program.	Adopt.	
4. Delete funding for a U.S. Department of Agriculture federal fund grant that was not awarded. The funding would have been from the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program.	-\$ 2,000,000	FF	Concur.	Adopt.	

L00A
Department of Agriculture

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Actions

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| 1. Amend the following language to the general fund appropriation: | Adopt. |
|--|--------|

49. L00A11.03 — Central Services

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 63 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for a contractual conversion.~~

Personnel Detail:

Office Clerk II	1.00	38,300
Fringe Benefits	26,323	
Turnover Expectancy		11,545
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits		53,078
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees		53,078
	—	0
General Fund Appropriation	—	0

Explanation: This action deletes a contractual conversion in Supplemental Budget No. 1. A position can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 2. Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation: | Adopt. |
|--|--------|

50. L00A12.05 — Animal Health

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 64 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for a contractual conversion.~~

L00A
Department of Agriculture

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Personnel Detail:					
Office Secy I					
	1.00	45,276			
Fringe Benefits	28,403				
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits	73,679				
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees	39,611				
	34,068				
Special Fund Appropriation					
	34,068				

Explanation: This action deletes a contractual conversion in Supplemental Budget No. 1. A position can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

3. Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Adopt.

51. L00A12.08 — Maryland Horse Industry Board

In addition to the appropriation shown on page 64 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for a contractual conversion:

Personnel Detail:					
Agric Marketing Spec III	1.00	63,258			
Fringe Benefits	33,761				
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits	97,019				
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees	61,566				
	35,453				
Special Fund Appropriation					
	35,453				

L00A
Department of Agriculture

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Explanation: This action deletes a contractual conversion in Supplemental Budget No. 1. A position can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

4. Amend the following language to the general fund and special fund appropriations: Adopt.

53. L00A14.02 — Forest Pest Management

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 66 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for four contractual conversions:~~

~~Personnel Detail:~~

Agricultural Inspector I4.00	169,739
Fringe Benefits	110,223
Turnover Expectancy	<u>27,397</u>
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits	252,565
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees	<u>214,358</u>
	<u>38,207</u>
General Fund Appropriation	0
Special Fund Appropriation	-38,207

Explanation: This action deletes 4.0 contractual conversions in Supplemental Budget No. 1. Positions can be reallocated from existing vacancies for these roles.

5. Amend the following language to the special fund and federal fund appropriations: Adopt.

54. L00A14.05 — Plant Protection and Weed Management

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 66 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for three contractual conversions:~~

L00A
Department of Agriculture

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Personnel Detail:					
Agricultural Inspector III	1.00	52,414			
Agricultural Inspector II	1.00	49,270			
Office Secy I					
	1.00	37,271			
Fringe Benefits	86,138				
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits	225,093				
Object .02 Technical and Special Fees	187,262				
	37,831				
Special Fund Appropriation	-13,243				
Federal Fund Appropriation	-24,588				

Explanation: This action deletes 3.0 contractual conversions in Supplemental Budget No. 1. Positions can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

6. Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Adopt.

~~55. L00A14.09 — State Chemist~~

~~In addition to the appropriation shown on page 66 of the printed bill (first reading file bill), to provide funds for a contractual conversion:~~

Personnel Detail:

Office Clerk II	1.00	36,093
Fringe Benefits	25,666	
Object .01 Salaries, Wages and Fringe Benefits	61,759	

Special Fund Appropriation
61,759

L00A
Department of Agriculture

<u>Amount</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Position</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House</u> <u>Decisions</u>	<u>Senate</u> <u>Decisions</u>
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Explanation: This action deletes a contractual conversion in Supplemental Budget No. 1. A position can be reallocated from existing vacancies for this role.

