



**MSBA Bill Report 4B - Environment,
Energy, and Construction Law
(2024.02.09)**

February 9, 2024

[MD - HB590 Boating - Migratory Waterfowl Season - Prohibited Acts](#)

Last Action: Hearing 2/16 at 1:00 p.m. (January 25, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Thomas S. Hutchinson (R)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: February 16, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Prohibiting a person from operating a vessel within 500 yards of a stationary blind or blind site that is occupied and being used for hunting migratory waterfowl during open season.

Statutes Amended:

4-512,

8-701,

8-724.2 Article - Natural Resources

[MD - HB926 Maryland Building Performance Standards Local Requests for Guidance Religious Considerations](#)

Last Action: Hearing 2/27 at 1:00 p.m. (February 6, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Mike Griffith (R)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor, on request of a local jurisdiction and in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, to provide guidance for the implementation and enforcement of the Maryland Building Performance Standards in relation to any religious observance, practice, or belief.

Cross-filed Bill: SB1033

Statutes Amended:

12-507 Article - Public Safety

[MD - HB1028 Business Regulation Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Regulations for Retail Use](#)

Last Action: Hearing 3/06 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Nick Allen (D)

Committee: Economic Matters (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Economic Matters (House)

Date: March 6, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 230, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Comptroller to adopt regulations for the retail use of electric vehicle supply equipment in the State; and requiring the Comptroller, in consultation with the Public Service Commission, to submit a report on the development and enforcement of the regulations adopted under this Act to the General Assembly on or before January 15, 2025.

Cross-filed Bill: SB951

Statutes Amended:

19-1001 through 19-1003 Article - Business Regulation

7-901 Article - Public Utilities

[MD - HB1046 Public Utilities - Distributed Generation Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity](#)

Last Action: Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Luke Clippinger (D)

Committee: Economic Matters (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Economic Matters (House)

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 230, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing a distributed generation certificate of public convenience and necessity to authorize the construction and operation of a certain distributed solar energy generating system; requiring the Power Plant Research Program to develop and submit to the Public Service Commission proposed siting and design requirements and licensing conditions; prohibiting a person from being required to obtain a distributed generation certificate of public convenience and necessity until a certain condition is met; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB1025

Statutes Amended:

3-306 Article - Natural Resources

7-207,

7-207.1,

7-207.3 Article - Public Utilities

[MD - HB1101 Standing - Environmental and Natural Resources Protection Proceedings \(Clean Water Justice Act of 2024\)](#)

Last Action: Hearing 3/01 at 1:00 p.m. (February 8, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Sara Love (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: March 1, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Providing certain persons and associations standing in environmental and natural resources protection proceedings, including proceedings arising under provisions of law relating to water quality and water resources protection, subject to certain conditions; authorizing persons that meet standing requirements to bring certain civil actions under certain circumstances; authorizing a court to grant certain relief, award certain costs, and impose certain civil penalties in certain civil actions under certain circumstances; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB653

Statutes Amended:

1-901 through 1-905 Article - Environment

[MD - HB1129 Wildlife - Protections and Highway Crossings](#)

Last Action: Hearing 2/28 at 1:00 p.m. (February 8, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Sheila Ruth (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: February 28, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources, in collaboration with the State Highway Administration, to identify and prioritize certain species whose habitat or movement corridors intersect with State highways and develop tools, technology, and techniques to identify certain State highway infrastructure locations; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to take certain actions regarding a statewide deer population survey on or before November 1, 2024, and June 30, 2026; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB902

Statutes Amended:

10-2A-01,

10-2A-06.2 Article - Natural Resources

17-302,

8-101 Article - Transportation

190.,

6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement

MD - HB1131 Environment - Managed Aquifer Recharge Pilot Program - Establishment

Last Action: Hearing 2/28 at 1:00 p.m. (February 8, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Heather Bagnall (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: February 28, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the Managed Aquifer Recharge Pilot Program; and authorizing the Department of the Environment to review, permit, and regulate a process to test the use of treated reclaimed water from a demonstration facility as a source for groundwater augmentation under certain circumstances; and requiring by December 31 each year, the Department to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on any statutory or regulatory change the Department recommends.

