



*Your Guide to Health Care Legislation
During the 2025 Legislative Session
January 22, 2025*

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society
1211 Cathedral Street | Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Padmini Ranasinghe, MD
President, MedChi

Clement S. Banda, MD
Co-Chair, MedChi Council on Legislation

Kathleen D. Keeffe, MD
Co-Chair, MedChi Council on Legislation

MedChi Law and Advocacy
Email: advocacy@medchi.org | Phone: 410-539-0872

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 11	Health Insurance - Access to Nonparticipating Providers - Referrals, Additional Assistance, and Coverage	Repealing the June 30, 2025 termination date for certain provisions of law related to referrals to and reimbursement of specialists and nonphysician specialists who are not part of a carrier's provider panel; requiring that a certain referral procedure required to be established and implemented by certain carriers require the carrier to provide certain assistance to a member in identifying and arranging coverage for a specialist or nonphysician specialist for treatment of mental health or substance use disorder services; etc.	Sample-Hughes	In the House - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/30 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	HI
HB 39 (SB 356)	Public Health - Prohibition on Transfer of Human Immunodeficiency Virus - Repeal	Repealing the prohibition on an individual from knowingly transferring or attempting to transfer the human immunodeficiency virus to another individual.	Fair	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary Tue 1/28 1:00 PM		Support	PH
HB 46 (SB 222)	Public Health - Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council - Membership	Altering the membership of the Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council to include the Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Administration or the Administrator's designee.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/22 at 2:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/22 2:00 PM		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 57	County Boards of Education - Student Cellular Phone Use Policy - Establishment	Requiring each county board of education to develop and implement a policy limiting the use of a cellular phone by a student during instructional time during the school day; prohibiting the policy from limiting a student's use of a cellular phone for any purpose documented in the student's individual education program, to monitor or address a student's documented health issue, or when directed by an educator or administrator for educational purposes; and requiring the policy to include appropriate disciplinary measures.	Fraser-Hidalgo	In the House - Hearing 1/29 at 1:00 p.m.	Ways and Means Wed 1/29 1:00 PM		Support	PH
HB 62 (SB 253)	Controlled Hazardous Substance Facility Permit - Research Facilities - Chemical Warfare Material Requirements	Providing that certain provisions of law regarding chemical warfare material requirements under a controlled hazardous substance facility permit do not apply to the incineration of chemical warfare materials at a certain research facility if the incineration is done for research, development, or demonstration purposes.	Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/29 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation Wed 1/29 1:30 PM			PH
HB 94 (SB 224)	Opioid-Associated Disease Prevention and Outreach Programs - Appeals and Membership of Standing Advisory Committee	Authorizing a local health department or community-based organization to appeal to the Secretary of Health or the Secretary's designee rather than to the Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services, an adverse decision of the Maryland Department of Health and a local health officer regarding an application for authorization to operate an Opioid-Associated Disease Prevention and Outreach Program; etc.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/22 at 2:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/22 2:00 PM		No Position	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 95	Health Care Providers - Assisted Reproductive Treatment - Informed Consent and Fraud	Prohibiting a health care provider from using the health care provider's reproductive material when providing assistive reproductive treatment without the consent of the recipient of the treatment; prohibiting a health care provider from using a donor's reproductive material to provide assisted reproductive treatment without the donor's informed consent or in a manner that is inconsistent with the donor's consent; etc.	Allen	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		No Position	PH
HB 108	Public Health - Abortion (Heartbeat Bill)	Requiring that an abortion be performed by a physician, rather than a qualified provider; repealing certain provisions of law related to State interference with an abortion, regulations related to abortion, and liability or criminal punishment for qualified providers who perform an abortion; prohibiting a physician from knowingly performing, inducing, or attempting to perform or induce an abortion under certain circumstances and subject to certain exceptions; etc.	Metzgar	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Oppose	PH
HB 113	Civil Actions - Noneconomic Damages - Personal Injury and Wrongful Death	Repealing certain limitations on noneconomic damages in civil actions for personal injury or wrongful death; and applying the Act prospectively.	Ziegler	In the House - Hearing canceled	Judiciary		Oppose	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 116 (SB 211)	Health Insurance - Federal Conformity - Definitions of Health Benefit Plan	Altering certain definitions of "health benefit plan" to conform to federal regulatory requirements for hospital indemnity.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 2:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 1/28 2:00 PM		FYI	FYI
HB 128 (SB 149)	Responding to Emergency Needs From Extreme Weather (RENEW) Act of 2025	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.	Fraser-Hidalgo	In the House - Hearing 1/23 at 1:00 p.m. (Economic Matters)	Economic Matters; Environment and Transportation Thu 1/23 1:00 PM		Support	PH
HB 132 (SB 215)	Cannabis - On-Site Consumption Establishments and Cannabis Events	Limiting application submissions for on-site consumption licenses to social equity applicants under certain circumstances; authorizing a political subdivision to establish hours of operation for on-site consumption establishments; authorizing the holder of an on-site consumption license to repackage and process cannabis and cannabis products under certain circumstances; authorizing the holder of a certain cannabis event registration to hold certain cannabis events; providing for certain fees for a cannabis event registration; etc.	Chair, Economic Matters Committee	In the House - Hearing 2/18 at 1:00 p.m.	Economic Matters Tue 2/18 1:00 PM		Oppose	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 152 (SB 25)	Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications	Specifying certain qualifications necessary for an individual to be appointed by a court as a custody evaluator.	Kaufman	In the House - Hearing 1/23 at 11:00 a.m.	Judiciary Thu 1/23 11:00 AM		No Position	BC