Q00A
DPSCS – Administration and Offices

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:		Concur.	Modify, see below.	
	<u>, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits a report to the budget committees describing how the agency has incorporated feedback from the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) about the previous medical and mental health contract's structure and lack of oversight into the current contract. The report shall include the following:</u>				
	(1) <u>a detailed justification of the agency's decision to re-enter a fixed-fee payment structure, including an explanation of why the methodology selected is in the State's best interest and whether the agency intends to renegotiate the contract structure;</u>				
	(2) <u>an update on the development of a contingency plan outlining the agency's efforts to supplement medical and mental health services and personnel should its contractors fail to meet the terms of the contract;</u>				
	(3) <u>a timeline and strategy to achieve and maintain contract staffing levels and ensure that hourly rates paid to the contract's health care professionals are competitive with similar positions across the State;</u>				
	(4) <u>a description of the procedures to ensure invoices accurately reflect the resources provided by the contractors and to identify and address inaccurate staffing reports collected from the contractors;</u>				
	(5) <u>a description of the procedures to guarantee contractors complete medical and mental health examinations within the required timeframes as well as investigate and resolve inmate complaints in a timely manner; and</u>				
	(6) <u>determinations and outcomes regarding liquidated damages, including the amount charged and collected as of the submission of the report.</u>				

Q00A
DPSCS – Administration and Offices

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than August 1, 2025. 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: A November 2024 fiscal compliance audit issued by OLA contained nine findings related to DPSCS medical and mental health contracts and procurements from April 2018 to December 2023. During this period, the agency contracted with YesCare. Issues with the structure and oversight of the YesCare contracts may also apply the new contract with Centurion of Maryland. This language restricts funding pending a report discussing OLA’s feedback and the changes made to the new medical and mental health care contracts.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on health care contract structure and oversight	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

First House Modification

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation: Adopt.

, provided that \$500,000 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 report to the budget committees describing how the agency has incorporated feedback from the Office of Legislative Audits about the previous medical and mental health contract’s structure and lack of oversight into the current contract. The report shall include the following:

- (1) a detailed justification of the agency’s decision to re-enter a fixed-fee payment structure, including an explanation of why the methodology selected is in the State’s best interest and whether the agency intends to renegotiate the contract structure;

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DPSCS – Administration and Offices

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
(2)	<u>the personnel terms and mandated staffing levels required in the medical and mental health contracts for both Corrections and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services;</u>				
(3)	<u>the monthly staffing and vacancy levels of Centurion of Maryland for positions supporting the contract, broken out by Corrections and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services and by medical and mental health services;</u>				
(4)	<u>an update on the development of a contingency plan outlining the agency's efforts to supplement medical and mental health services and personnel should its contractors fail to meet the terms of the contract;</u>				
(5)	<u>a timeline and strategy to achieve and maintain contract staffing levels and ensure that hourly rates paid to the contract's health care professionals are competitive with similar positions across the State;</u>				
(6)	<u>a description of the procedures to ensure invoices accurately reflect the resources provided by the contractors and to identify and address inaccurate staffing reports collected from the contractors;</u>				
(7)	<u>a description of the procedures to guarantee contractors complete medical and mental health examinations within the required timeframes as well as investigate and resolve inmate complaints in a timely manner; and</u>				
(8)	<u>determinations and outcomes regarding liquidated damages, including the monthly amount charged and collected through the submission of the report and future estimates of liquidated damages.</u>				

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than August 1, 2025. 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.

Q00A
DPSCS – Administration and Offices

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Explanation: A November 2024 fiscal compliance audit issued by the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) contained nine findings related to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) medical and mental health contracts and procurements from April 2018 to December 2023. During this period, the agency contracted with YesCare. Issues with the structure and oversight of the YesCare contracts may also apply the new contract with Centurion of Maryland. This language restricts funding pending a report discussing OLA’s feedback, the changes made to the new medical and mental health care contracts, staffing levels supporting the new contract, and liquidated damages.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on health care contract structure and oversight	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

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| 2. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation: | Concur. | Adopt. |
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Further provided that \$500,000 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 report to the budget committees describing the agency’s procurement strategy for completing the Computerized Criminal History (CCH) and Electronic Patient Health Record (EPHR) projects. In addition to providing a strategy to complete the projects, the CCH portion of the plan shall include the following:

- (1) a project status update;
- (2) evidence that the agency has procured a program manager to carry out the project;
- (3) a comprehensive review of neighboring states’ criminal history systems;

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DPSCS – Administration and Offices

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
(4)	<u>justification for each cancellation and reissuance of the request for proposals;</u>				
	<u>and</u>				
(5)	<u>an explanation of the agency’s decision to pursue an in-house solution.</u>				

The EPHR portion of the plan shall include the following:

- (1) a project status update, including an update on compliance with the Duvall v. Moore consent decree, in regard to the legacy and future systems; and
- (2) justification for the utilization of an Interagency Cooperative Purchasing Agreement.