Cross-filed Bill: SB942

Statutes Amended:

1-601,

9-301,

9-303.4 Article - Environment

MD - HB1153 EnvironmentWater Pollution ControlProtecting State Waters From PFAS Pollution
(Protecting State Waters From PFAS Pollution Act)

Last Action: Hearing 3/01 at 1:00 p.m. (February 8, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Sara Love (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: March 1, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the discharge limit for PFAS chemicals in any water, including stormwater, discharged from a significant industrial user to be 4 parts per trillion; requiring a significant industrial user to reduce PFAS chemicals from the water it discharges to a publicly owned treatment works in a certain manner; requiring a significant industrial user to store, reuse, and dispose of certain PFAS chemicals in a certain manner; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB956

Statutes Amended:

9-101,

9-353 through 9-356 Article - Environment

MD - HB1165 Stream and Watershed Restoration - Stream Restoration Contractor Licensing and Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Restoration and Funding (Whole Watershed Act)

Last Action: Hearing 3/01 at 1:00 p.m. (February 8, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Sara Love (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: March 1, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the Stream Restoration Contractors Licensing Board; requiring a person to be licensed as a stream restoration contractor or be employed by an individual or entity that is licensed as a stream restoration contractor before the person performs or solicits to perform stream restoration contractor services in the State, subject to a certain exception; requiring the

Construction Law (2024.02.09)

Department of the Environment to provide notice of a certain violation to a stream restoration contractor; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB969

Statutes Amended:

- 1-406,
- 18-101 through 18-501, 9-1605.2,
- 9-1605.4 Article - Environment
- 190., 6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement
- 2-505,
- 8-702,
- 8-704 Article - Agriculture
- 8-2A-02,
- 8-2B-01 through 8-2B-03, 8-701,
- 8-707,
- 8-708 Article - Natural Resources
- 8-301 Article - Business Regulation
- 8-402,
- 8-403 Article - State Government

MD - HB1168 Human Remains - Alkaline Hydrolysis and Natural Organic Reduction (Green Death Care Options Act)

Last Action: Text - First - Human Remains - Alkaline Hydrolysis and Natural Organic Reduction (Green Death Care Options Act) (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Anne R. Kaiser (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Establishing a regulatory system for reduction operators and reduction facilities; establishing requirements and prohibitions related to the performance of alkaline hydrolysis and natural organic reduction and the disposition of hydrolyzed or soil remains by certain facilities; prohibiting a person from using or disposing of soil remains produced by natural organic reduction in a certain manner, including by using the soil to grow food for consumption by humans or livestock; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB1028

Statutes Amended:

- 5-101,
- 5-204,
- 5-301,
- 5-302,

5-303,
5-306,
5-308,
5-310,
5-401,
5-402,
5-403,
5-803,
5-901,
5-902,
5-903 Article - Business Regulation
5-502,
5-503,
5-504,
5-508,
5-511,
5-512,
5-513,
5-514 Article - Health - General
7-101,
7-102,
7-205,
7-406,
7-505 Article - Health Occupations

MD - HB1193 Environment - Coal Combustion By-Products

Last Action: Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m. (Economic Matters) (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Mary A. Lehman (D)

Committees:

Economic Matters (House)

Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Economic Matters (House)

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 230, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the owner or operator of a coal combustion by-products unit to submit certain reports and plans to the Department of the Environment and the Power Plant Research Program in the Department of Natural Resources on or before certain dates; requiring the owner or operator of a coal combustion by-products unit to conduct a drinking water survey by September 30, 2025, and submit a report of the survey to the Department of the Environment and the Power Plant Research Program by December 31, 2025; etc.

Statutes Amended:

9-281,
9-293 through 9-293.11 Article - Environment

MD - HB1220 Maryland Clean Energy Center - Climate Technology Founder's Fund

Last Action: Hearing 3/06 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Joe Vogel (D)

Committee: Appropriations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Appropriations (House)

Date: March 6, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 120, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the Climate Technology Founder's Fund in the Maryland Clean Energy Center to provide early-stage funding for certain start-up companies; requiring the Maryland Energy Administration to use the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund to provide at least \$1,200,000 in fiscal year 2025 through 2028 to the Climate Technology Founder's Fund; authorizing the Governor to transfer by June 30, 2024 up to \$2,200,000 from the Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account to the Climate Technology Founder's Fund; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB960

Statutes Amended:

10-801,
10-858,
10-859 Article - Economic Development
190., 6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement

MD - HB1241 Environment - Polyvinyl Chloride and Chlorinated Polyvinyl Water Piping - Prohibition

Last Action: Hearing 3/06 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Sheila Ruth (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: March 6, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Prohibiting a person from using certain polyvinyl chloride or chlorinated polyvinyl chloride piping in the installation, repair, or replacement of a water pipe or plumbing intended to dispense water for human consumption beginning January 1, 2025; and establishing the Water Pipe Safety Workgroup.

