



# **MSBA Bill Report 2A - Access to Justice and Public Interest Law (2024.01.23)**

**January 23, 2024**

Interest Law (2024.01.23)

**[MD - HB403 End-of-Life Option Act \(The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act\)](#)**

Last Action: Text - First - End-of-Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act) (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Terri L. Hill (D)

Committees:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Judiciary (House)

Summary:

Authorizing an individual to request aid in dying by making certain requests; establishing requirements and prohibitions governing aid in dying, including requirements related to requests for aid in dying, consulting physicians, mental health assessments, the disposal of drugs prescribed for aid in dying, health care facility policies, and the effect of aid in dying on insurance policies; authorizing a pharmacist to dispense medication for aid in dying only to certain individuals under certain circumstances; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB443

**[MD - HB407 Food Supplement Benefits - Students - Eligibility \(SNAP for Students\)](#)**

Last Action: Text - First - Food Supplement Benefits - Students - Eligibility (SNAP for Students) (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Aaron M. Kaufman (D)

Committee: Appropriations (House)

Summary:

Requiring the Department of Human Services to provide food supplement benefits to students who are residents of the State, are enrolled in an institution of higher education for at least 15 credit hours per year, whose family contribution is expected to be \$0, and who are eligible to participate in a certain work study program; and requiring, for fiscal year 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation sufficient to reimburse the Department for certain expenditures.

Statutes Amended:

5-502,

5-503.1 Article - Human Services

**[MD - HB428 Community Schools - Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program and Fund - Establishment](#)**

**Interest Law (2024.01.23)**

Last Action: Text - First - Community Schools - Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program and Fund - Establishment (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Vaughn Stewart (D)

Committees:

Appropriations (House)

Ways and Means (House)

Summary:

Establishing the Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program to provide rental assistance to eligible student households; requiring the State Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Housing and Community Development, to administer the Program; establishing the Rental Assistance for Community School Families Fund; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$10,000,000 for the Fund; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB370

Statutes Amended:

6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement

9.9-103,

9.9-104,

9.9-104.1 Article - Education

**MD - HB432 Courts and Judicial Proceedings and Criminal Procedure - Technical Corrections - References to Intellectual Disability**

Last Action: Text - First - Courts and Judicial Proceedings and Criminal Procedure - Technical Corrections - References to Intellectual Disability (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Aaron M. Kaufman (D)

Committee: Judiciary (House)

Summary:

Replacing references to mental retardation with references to an intellectual disability in certain provisions of law.

Statutes Amended:

3-101,

3-105,

3-106,

3-108,

3-109,

3-110,

3-112,  
3-114 Article - Criminal Procedure

3-801,  
3-8A-01,  
3-8A-17.3,  
3-8A-19 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

**MD - HB435 Child Support - Incarcerated Obligors**

Last Action: Text - First - Child Support - Incarcerated Obligors (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Judiciary Committee

Committee: Judiciary (House)

Summary:

Authorizing a court, if an obligor becomes incarcerated, to determine that a material change of circumstances warranting a modification of child support has occurred, provided that the party's ability to pay child support is sufficiently reduced due to the incarceration.

**MD - SB370 Community Schools - Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program and Fund - Establishment**

Last Action: Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m. (Budget and Taxation) (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Shelly Hettleman (D)

Committees:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

**Date:** January 31, 2024

**Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

**Location:** West Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program to provide rental assistance to eligible student households; requiring the State Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Housing and Community Development, to administer the Program; establishing the Rental Assistance for Community School Families Fund; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$10,000,000 for the Fund; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB428

**Interest Law (2024.01.23)**

Statutes Amended:

6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement

9.9-103,

9.9-104,

9.9-104.1 Article - Education

**MD - SB391 Criminal Law - Sexual Extortion, Stalking, and Revenge Porn - Statute of Limitations and In Banc Review**

Last Action: Hearing 2/02 at 1:00 p.m. (January 19, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Ariana B. Kelly (D)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

**Date:** February 2, 2024

**Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

**Location:** East Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Providing that the State may institute a prosecution for sexual extortion, stalking, or revenge porn at any time; and providing that, for purposes of the Maryland Constitution, a person who commits sexual extortion, stalking, or revenge porn shall be deemed to have committed a misdemeanor whose punishment is confinement in the penitentiary and may reserve a point or question for a certain in banc review.

Statutes Amended:

3-709,

3-802,

3-809 Article - Criminal Law

5-106 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

**MD - SB402 Correctional Training Commission - Membership - Alterations**

Last Action: Hearing 2/07 at 2:00 p.m. (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mike McKay (R)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

**Date:** February 7, 2024

**Time:** 2:00pm (EST)

Interest Law (2024.01.23)

**Location:** East Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering the membership of the Correctional Training Commission; requiring certain members of the Commission appointed by the Governor to represent certain geographic regions; etc.

Statutes Amended:

8-204 Article - Correctional Services

**MD - SB413 Discrimination - Military Status - Prohibition**

Last Action: Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m. (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Dawn Gile (D)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

**Date:** February 8, 2024

**Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

**Location:** East Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Prohibiting discrimination based on military status with regard to public accommodation, housing, employment, financial transactions, education, insurance, the provision of public utility services, and State personnel actions.