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than September 1, 2025. 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 CCH major information technology (IT) project has experienced multiple delays, largely due to multiple cancellations and reissuances of the request for proposals. The estimated completion date for this project has been pushed back from the initial estimate of fiscal 2022 to fiscal 2028. Similarly, the EPHR is behind schedule and is estimated to complete two years after the expiration of the Duvall v. Moore decree in June 2026, opening the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) up to litigation. This action restricts funding pending a report including status updates and plans to complete both projects.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Strategy for completing major IT projects	DPSCS	September 1, 2025

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DPSCS – Administration and Offices

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
3.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:		Concur.	Adopt.	

Further 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 report to the budget committees on the impact of incarceration on the future outcomes of returning offenders. The report shall include three-year recidivism numbers for the fiscal 2016 through 2022 release cohorts and an analysis of recent recidivism trends, including a comparison to past years and other states. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than November 15, 2025. 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 General Assembly is interested in a more detailed examination of recidivism than what is provided in the annual Managing for Results data submission. This action restricts funds for administration pending statistics on three-year term recidivism data and an analysis of recidivism trends.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Recidivism report	DPSCS	November 15, 2025

4.	Adopt the following narrative:	Concur.	Adopt.
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Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) Report: The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by December 1, 2025, on the following items:

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DPSCS – Administration and Offices

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, 2025

5. Adopt the following narrative: Concur. Adopt.

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 2027 allowance that provide:

- annual counts of programming participants by primary assignment and facility;

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DPSCS – Administration and Offices

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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- 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 2027 allowance and annually thereafter

6. Adopt the following narrative: Concur. Adopt.

Public Information Act (PIA) Compliance Report: The PIA allows citizens to access public records that pose no public interest to withhold. The Maryland PIA Compliance Board has repeatedly ruled that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has violated the PIA over the years, but there has been little indication that compliance is improving. The committees request that DPSCS submit a report by August 1, 2025, on PIA compliance. The report should include a recent history of actions taken to resolve cases brought before the Maryland PIA Compliance Board. The report should also include detailed descriptions of strategies and objectives that will bring DPSCS into compliance with the PIA, including ways these efforts will address:

- training and education of staff;
- systemic sources of nonresponsiveness to requests or wrongful denial of records;

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DPSCS – Administration and Offices

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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- 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 in complying with the law.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
PIA compliance report	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

7. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation: Concur. Adopt.

, provided that \$250,000 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 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 2024 to October 2025, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual; and

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DPSCS – Administration and Offices

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
(2)	<u>a breakdown of mandatory CO overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from July 2024 to October 2025, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual.</u>					

The report shall be submitted by November 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: 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. Overtime has climbed quickly as the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) struggles to fill CO positions. Overworked COs are less equipped to address safety issues, and assaults have increased alongside overtime in correctional and detention facilities. This language restricts overtime funding for DPSCS Administration and Offices – Administrative Services 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, 2025

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| 8. | Add the following language to the general fund appropriation: | Concur. | Modify, see below. |
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Further provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of Administrative Services may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) 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

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DPSCS – Administration and Offices

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<p><u>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 1, 2025, with each of the following quarterly reports submitted to the budget committees no later than January 1, 2026, April 1, 2026, and July 1, 2026, respectively. 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.</u></p>					

Explanation: Correctional officer vacancies within DPSCS remain high at 10.8% as of December 1, 2024. The quarterly reports required in fiscal 2026 will continue the cooperation between DPSCS and the budget committees to track all departmental hiring and the success of recent staffing initiatives. This action restricts funding for administration pending the submission of the second of four quarterly reports on hiring and attrition within DPSCS.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly hiring and attrition reports	DPSCS	October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026 July 1, 2026

Q00A
DPSCS – Administration and Offices

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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First House Modification

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Adopt.