Statutes Amended:

6-1702 Article - Environment

[MD - HB1242 Public Utilities - Lead Telecommunications Cables - Regulations and Report](#)

Last Action: Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Sheila Ruth (D)

Committee: Economic Matters (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Economic Matters (House)

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 230, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing the Department of the Environment to adopt certain regulations related to lead telecommunications cables; and requiring a company that applied for a grant through the federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program to submit a certain report to the Department of the Environment, the Office of Statewide Broadband in the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the General Assembly on or before October 1, 2024.

Statutes Amended:

5-503 Article - Public Utilities

[MD - HB1247 EnvironmentAdvanced Clean Cars II ProgramApplication and Enforcement](#)

Last Action: Text - First - EnvironmentAdvanced Clean Cars II ProgramApplication and Enforcement (February 8, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Christopher T. Adams (R)

Committees:

Economic Matters (House)

Environment and Transportation (House)

Summary:

Prohibiting the Department of the Environment from adopting the California Advanced Clean Cars II regulations to be effective before motor vehicle model year 2030; and prohibiting the Department from applying certain provisions of law governing enforcement and penalties under the California Advanced Clean Cars II Program to a motor vehicle manufacturer for failing to meet the minimum electric vehicle or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle delivery requirements for an applicable motor vehicle model year.

Cross-filed Bill: SB1063

Statutes Amended:

2-1102,

2-1103,

2-1106 Article - Environment

MD - HB1250 Environment - Wood Vaults - Authorization and Permit Requirements

Last Action: Hearing 3/06 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Mary A. Lehman (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: March 6, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing a landowner whose land is subject to an agricultural land preservation easement to use the land for the construction and use of a certain wood vault under certain circumstances; requiring a person to have a permit issued by the Secretary of the Environment before the person installs, materially alters, or materially extends a certain wood vault; applying certain provisions of law relating to permit requirements for certain facilities, including landfills, to a certain wood vault; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB936

Statutes Amended:

1-601,

9-101,

9-201,

9-204,

9-204.2,

9-205,
9-208,
9-209,
9-211,
9-212.1,
9-213,
9-214,
9-215,
9-220,
9-221,
9-252,
9-314,
9-501 Article - Environment

2-513 Article - Agriculture

3-201,

5-9A-05 Article - Natural Resources

MD - HB1256 Electricity Tariffs, Distributed Energy Resources, and Electric Distribution System Support Services (Distributed Renewable Integration and Vehicle Electrification (DRIVE) Act)

Last Action: Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo (D)

Committee: Economic Matters (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Economic Matters (House)

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 230, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Public Service Commission, on or before December 31, 2025, to adopt a transition plan requiring each electric company to transition customers to a certain time-of-use tariff on or before September 1, 2028; requiring the Commission to adopt certain regulations on or before April 1, 2025, regarding the interconnection of certain systems to the electric distribution system; prohibiting an electric company from requiring a certain customer to enter into a certain contract; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB959

Statutes Amended:

7-1001 through 7-1008 Article - Public Utilities

[MD - HB1264 Reservoir, Dam, or Waterway Obstruction Construction Permits - Conditions for Exemption](#)

Last Action: Hearing 3/06 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Nick Allen (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: March 6, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering the conditions under which a person is exempt from obtaining a permit from the Department of the Environment to construct or repair a reservoir, dam, or waterway obstruction.

Statutes Amended:

5-503 Article - Environment

[MD - HB1265 Local Government Building Permits for Residential Solar Energy and Residential Energy Storage Systems Required Platform and Inspections](#)

Last Action: Text - First - Local Government Building Permits for Residential Solar Energy and Residential Energy Storage Systems Required Platform and Inspections (February 8, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Summary:

Requiring a county or municipality to implement the web-based platform SolarAPP+ for features supporting the tracking and approval of residential building permits for certain residential solar energy projects, residential energy storage projects, and main electric panel alterations by a certain date except under certain circumstances; requiring a county or municipality to adopt certain procedures for required inspections for a certain building permit under certain circumstances; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB1054

Statutes Amended:

1-1319 Article - Local Government

[MD - HB1266 Clean Water Commerce Account - Contracts for the Purchase of Environmental Outcomes](#)

Last Action: Text - First - Clean Water Commerce Account - Contracts for the Purchase of Environmental Outcomes (February 8, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Dana Stein (D)

Committees:

Appropriations (House)

Environment and Transportation (House)

Summary:

Requiring the Department of the Environment, in entering into a certain contract under the Clean Water Commerce Account for the purchase of an environmental outcome, to allow for nonuniform payment schedules and include certain financial incentives for certain purposes.