Statutes Amended:

12-305,

12-503,

12-603,

12-702,

12-704 Article - Commercial Law

13-303,

2-206,

26-701,

26-703,

26-704 Article - Education

15-1A-22,

2-202 Article - Insurance

17-402,

17-402.1,

7-507 Article - Public Utilities

19-342,

19-355,

2-1001,

2-1002,

2-1003,

2-1004 Article - Health - General

20-101,

20-1103,

20-302,

20-304,

20-401,

20-402,

20-501,

20-601,

20-602,

20-603,

20-604,

20-605,

20-606,

20-610,

20-702,

20-704,

20-705,

20-707 Article - State Government

2-302 Article - State Personnel and Pensions

8-707 Article - Human Services

**MD - SB430 Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund - Establishment**

Last Action: Text - First - Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund -  
Establishment (January 19, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mary Washington (D)

Committee: Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Summary:

Establishing the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program in the Department of Housing and Community Development; establishing the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to provide financial assistance in the form of grants under the provisions of the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program for certain eligible projects;

**Interest Law (2024.01.23)**

requiring the Governor, for fiscal years 2025 through 2028, to include in the annual budget an appropriation of \$10,000 to the Fund; etc.

**[MD - SB431 Workers' Compensation - Occupational Disease Presumption - Long COVID \(Home of the Brave Act of 2024\)](#)**

Last Action: Text - First - Workers' Compensation - Occupational Disease Presumption - Long COVID (Home of the Brave Act of 2024) (January 19, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jeff Waldstreicher (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Establishing that governmental essential workers are presumed to have an occupational disease that is compensable under workers' compensation law after being diagnosed with long COVID under certain circumstances; and applying the Act retroactively.

**[MD - SB438 Family Law - Fundamental Parental Rights](#)**

Last Action: Text - First - Family Law - Fundamental Parental Rights (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Justin Ready (R)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Summary:

Establishing that a parent has the fundamental right to direct the upbringing, education, care, and welfare of the parent's child; and prohibiting the State or a political subdivision from infringing on a parent's fundamental right to direct the upbringing, education, care, and welfare of the parent's child unless the State or political subdivision can demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence certain factors.

Statutes Amended:

5-2B-01 through 5-2B-03 Article - Family Law

**[MD - SB439 Family Law - Victims of Domestic Violence Program - Certification and Grant Fund](#)**

Last Action: Text - First - Family Law - Victims of Domestic Violence Program - Certification and Grant Fund (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Sarah K. Elfreth (D)

Committees:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Summary:

Requiring a victims of domestic violence program to be certified by the federally recognized State domestic violence coalition as a comprehensive domestic violence program; establishing the Victims



**Interest Law (2024.01.23)**

of Domestic Violence Program Grant Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund in the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; and requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$5,000,000 to the Fund.

Statutes Amended:

190., 6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement

4-515,

4-516 Article - Family Law

**[MD - SB443 End-of-Life Option Act \(The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act\)](#)**

Last Action: Text - First - End-of-Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act) (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jeff Waldstreicher (D)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Summary:

Authorizing an individual to request aid in dying by making certain requests; establishing requirements and prohibitions governing aid in dying, including requirements related to requests for aid in dying, consulting physicians, mental health assessments, the disposal of drugs prescribed for aid in dying, health care facility policies, and the effect of aid in dying on insurance policies; authorizing a pharmacist to dispense medication for aid in dying only to certain individuals under certain circumstances; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB403

**[MD - SB449 Criminal Procedure Incompetency to Stand Trial Dismissal](#)**

Last Action: Text - First - Criminal Procedure Incompetency to Stand Trial Dismissal (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator C. Anthony Muse (D)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Summary:

Altering the time period after which a court is required to dismiss a certain charge against a defendant found incompetent to stand trial under certain circumstances; and authorizing a victim or victim's representative to petition the court to extend the time for dismissal of certain charges against a defendant found incompetent to stand trial.

Interest Law (2024.01.23)

Statutes Amended:

11-506,

3-107 Article - Criminal Procedure

**MD - SB452 Courts - Prohibited Liability Agreements - Recreational Facilities**

Last Action: Text - First - Courts - Prohibited Liability Agreements - Recreational Facilities (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jill P. Carter (D)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Summary:

Establishing that a provision in a contract or agreement relating to the use of a recreational facility that purports to limit the recreational facility's liability, or release the recreational facility from or indemnify or hold harmless the recreational facility against liability, for injury caused by or resulting from the negligence or other wrongful acts of the recreational facility or its agents or employees is void and unenforceable under certain circumstances.

Cross-filed Bill: HB162

Statutes Amended:

5-401.2 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

**MD - SB454 Criminal Procedure - Expungement - Completion of Sentence**

Last Action: Text - First - Criminal Procedure - Expungement - Completion of Sentence (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jill P. Carter (D)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Summary:

Altering certain provisions of law relating to waiting periods for the filing of certain petitions for expungement to authorize the filing of a petition a certain amount of time after the completion of the sentence.