Further provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of Administrative Services 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, 2025, with each of the following quarterly reports submitted to the budget committees no later than January 25, 2026, April 25, 2026, and July 25, 2026, respectively. 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 vacancies within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) remain high at 10.8% as of December 1, 2024. The quarterly reports required in fiscal 2026 will continue the cooperation between DPSCS and the budget committees to track all departmental hiring and the success of recent staffing initiatives. This action restricts funding for administration pending the submission of the second of four quarterly reports on hiring and attrition within DPSCS.

Q00A
DPSCS – Administration and Offices

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date				
Quarterly hiring and attrition reports	DPSCS	October 25, 2025 January 25, 2026 April 25, 2026 July 25, 2026				
9.	Delete funding for the new correctional officer body-worn camera program in correctional facilities.	-\$ 4,100,000 GF		Disagree – The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services stated that the program will reduce inmate assaults on staff and the number of settlements paid by the State.	Reject.	

Q00A
DPSCS – Administration and Offices

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Blockchain Technology Report: The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by August 15, 2025, on the potential use of blockchain technology for managing inmate records including, but not limited to, criminal records, medical records, and identifying documents like Social Security cards and birth certificates. The report should discuss existing challenges with collecting, storing, and releasing the personal records of currently and formerly incarcerated individuals and how blockchain technology can address those issues and streamline the records management process. The report should consider the feasibility of integrating this technology and any concerns the agency may have regarding its use.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Blockchain technology report	DPSCS	August 15, 2025

Q00B
DPSCS – Corrections

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:		Concur.	Adopt.	
	<u>, 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 (DPSCS) submits a report to the budget committees, in collaboration with experts, technical assistants, and transgender stakeholders, on the treatment of transgender individuals in correctional facilities. The report shall contain data for fiscal 2022 through 2025 on the following items:</u>				
	(1) <u>annual total of transgender individuals in each of the agency’s correctional facilities and pretrial detention centers by gender identity;</u>				
	(2) <u>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;</u>				
	(3) <u>the number and share of transgender individuals placed in restrictive housing, disaggregated by reason for placement and compared to the cisgender population;</u>				
	(4) <u>annual average and median length of time transgender individuals spent in restrictive housing overall and disaggregated by reason for placement into restrictive housing compared to their cisgender peers for each DPSCS correctional facility;</u>				
	(5) <u>annual number of requests by transgender individuals to transfer housing assignments, disaggregated by type of housing transfer request (including but not limited to transfer 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;</u>				

Q00B
DPSCS – Corrections

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
(6)	<u>annual number of housing placement assessments for transgender individuals pursuant to DPSCS Executive Directive OPS.131.0001;</u>				
(7)	<u>annual number of requests by transgender individuals to receive gender-affirming care and the outcomes of those requests disaggregated by type of medical care;</u>				
(8)	<u>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;</u>				
(9)	<u>annual number of PREA complaints filed and investigated and the outcome for complaints made by transgender individuals compared to cisgender peers;</u>				
(10)	<u>annual number of complaints received, number of complaints that were investigated, and outcomes of each complaint for each correctional facility regarding violence, sexual abuse, harassment, discrimination against transgender individuals, other abuse, access to gender-affirming health care, and access to gendered commissary items;</u>				
(11)	<u>the number and dollar amount of settlements paid to transgender individuals during each fiscal year from fiscal 2022 to 2025;</u>				
(12)	<u>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;</u>				
(13)	<u>a plan to issue guidelines that, at a minimum, are the equivalent of PREA Standard 115.42; and</u>				

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DPSCS – Corrections

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
(14)	<u>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, along with a discussion of any obstacles to implementation and compliance.</u>					