Statutes Amended:

9-1605.4 Article - Environment

[MD - HB1272 Department of the Environment - Cap-and-Invest Program - Establishment](#)

Last Action: Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m. (Economic Matters) (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Dana Stein (D)

Committees:

Economic Matters (House)

Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Economic Matters (House)

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 230, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Department of the Environment, in collaboration with the Maryland Commission on Climate Change, to develop a cap-and-invest program that reduces climate-altering emissions in the State on or before December 31, 2024.

Statutes Amended:

2-1213 Article - Environment

[MD - HB1279 Maryland Building Performance Standards - Fossil Fuel Use, Energy Conservation, and Electric- and Solar-Ready Standards \(Better Buildings Act of 2024\)](#)

Last Action: Hearing 3/06 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Adrian Boafu (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Environment and Transportation (House)

Date: March 6, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 250, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to adopt, on or before certain dates and as part of the Maryland Building Performance Standards, a requirement that new buildings and significant improvements of buildings and structures meet all water and space heating demands of the building or structure without the use of fossil fuels, meet energy conservation requirements, and meet an electric- and solar-ready standard for certain buildings; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB1023

Statutes Amended:

12-503,

12-503.1 Article - Public Safety

MD - HB1280 Sales and Use TaxElectricity to Charge Electric VehiclesTransportation Trust Fund

Last Action: Text - First - Sales and Use TaxElectricity to Charge Electric VehiclesTransportation Trust Fund (February 8, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate April Miller (R)

Committees:

Economic Matters (House)

Ways and Means (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Ways and Means (House)

Date: February 29, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 130, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Comptroller to distribute to the Transportation Trust Fund revenue from the sales and use tax that is attributable to the sale of electricity used to charge an electric vehicle at an electric vehicle charging station or used to charge an electric vehicle and is not sold under a residential or domestic rate schedule on file with the Public Service Commission; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB1076

Statutes Amended:

2-1302.1 Article - Tax - General

[MD - HB1284 Wetlands and Waterways Program - Stream Restoration Projects](#)

Last Action: Text - First - Wetlands and Waterways Program - Stream Restoration Projects (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Jen Terrasa (D)

Committee: Environment and Transportation (House)

Summary:

Repealing an exemption for stream restoration projects from certain application fees for certain projects that impact a wetland or waterway; requiring a person applying for a wetlands and waterways authorization for a stream restoration project associated with achieving restoration goals to include in the authorization application certain objectives, standards, and plans; requiring the Department of the Environment to conduct a certain community engagement process before issuing a certain authorization; etc.

Statutes Amended:

5-1602 Article - Natural Resources

5-203.1,

5-203.2 Article - Environment

[MD - HB1296 Electricity - Offshore Wind Projects - Alterations](#)

Last Action: Hearing 2/29 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate C. T. Wilson (D)

Committee: Economic Matters (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Economic Matters (House)

Date: February 29, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 230, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Public Service Commission on June 1, 2024 to open a revised Round 2 proceeding to evaluate certain offshore wind projects; authorizing certain offshore wind projects to submit certain revised plans for project schedules, sizes, or pricing, including offshore wind renewable energy credit pricing and, under certain circumstances, to seek approval from the Commission to increase the maximum amount of offshore wind renewable energy credits sold under a certain order, subject to certain limitations; etc.

Statutes Amended:

7-701,

7-704.1 Article - Public Utilities

MD - SB902 Wildlife Protections and Highway Crossings

Last Action: Hearing 2/27 at 1:00 p.m. (Education, Energy, and the Environment) (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Karen Lewis Young (D)

Committees:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources, in collaboration with the State Highway Administration, to identify and prioritize certain species whose habitat or movement corridors intersect with State highways and develop tools, technology, and techniques to identify certain State highway infrastructure locations; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to develop a methodology and a cost estimate for performing a statewide deer population survey on or before November 1, 2024; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1129

Statutes Amended:

10-2A-01,

10-2A-06.2 Article - Natural Resources

17-302,

8-101 Article - Transportation

190.,

6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement

MD - SB916 Fish and Wildlife - Endangered and Threatened Species - Definitions, Petitions, and Regulations

Last Action: Hearing 2/16 at 9:00 a.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Benjamin Brooks (D)

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

Scheduled Hearings:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 16, 2024

Time: 9:00am (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring certain petitions to review the listing or unlisting of endangered or threatened species to contain certain information regarding the distribution, life, and habitat needs of the species and relevant information about the status of a species; requiring the Secretary of Natural Resources to review and, if warranted, update certain regulations listing endangered or threatened species on or before July 1, 2026, and every 5 years thereafter; and defining "fish" and "wildlife" for certain purposes.