Cross-filed Bill: HB73

**MD - SB468 Criminal Law - Private Home Detention Monitoring - Notification**

Last Action: Text - First - Criminal Law - Private Home Detention Monitoring - Notification (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Cory V. McCray (D)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

**Interest Law (2024.01.23)**

Summary:

Requiring a private home detention monitoring agency to immediately notify the court after a defendant subject to home monitoring as a condition of pretrial release has been missing for 24 hours; requiring a private home detention monitoring agency to immediately notify the Division of Parole and Probation on determining that an individual subject to home monitoring as a condition of probation has been missing for 24 hours; establishing the Workgroup on Home Detention Monitoring; etc.

Statutes Amended:

20-401 Article - Business Occupations and Professions

9-405 Article - Criminal Law

**[MD - SB470 Growing Apprenticeships and the Public Safety Workforce \(GAPS\) Act](#)**

Last Action: First Reading Judicial Proceedings (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: President

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Summary:

Altering the Law Enforcement Cadet Apprenticeship Program in the Maryland Department of Labor to be the Public Safety Apprenticeship Program; expanding the purpose and scope of the Program to promote careers with certain public safety agencies; requiring the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to develop certain mental health wellness policies to be implemented in certain law enforcement agencies; establishing the Workgroup on Growing Engagement in the Law Enforcement Workforce; etc.

Statutes Amended:

11-603 Article - Labor and Employment

3-201,

3-207 Article - Public Safety

**[MD - SB475 Center for Firearm Violence Prevention - Establishment](#)**

Last Action: First Reading Finance (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: President

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Establishing the Center for Firearm Violence Prevention in the Maryland Department of Health to reduce firearm violence, harm from firearm violence, and misuse of firearms in the State by partnering with federal, State, and local agencies and affected communities to implement a public health approach to firearm violence reduction; requiring the Center, by May 1, 2025, to submit to the

**Interest Law (2024.01.23)**

Governor and the General Assembly a preliminary State Plan for a Public Health Approach to Reducing Firearm Violence; etc.

Statutes Amended:

13-5201 through 13-5205 Article - Health - General

**MD - SB481 Renters' Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024**

Last Action: First Reading Judicial Proceedings and Education, Energy, and the Environment (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: President

Committees:

Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Summary:

Increasing maximum surcharges for certain eviction proceedings from \$8 to \$93 and prohibiting the District Court from assigning the surcharge against a tenant; altering the priority and criteria in the Statewide Rental Assistance Voucher Program that are followed by the Department of Housing and Community Development and public housing agencies for providing vouchers and housing assistance payments to families; limiting the maximum security deposit required by a residential lease to 1 month's rent; etc.

Statutes Amended:

14-133,

8-119,

8-203,

8-208,

8-401 Article - Real Property

4-2901,

4-2906,

5-101 through 5-104 Article - Housing and Community Development

7-301 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

**MD - SB482 Governor's Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households (ENOUGH) Grant Program (ENOUGH Act of 2024)**

Last Action: First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment and Budget and Taxation (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: President

Committees:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

**Interest Law (2024.01.23)**

Summary:

Establishing the Governor's Office for Children and the Special Secretary of the Governor's Office for Children as the head of the Office; requiring the Special Secretary to establish the ENOUGH grant program, subject to certain requirements; requiring the Office to assign certain staff for a certain purpose; establishing certain reporting and evaluation requirements; establishing the ENOUGH Grant Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring the Governor to appropriate \$15,000,000 to the fund for fiscal year 2026; etc.

Statutes Amended:

190., 6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement  
9-2801 through 9-2805 Article - State Government

**[MD - SB483 Maryland Community Investment Corporation - Establishment \(Housing and Community Development Financing Act of 2024\)](#)**

Last Action: First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment and Budget and Taxation (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: President

Committees:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)  
Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Summary:

Establishing the Maryland Community Investment Corporation as an independent unit to make investments in certain low-income communities; requiring the Corporation to apply for an allocation of federal new markets tax credits; expanding the eligible uses of the Strategic Demolition and Smart Growth Impact Fund to include grants and loans for debt payments and for credit enhancement for certain projects; etc.

Statutes Amended:

10-1101 through 10-1123, 9-101 Article - Economic Development  
4-508 Article - Housing and Community Development

**[MD - SB484 Land Use - Affordable Housing - Zoning Density and Permitting \(Housing Expansion and Affordability Act of 2024\)](#)**

Last Action: First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment (January 22, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: President

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Summary:

Prohibiting a local legislative body from prohibiting the placement of a certain manufactured home in certain residential zoning districts under certain circumstances; prohibiting a local jurisdiction from

**Interest Law (2024.01.23)**

using an element of an adequate public facilities law to deny certain permits for certain State-funded affordable housing projects or other qualified projects or to restrict or limit the development of the projects in a certain manner; etc.

Statutes Amended:

10-103,

1-401,

4-104,

7-101,

7-105, 7-501 through 7-506 Article - Land Use