The report shall be submitted by October 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: Transgender inmates are subject to high rates of violence, sexual abuse, and inappropriate housing assignments, such as unwarranted restrictive housing. Committee narrative in the 2024 Joint Chairmen’s Report requested that DPSCS submit a report on the treatment of transgender individuals by October 1, 2024. However, as of February 1, 2025, DPSCS had not submitted the requested report. This language restricts funding for general administration until DPSCS submits a report, in collaboration with experts, technical assistants, and transgender stakeholders, on the treatment of transgender individuals.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the treatment of transgender individuals	DPSCS	October 1, 2025

2. Adopt the following narrative: Concur. Adopt.

Delinquent Payments Report: A June 2024 audit conducted by the Office of Legislative Audits found that Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE) failed to collect late payments, mostly from State agencies. The committees request that MCE within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) provide a report on the status of the payments owed by State and non-State customers, including whether any additional delinquent payments have accrued since its

Q00B
DPSCS – Corrections

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response</u>	<u>Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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June 2024 fiscal compliance audit. The report should be provided by October 30, 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on delinquent payments to MCE	DPSCS	October 30, 2025

3. Adopt the following narrative: Concur. Adopt.

Women’s Prerelease Programming: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) was required by the Corrections Services Article §§ 3-301 through 3-305 to operate a comprehensive rehabilitative prerelease unit for women by November 1, 2023. The committees note that DPSCS has been consistently delayed in meeting the statutory requirement to build a new, standalone, prerelease facility. While design for the new facility has been delayed, DPSCS is still required to provide evidence-based and gender-responsive services to incarcerated women in its custody and has reportedly begun to do so. However, the amount of information on the new programming is limited, and the committees seek further details into the department’s plans to comply with the comprehensive and gender-responsive programming requirements of the statute. The committees ask that DPSCS provide a report on the following information on the women’s prerelease unit at the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women no later than August 1, 2025:

- an overview of the current prerelease program for women;
- goals and objectives;
- curriculum and activities, including particular attention to work release and job-related services;

Q00B
DPSCS – Corrections

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eligibility requirements; • the number of applicants, individuals approved, individuals denied, current population, and average daily population for each month in fiscal 2025 in Project FRESH and any other prerelease programming for women; • resources dedicated to the program, including staff, funding, and facility space; • a literature review of the program’s evidence-based practices for preparing women to reenter society; • a plan to measure program effectiveness, including any outcomes or performance data that will be measured and reported; • a summary of participant satisfaction and feedback on the program; • an evaluation of the inclusivity and accessibility of the program for women with various backgrounds and needs; • implementation challenges and future steps for improvement or expansion within the existing facility during the delay in constructing the new facility; and • a comparison to the opportunities, resources, and conditions provided in men’s prerelease facilities. 					

Q00B
DPSCS – Corrections

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date			
Report on women’s prerelease programming	DPSCS	August 1, 2025			
4. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Adopt.	
<p>Reentry Passport Program Rollout: The Reentry Passport Program 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. Previous expectations set the Reentry Passport Program 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 service moving forward. The committees request that DPSCS submit a report by October 1, 2025, on the Reentry Passport Program rollout. The report should document the progress of expanding the existing pilot and future plans to fully implement the program, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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; 					

Q00B
DPSCS – Corrections

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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; 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, 2025

Q00B
DPSCS – Corrections

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

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| <p>1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:</p> | <p>Adopt.</p> |
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Further provided that \$700,000 in general funds made for the purpose of inmate healthcare expenses is reduced. The Secretary is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

Explanation: As of March 10, 2025, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) estimates that it is owed \$700,000 in liquidated damages from Centurion of Maryland, the medical and mental health care contractor for Corrections and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services. This amount accounts for damages accrued during February 2025, as DPSCS agreed to waive damages for the six-month period beginning August 1, 2024, and concluding January 28, 2025. This action reduces the general fund appropriation by \$700,000 to account for liquidated damages the agency expects to collect.