Cross-filed Bill: HB345

Statutes Amended:

10-101,

10-2A-01,

10-2A-04,

10-2A-05,

4-101,

4-2A-01,

4-2A-04,

4-2A-05 Article - Natural Resources

MD - SB918 Retail Choice Customer Education and Protection Fund - Purposes and Uses

Last Action: Hearing 3/01 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Benjamin Brooks (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 1, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Changing the name of the Retail Choice Customer Education and Protection Fund to the Education and Protection Fund; and modifying the purpose and uses of the Fund to include educating certain customers on certain energy choices and developing a certain training and educational program for persons licensed by the Public Service Commission as electricity suppliers or gas suppliers.

Statutes Amended:

13-201,

7-310,

7-311 Article - Public Utilities

MD - SB922 Natural Resources Fisheries Oyster Management

Last Action: Hearing 2/27 at 1:00 p.m. (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Johnny Mautz (R)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Repealing a provision of law prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from taking any action to reduce or alter the boundaries of certain oyster sanctuaries until the Department has developed a certain updated fishery management plan for oysters; and authorizing a person to dredge by power boat in the public oyster fishery area in Eastern Bay in Queen Anne's and Talbot counties.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1231

Statutes Amended:

4-1005,

4-1011,

4-215 Article - Natural Resources

MD - SB924 Boating - Migratory Waterfowl Season - Prohibited Acts

Last Action: Hearing 2/27 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Johnny Mautz (R)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Prohibiting a person from operating a vessel within 500 yards of a stationary blind or blind site that is occupied and being used for hunting migratory waterfowl during open season.

Cross-filed Bill: HB590

Statutes Amended:

4-512,

8-701,

8-724.2 Article - Natural Resources

MD - SB925 Tidal Fish Licenses - Oyster Authorizations - Reinstatement

Last Action: Hearing 2/27 at 1:00 p.m. (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Johnny Mautz (R)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing a person whose authorization to catch oysters is revoked under certain provisions of law to apply for reinstatement of the authorization after 5 years; requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish an Oyster Harvester Education Program; and requiring an applicant for reinstatement of an oyster authorization to successfully complete the Program.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1223

Statutes Amended:

4-1210,

4-1210.1 Article - Natural Resources

MD - SB935 Department of General Services - Renewable Natural Gas Pilot Program - Establishment

Last Action: Hearing 3/01 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jason C. Gallion (R)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 1, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Department of General Services, in consultation with the Public Service Commission, to establish a Renewable Natural Gas Pilot Program in the Department on or before January 1, 2025; requiring the Department, in consultation with the Commission, to issue a certain solicitation for a renewable natural gas contract; authorizing the Department to enter into a contract to procure renewable natural gas; terminating the Program on December 31, 2027; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1379

Statutes Amended:

4-325, 4-326 Article - State Finance and Procurement

7-704.4 Article - Public Utilities

MD - SB936 Environment - Wood Vaults - Authorization and Permit Requirements

Last Action: Hearing 3/05 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jason C. Gallion (R)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 5, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing a landowner whose land is subject to an agricultural land preservation easement to use the land for the construction and use of a certain wood vault under certain circumstances; requiring a person to have a permit issued by the Secretary of the Environment before the person installs, materially alters, or materially extends a certain wood vault; applying certain provisions of law relating to permit requirements for certain facilities, including landfills, to a certain wood vault; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1250

Statutes Amended:

1-601,

9-101,

9-201,

9-204,

9-204.2,

9-205,

9-208,
9-209,
9-211,
9-212.1,
9-213,
9-214,
9-215,
9-220,
9-221,
9-252,
9-314,
9-501 Article - Environment

2-513 Article - Agriculture

3-201,

5-9A-05 Article - Natural Resources

MD - SB942 Environment - Managed Aquifer Recharge Pilot Program - Establishment

Last Action: Hearing 2/20 at 1:00 p.m. (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Dawn Gile (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 20, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the Managed Aquifer Recharge Pilot Program; authorizing the Department of the Environment to review, permit, and regulate a process to test the use of treated reclaimed water from a demonstration facility as a source for groundwater augmentation under certain circumstances; and requiring, on or before December 31 of each year, the Department to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on the Pilot Program.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1131

Statutes Amended:

1-601,

9-301,

9-303.4 Article - Environment

MD - SB951 Business Regulation Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Regulations for Retail Use