Q00C
DPSCS – Community Supervision

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:		Concur.	Adopt.	
	<u>, provided that \$150,000 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 report to the budget committees on its strategy to improve the safety of community supervision agents. The report shall include:</u>				
	<u>(1) a description of the equipment provided to parole and probation agents as well as a comparative analysis of equipment provided by other states with similar community supervision populations;</u>				
	<u>(2) a detailed explanation of the protocols developed to improve safety and supervision when an agent is on a home visit, including an update on the implementation of a police escort policy and the associated costs; and</u>				
	<u>(3) an action plan for safely resuming home visits, including an explanation of any budgetary impacts associated with the extended suspension of home monitoring.</u>				
	<u>The report shall be submitted by October 15, 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 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.</u>				
	Explanation: This language restricts funds from the Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services until the agency submits a report to the budget committees detailing safety equipment purchased, personnel transferred and added to DPP, and other efforts to promote agents' safety following the death of Agent Davis Martinez during a home visit.				

Q00C
DPSCS – Community Supervision

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date			
Report on parole and probation agent safety efforts	DPSCS	October 15, 2025			
2. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:				Adopt.	
<u>Further provided that \$428,790 of this appropriation made for the purpose of purchasing body-worn cameras for community supervision agents is contingent upon enactment of legislation allowing the use of a body-worn digital recording device by a correctional officer.</u>					
Explanation: This action adds language to make the funding for body-worn cameras for community supervision agents contingent on the enactment of legislation.					
3. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Adopt.	
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 overall are decreasing but remain high in some regions. The committees request a report due by September 15, 2025, from DPP on the following:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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; and a description of strategies that DPP is using to reduce caseload ratios and prevent agents from taking on too many cases. 					

Q00C
DPSCS – Community Supervision

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date			
DPP caseload report	DPSCS	September 15, 2025			
4. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Adopt.	
<p>Report on Assessment Tools: The Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) has delayed the replacement of 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 September 1, 2025, on the transition to new screening tools used in community supervision. The report should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a description of the new tools and process; • improvements made to previous assessment processes; • the transition timeline; • challenges to implementation; • alternatives considered, including the reasons for deciding against alternatives; • a progress update on training initiatives to improve the accuracy of risk assessment administration and scoring; and 					

Q00C
DPSCS – Community Supervision

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an analysis of the reliability of the new screening tools to predict recidivism and security risk and/or compliance with conditions of supervision. 					
Information Request	Author	Due Date			
Report on assessment tools	DPSCS	September 1, 2025			

Q00C
DPSCS – Community Supervision

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Adopt.

Further provided that it is the intent of the General Assembly that body-worn camera policies and procedures be a mandatory subject of collective bargaining in any agreement between the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) and the employee union authorized to act on behalf of parole and probation agents.

Further provided that \$150,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until DPSCS, in consultation with the employee union authorized to act on behalf of parole and probation agents, submits a report to the budget committees on body-worn cameras for community supervision agents. The report shall include the following:

- (1) all estimated costs associated with providing body-worn cameras to community supervision agents;
- (2) actual fiscal 2026 year-to-date spending on body-worn cameras for community supervision agents;
- (3) policies and procedures regarding the use of body-worn cameras, specifying any differences for community supervision agents and other DPSCS employees; and
- (4) details on activities or pilot programs employed to train community supervision agents on the use of body-worn cameras.

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than January 1, 2026. 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

Q00C
DPSCS – Community Supervision

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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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: This language expresses the intent of the General Assembly that the usage of body-worn cameras be a mandatory subject of collective bargaining between DPSCS and the employee union authorized to act on behalf of parole and probation agents. This language also restricts funds pending a report with details on the cost, policies, and training associated with the usage of body-worn cameras for community supervision agents.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on body-worn cameras for community supervision agents	DPSCS	January 1, 2026

Q00G
DPSCS – Police and Correctional Training Commissions

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Concur with Governor's allowance.			Concur.	Adopt.	

Q00T04
DPSCS – Division of Pretrial Detention and Services

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:			Concur.	Adopt.	
<u>, 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 report to the budget committees on compliance with the Duvall v. Moore decree. The report shall include:</u>					
(1) <u>an update on the compliance status of each of the provisions;</u>					
(2) <u>the total number of motions issued;</u>					
(3) <u>a summary of any costs associated with the compliance process;</u>					
(4) <u>a strategy and timeline for reaching full compliance by the June 2026 deadline; and</u>					
(5) <u>a discussion of the utilization and effectiveness of third-party consultants in the compliance process.</u>					

The report shall be submitted by November 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 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.