Last Action: Hearing 3/08 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Shelly Hettleman (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 8, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Comptroller to adopt regulations for the retail use of electric vehicle supply equipment in the State; and requiring the Comptroller, in consultation with the Public Service Commission, to submit a report on the development and enforcement of the regulations adopted under this Act to the General Assembly on or before January 15, 2025.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1028

Statutes Amended:

19-1001 through 19-1003 Article - Business Regulation

7-901 Article - Public Utilities

MD - SB956 Environment - Water Pollution Control - Protecting State Waters From PFAS Pollution (Protecting State Waters From PFAS Pollution Act)

Last Action: Hearing 2/20 at 1:00 p.m. (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Katie Fry Hester (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 20, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the discharge limit for PFAS chemicals in any water, including stormwater, discharged from a significant industrial user to be 4 parts per trillion; requiring a significant industrial user to reduce PFAS chemicals from the water it discharges to a publicly owned treatment works in a certain manner; requiring a significant industrial user to store, reuse, and dispose of certain PFAS chemicals in a certain manner; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1153

Statutes Amended:

9-101,
9-353 through 9-356 Article - Environment

MD - SB958 Responding to Emergency Needs From Extreme Weather (RENEW) Act of 2024

Last Action: Hearing 2/20 at 1:00 p.m. (Education, Energy, and the Environment) (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Katie Fry Hester (D)

Committees:

Finance (Senate)
Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 20, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Payment Program in the Department of the Environment to secure payments from certain businesses that extract fossil fuels or refine petroleum products in order to provide a source of revenue for State efforts to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change and to address the health impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations; establishing the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Fund to support efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1438

Statutes Amended:

14-110.4,
14-110.5 Article - Public Safety
2-1504,
2-1701 through 2-1707 Article - Environment
7-1202,
7-1203 Article - Transportation
9-2012,
9-2015,
9-20B-05 Article - State Government

MD - SB959 Electricity - Tariffs, Distributed Energy Resources, and Electric Distribution System Support Services (Distributed Renewable Integration and Vehicle Electrification (DRIVE) Act)

Construction Law (2024.02.09)

Last Action: Text - First - Electricity - Tariffs, Distributed Energy Resources, and Electric Distribution System Support Services (Distributed Renewable Integration and Vehicle Electrification (DRIVE) Act) (February 6, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Brian J. Feldman (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 29, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Public Service Commission, on or before December 31, 2025, to adopt a transition plan requiring each electric company to transition customers to a certain time-of-use tariff on or before September 1, 2028; requiring the Commission to adopt certain regulations on or before April 1, 2025, regarding the interconnection of certain systems to the electric distribution system; prohibiting an electric company from requiring a certain customer to enter into a certain contract; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1256

Statutes Amended:

7-1001 through 7-1008 Article - Public Utilities

[MD - SB960 Maryland Clean Energy Center - Climate Technology Founder's Fund](#)

Last Action: Text - First - Maryland Clean Energy Center - Climate Technology Founder's Fund (February 6, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Brian J. Feldman (D)

Committee: Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Date: February 28, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

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

Summary:

Establishing the Climate Technology Founder's Fund in the Maryland Clean Energy Center; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; requiring the Maryland Energy Administration to use the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund to provide at least \$1,200,000 in fiscal year 2025 through 2028 to the Climate Technology Founder's Fund;

Construction Law (2024.02.09)

authorizing the Governor to transfer on or before June 30, 2024 up to \$2,200,000 from the Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account to the Climate Technology Founder's Fund; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1220

Statutes Amended:

10-801,

10-858,

10-859,

5-1501 Article - Economic Development

190.,

6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement

9-20B-05 Article - State Government

MD - SB969 Stream and Watershed Restoration Stream Restoration Contractor Licensing and Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Restoration and Funding (Whole Watershed Act)

Last Action: Hearing 3/05 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Sarah K. Elfreth (D)

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

Scheduled Hearings:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 20, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 5, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the Stream Restoration Contractors Licensing Board; requiring a person to be licensed as a stream restoration contractor or be employed by an individual or entity that is licensed as a stream restoration contractor before the person performs or solicits to perform stream restoration contractor services in the State, subject to a certain exception; requiring the Department of the Environment to provide notice of a certain violation to a stream restoration contractor; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1165

Statutes Amended:

1-406,
18-101 through 18-501, 9-1605.2,
9-1605.4 Article - Environment
190., 6-226 Article - State Finance and Procurement
2-505,
8-702,
8-704 Article - Agriculture
8-2A-02,
8-2B-01 through 8-2B-03, 8-701,
8-707,
8-708 Article - Natural Resources
8-301 Article - Business Regulation
8-402,
8-403 Article - State Government

MD - SB983 Hunting - Lead and Lead-Based Ammunition - Phase-Out

Last Action: Hearing 2/27 at 1:00 p.m. (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Karen Lewis Young (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish a certain process to phase out on or before December 31, 2026, the use of lead or lead-based ammunition for hunting; and requiring the Department to establish a process to certify ammunition as nonlead ammunition.