Explanation: The deadline to comply with the medical and mental health provisions in the Duvall v. Moore decree have been extended four times from the original deadline of June 2020. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) must reach full compliance by June 2026 or face litigation regarding the conditions of pretrial detention. This language restricts funds for administration pending a report on compliance with the decree.

Q00T04
DPSCS – Division of Pretrial Detention and Services

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date				
Status update on compliance with Duvall v. Moore decree	DPSCS	November 1, 2025				

U00A
Maryland Department of the Environment

Amount
Change

Position
Change

Agency Response Hearing Notes

House
Decisions

Senate
Decisions

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Adopt.

Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund Annual Report:

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 or committee narrative. 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, 2025.

Information Request

Author

Due Date

Maryland Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund annual report

MDE

November 1, 2025

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Adopt.

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 submit 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;

U00A
Maryland Department of the Environment

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 2025 actuals, and fiscal 2026 current and fiscal 2027 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, 2026

U10B00
Maryland Environmental Service

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.	Adopt.	

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 2025, 2026, and 2027 estimated and an explanation for any changes between each of these years, including revenues credited to and expenditures debited from the net assets;
- overhead rates for fiscal 2025, 2026, and 2027 estimated;
- project reserve fund status by beginning balance, approved retainage, funds withdrawn, and interest earned for fiscal 2025 and 2026 for the State Reimbursable Project Contingency Fund, the Eastern Correctional Institution Steam Turbine Contingency Fund, the Department of Natural Resources Project Contingency 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 2025 or 2026; and
- justification for the changes in reimbursable project funding for fiscal 2025, 2026, and 2027 estimated.

The report should be submitted in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) with the fiscal 2027 budget submission.

U10B00
Maryland Environmental Service

		<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Date				
MES funding statement	MES DBM	With the fiscal 2027 budget submission				

U10B00
Maryland Environmental Service

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Adopt.

Implementation of a Recycling Program in Ocean City: The committees request that the Maryland Environmental Service (MES) complete the following analysis related to recycling operations in the Town of Ocean City and submit a report containing its findings by December 1, 2025:

- evaluate the current status of the Town of Ocean City’s waste management program;
- review the Town of Ocean City’s previous waste management and recycling programs; and
- evaluate options for recycling collection and processing for the Town of Ocean City, including a discussion on drop-off locations, curbside collection, or other alternatives.

A report containing the results of this analysis should be submitted by December 1, 2025. The committees further request that the Town of Ocean City work with MES on data collection and costs for existing and prior waste management programs.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on establishing a recycling program in Ocean City	MES	December 1, 2025

V00A
Department of Juvenile Services

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Reduce the general fund appropriation for the Enhance Services Continuum to the level previously authorized by the General Assembly in fiscal 2025.	-\$ 4,200,000 GF		Disagree – Key stakeholders have consistently called on the department to strengthen its service continuum. This funding would be used to expand credible messenger mentoring programs.	Reject.	
2. Delete the general fund appropriation for the Catoclin Treatment Center due to its absence from the department’s 2024 facilities master plan.	-\$ 3,000,000 GF		Disagree – While the Catoclin Treatment Center is not included in the facilities master plan, the department recognizes the critical need for expanding inpatient treatment beds. Rather than eliminating these funds, DJS is prepared to explore alternative approaches, including potential partnerships with private providers or other entities, to establish sustainable, high-quality treatment options in the community.	Reject.	

V00A
Department of Juvenile Services

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Adopt.

, provided that \$3,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of opening the Catoctin Treatment Center may not be expended for that purpose, but instead may be used only to reopen the Alfred D. Noyes Children's Center as an adolescent drug treatment center that serves as a treatment alternative to detention. 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: This action restricts funding provided for opening the Catoctin Treatment Center to be used for the purpose of reopening the Alfred D. Noyes Children's Center (Noyes) as an adolescent drug treatment center instead. Previously, the Department of Juvenile Services operated Noyes as a detention center, but it was closed in October 2022.