Statutes Amended:

10-428 Article - Natural Resources

MD - SB1023 Maryland Building Performance Standards Fossil Fuel Use, Energy Conservation, and Electric and Solar Ready Standards (Better Buildings Act of 2024)

Last Action: Hearing 3/01 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Benjamin Brooks (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 1, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to adopt, on or before certain dates and as part of the Maryland Building Performance Standards, a requirement that new buildings meet all water and space heating demands of the building without the use of fossil fuels, energy conservation requirements, and an electric- and solar-ready standard for certain buildings; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1279

Statutes Amended:

12-503,

12-503.1 Article - Public Safety

MD - SB1025 Public Utilities Distributed Generation Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Last Action: Text - First - Public Utilities Distributed Generation Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (February 6, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Benjamin Brooks (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing a distributed generation certificate of public convenience and necessity to authorize the construction and operation of a certain distributed solar energy generating system; requiring the Power Plant Research Program to develop and submit to the Public Service Commission proposed siting and design requirements and licensing conditions; prohibiting a person from being required to obtain a distributed generation certificate of public convenience and necessity until a certain condition is met; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1046

Statutes Amended:

3-306 Article - Natural Resources

7-207,

7-207.1,

7-207.3 Article - Public Utilities

MD - SB1028 Human Remains - Alkaline Hydrolysis and Natural Organic Reduction (Green Death Care Options Act)

Last Action: Hearing 3/05 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jeff Waldstreicher (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 5, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing a regulatory system for reduction operators and reduction facilities; establishing requirements and prohibitions related to the performance of alkaline hydrolysis and natural organic reduction and the disposition of hydrolyzed or soil remains by certain facilities; prohibiting a person from using or disposing of soil remains produced by natural organic reduction in a certain manner, including by using the soil to grow food for consumption by humans or livestock; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1168

Statutes Amended:

5-101,

5-204,

5-301,

5-302,

5-303,

5-306,

5-308,

5-310,

5-401,

5-402,

5-403,

5-803,

5-901,

5-902,

5-903 Article - Business Regulation

5-502,

5-503,

5-504,

5-508,

5-511,

5-512,

5-513,

5-514 Article - Health - General

7-101,

7-102,

7-205,

7-406,

7-505 Article - Health Occupations

MD - SB1033 Maryland Building Performance Standards - Local Requests for Guidance - Religious Considerations

Last Action: Hearing 3/01 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jill P. Carter (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 1, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor, on request of a local jurisdiction and in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, to provide guidance for the implementation and enforcement of the Maryland Building Performance Standards in relation to any religious observance, practice, or belief.

Cross-filed Bill: HB926

Statutes Amended:

12-507 Article - Public Safety

MD - SB1048 Environment Tidal Wetland Permit Ownership of Land

Last Action: Text - First - Environment Tidal Wetland Permit Ownership of Land (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Johnny Mautz (R)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 20, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Department of the Environment to transfer certain interest in land to a riparian landowner in fee simple if the landowner obtains a tidal wetland permit for the purpose of creating a living shoreline or other shoreline stabilization measure.

Cross-filed Bill: HB752

Statutes Amended:

16-103,

16-108 Article - Environment

[MD - SB1054 Local Government - Building Permits for Residential Solar Energy and Residential Energy Storage Systems - Required Platform and Inspections](#)

Last Action: Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Benjamin F. Kramer (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring a county or municipality to implement a certain web-based platform for features supporting the tracking and approval of residential building permits for certain residential solar energy projects, residential energy storage projects, and main electric panel alterations by August 1, 2025, except under certain circumstances; requiring a county or municipality to adopt certain procedures for required inspections for a certain building permit under certain circumstances; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1265

Statutes Amended:

1-1319 Article - Local Government

[MD - SB1063 Environment - Advanced Clean Cars II Program - Application and Enforcement](#)

Last Action: Hearing 3/05 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Construction Law (2024.02.09)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Stephen S. Hershey, Jr. (R)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 5, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Prohibiting the Department of the Environment from adopting the California Advanced Clean Cars II regulations to be effective before motor vehicle model year 2030; and prohibiting the Department from applying certain provisions of law governing enforcement and penalties under the California Advanced Clean Cars II Program to a motor vehicle manufacturer for failing to meet the minimum electric vehicle or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle delivery requirements for an applicable motor vehicle model year.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1247