W00A
Department of State Police

	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
1. Delete grant funding for the Maryland Sheriffs' Association due to the expiration of an enhanced public safety funding initiative.	-\$ 333,000	GF	Disagree – The department recognizes that these funds are not mandated but asserts that the funding is valuable. The funds assist in providing executive-level training and in-service credits validated by the Maryland Police Training Commission to over 150 law enforcement agencies.	Reject.	
2. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation: <u>, provided that \$1,047,270 in special funds are reduced and the following 15 new regular positions are deleted: N2619124, N2619125, N2619126, N2619127, N2619128, N2619129, N2619130, N2619131, N2619132, N2619133, N2619134, N2619135, N2619136, N2619137, and N2619138.</u>			Concur in part – While the Department of State Police concurs with the recommendation to reduce duplicative funding, it disagrees with the recommendation to delete the 15.0 new cadet positions. DSP intends to expand the cadet program to 50 positions in fiscal 2025. This program is in demand and is an effective way to recruit people who may be interested in the Trooper Academy but are not yet eligible due to their age.	Adopt.	
Explanation: This action reduces reclassification special fund expenditures that appear to be double budgeted and reduces 15.0 new positions in the Department of State Police's fiscal 2026 budget. Given that the positions were initially funded as reclassifications, it is assumed that these cadet positions will be filled using existing vacant positions and, therefore, the new positions are not needed.					
3. Reduce fiscal 2026 grant funding for the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council to the expected level of expenditures.	-\$ 690,724	SF	Disagree – The department requests that the appropriation be reflected as higher than the grant program's anticipated expenditure to ensure there is no risk of reducing the carry forward balance of the associated special fund.	Adopt.	

W00A
Department of State Police

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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4. Add the following section:

Concur.

Adopt.

Section 36 Uniform Crime Report

SECTION 36. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation within the Department of State Police (DSP) may not be expended until DSP submits the Crime in Maryland, 2024 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, 2025, 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 2026 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, 2025, and the amount of SAPP funding from each jurisdiction.

Explanation: This 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. The 2023 UCR was submitted in December 2024.

W00A
Department of State Police

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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This language withholds a portion of the general fund appropriation until the budget committees receive the 2024 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, 2025, and the amount of SAPP funding that is withheld from each jurisdiction.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
2024 UCR data verification	DSP	November 1, 2025
2024 UCR	DSP	45 days prior to expenditure of funds

W00A
Department of State Police

<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>	<u>Agency Response Hearing Notes</u>	<u>House Decisions</u>	<u>Senate Decisions</u>
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Additional First House Action

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| 1. Adopt the following narrative: | Adopt. |
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Report on Consent Decree and Federal Grants: In July 2022, the Department of Justice announced that it would be investigating the Department of State Police (DSP) to determine if the department’s hiring and promotional practices had violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. A consent decree was filed in October 2024 and provisionally approved in the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland in November 2024. The Board of Public Works approved the department’s use of \$2.75 million in general funds for required monetary awards in October 2024, and in January 2025, approved the use of \$357,500 in general funds to procure two entry-level selection tests to replace the existing written and physical fitness tests, with the contract’s anticipated delivery date being July 1, 2025. Final approval of the consent decree was expected in March 2025. In February 2025, the federal government filed to dismiss the case without a stated reason and without instruction for how DSP was to proceed. The committees request that DSP submit a report providing an update on the consent decree and any future court rulings relevant to this matter. The department should also update the committees on how it will address these issues if the case is closed.

The report should also identify the federal grant funding that the department is a current recipient of or regularly receives, provide information on the likelihood of receiving those federal grants in the future, and describe contingency plans it has if the federal funding becomes unavailable in fiscal 2026. The report should also describe contingency plans if federal funding becomes unavailable in future State fiscal years for which information is available and how the department addressed any federal funds that became unavailable in fiscal 2025, if applicable.

Information Request	Authors	Due Date
Report on consent decree and federal grants	DSP	July 1, 2025