Statutes Amended:

2-1102,

2-1103,

2-1106 Article - Environment

MD - SB1076 Sales and Use Tax Electricity to Charge Electric Vehicles Transportation Trust Fund

Last Action: Text - First - Sales and Use Tax Electricity to Charge Electric Vehicles Transportation Trust Fund (February 6, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Paul D. Corderman (R)

Committee: Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Date: February 29, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

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

Summary:

Requiring the Comptroller to distribute to the Transportation Trust Fund revenue from the sales and use tax that is attributable to the sale of electricity used to charge an electric vehicle at an electric vehicle charging station or used to charge an electric vehicle and is not sold under a residential or domestic rate schedule on file with the Public Service Commission; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1280

Statutes Amended:

2-1302.1 Article - Tax - General

MD - SB1082 Solar Energy and Energy Storage - Development and State Procurement

Last Action: Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m. (Education, Energy, and the Environment) (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Katie Fry Hester (D)

Committees:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing a county to enact a local law creating a conservation and restoration fund for a certain purpose; establishing the Utility-Scale Solar Design and Siting Commission in the Power Plant Research Program to provide recommendations related to solar energy development and land conservation and preservation; requiring the owner or operator of a certain solar energy generating station to plant and maintain a certain cover crop on certain land and submit a certain vegetation management plan to a certain entity; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB1328

Statutes Amended:

12-905 Article - Local Government

3-306.2 Article - Natural Resources

4-325 Article - State Finance and Procurement

7-215.1, 7-216.2 Article - Public Utilities

9-2016 Article - State Government

MD - SB1083 Public Utilities - Electric Distribution System Planning - Regulations, Plans, and Fund

Last Action: Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Katie Fry Hester (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Public Service Commission to adopt certain regulations to oversee electric distribution system planning in the State on or before December 31, 2025; requiring electric companies in the State to submit to the Commission certain plans to upgrade certain parts of the electric distribution system in the State on or before January 1, 2026; and establishing the Electric Distribution System Make-Ready Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund administered by the Maryland Energy Administration.

Statutes Amended:

13-205,

7-804,

7-805, 7-806 Article - Public Utilities

[MD - SB1086 Environment - Environmental Justice Districts - Designation and Requirements](#)

Last Action: Text - First - Environment - Environmental Justice Districts - Designation and Requirements (February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mary Washington (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing a resident of a local jurisdiction or an overburdened and underserved community in the State to submit an application to the Department of the Environment to request the designation of a certain area as an environmental justice district in a certain manner; requiring the Department to publish the application process and criteria used for evaluating an application on or before December 1, 2024; requiring the Department to hold a certain hearing on a certain permit application under certain circumstances; etc.

Statutes Amended:

1-601,

1-701,

1-703 Article - Environment

MD - SB1088 Environment - Public Participation in the Permitting Process - Alterations

Last Action: Text - First - Environment - Public Participation in the Permitting Process - Alterations
(February 7, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mary Washington (D)

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

Scheduled Hearing:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing judicial review of certain environmental permitting and license decisions by the Department of the Environment at the request of certain persons who meet certain federal standing requirements under certain circumstances; requiring a person applying for a certain permit from the Department to request an EJ Score from the Department for the census tract where the applicant is seeking the permit for purposes of including the score in the permit application; etc.

Statutes Amended:

1-601,

1-601.1,

1-602,

1-603,

1-604,

1-605 through 1-607 Article - Environment

MD - SB1094 State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund - Alteration and Extension

Last Action: Text - First - State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund - Alteration and Extension
(February 6, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mike McKay (R)

Committee: Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Date: February 29, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

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

Summary:

Construction Law (2024.02.09)

Altering the amount of an appropriation the Governor is required to make to the State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund, from \$1,000,000 each fiscal year to \$2,000,000 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027; and extending the termination date applicable to certain provisions relating to the purpose, use, and funding of the Fund, from June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2027.

Statutes Amended:

2018, 2022 Article - Chapter of the Acts

8-205 Article - Natural Resources

MD - SJ3 Commercial Fishery Disaster Declaration Due to Invasive Species

Last Action: Hearing 2/16 at 9:00 a.m. (February 9, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jack Bailey (R)

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

Scheduled Hearings:

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 16, 2024

Time: 9:00am (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Education, Energy, and the Environment (Senate)

Date: February 27, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

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

Cross-filed Bill: HJ6