HB 297	Maryland Health Benefit Exchange - State-Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program - Sunset Repeal	Renaming the State-Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program to be the State-Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Program; and repealing the termination date of certain provisions of law that establish and govern the funding for the Program.	Kerr	In the House - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/30 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
HB 321 (SB 303)	Pharmacy Benefits Managers - Definition of Purchaser and Alteration of Application of Law	Altering the definition of "purchaser" for the purpose of certain provisions of State insurance law governing pharmacy benefits managers to exclude certain nonprofit health maintenance organizations; and repealing certain provisions that restrict applicability of certain provisions of law to pharmacy benefits managers that provide pharmacy benefits management services on behalf of a carrier.	Kipke	In the House - Hearing 1/23 at 2:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/23 2:00 PM		Support	HI
HB 333	Cybersecurity - Healthcare Ecosystem	Requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission and the Maryland Insurance Administration to include a cybersecurity expert as staff to perform certain functions and submit to the State Chief Information Security Officer a report on the cybersecurity practices and policies of certain healthcare ecosystem entities on a certain basis; requiring healthcare ecosystem entities to take certain actions related to cybersecurity; etc.	Kerr	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/11 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 334 (SB 156)	Universal Newborn Nurse Home Visiting Services - Program Establishment and Insurance Coverage	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to establish a program to provide universal newborn nurse home visiting services to all families with newborns residing in the State; requiring insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations that provide certain health benefits under certain insurance policies or contracts to provide certain coverage and reimbursement for universal newborn nurse home visiting services; requiring a report on the status of newborn nurse home visiting services by December 1, 2026; etc.	Kerr	In the House - Hearing 1/29 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/29 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
HB 340	Climate Change - Attorney General Actions, Climate Change Restitution Fund, and Climate Change Restitution Fund Advisory Council	Authorizing the Attorney General to investigate, commence, and prosecute or defend any suit or action that holds certain entities accountable for tortious or otherwise unlawful conduct that has contributed to climate change; establishing the Climate Change Restitution Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; establishing the Climate Change Restitution Fund Advisory Council to provide information to the Governor, the Attorney General, and the General Assembly on climate change and the distribution of the Fund; etc.	Ruth	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/11 1:00 PM		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 367 (SB 72)	Health Occupations Boards - English Proficiency Requirements and Licensure by Endorsement for Nursing	Prohibiting a health occupations board from requiring additional evidence of English proficiency as a condition for licensure, certification, or registration if an applicant holds a valid, unrestricted license, certification, or registration from another state that requires evidence of English proficiency for licensure, certification, or registration; adding manners of acceptable proof of English proficiency for the State Board of Nursing; etc.	Martinez	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/11 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
HB 373	Health - Abortion Data - Submission to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to submit to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention any data regarding abortion requested by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, unless submitting the data would violate federal or State law.	Grammer	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Oppose	PH
HB 381	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Required Coverage for Aesthetic Services and Restorative Care for Victims of Domestic Violence (Healing Our Scars Act)	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations, and managed care organizations to provide coverage to victims of domestic violence for aesthetic services and restorative care determined to be medically necessary for the treatment of physical injuries caused by domestic violence.	Martinez	In the House - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/30 1:00 PM		Support	HI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 382 (SB 111)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Step Therapy, Fail-First Protocols, and Prior Authorization - Prescription to Treat Serious Mental Illness	Prohibiting the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations, and managed care organizations from applying a prior authorization requirement, step therapy protocol, or fail-first protocol for prescription drugs used to treat certain mental illnesses of certain insureds and enrollees.	S. Johnson	In the House - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/30 1:00 PM		Support	HI
HB 383 (SB 406)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Coverage for Orthoses (So Every Body Can Move Act)	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide certain coverage related to orthoses beginning January 1, 2026; defining "orthoses" as a certain custom device to treat a neuromuscular or musculoskeletal disorder or acquired condition; and establishing that certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations must comply with certain provider network requirements.	Martinez	In the House - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/30 1:00 PM		Support	HI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 417	Public Health - Commission on Universal Health Care	Establishing the Commission on Universal Health Care to determine the feasibility of establishing a State universal health care program to provide health benefits to all residents of the State through a single-payer system; and requiring the Commission to submit an interim report on June 1, 2027, and a final report with its analysis and recommendations to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly by October 1, 2028.	Ruth	In the House - Hearing 2/06 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 2/6 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
HB 418	Health Maintenance Organizations - Payments to Nonparticipating Providers - Reimbursement Rate	Altering the reimbursement rate at which health maintenance organizations are required to pay certain nonparticipating health care providers for services.	Kipke	In the House - Hearing 2/06 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 2/6 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	HI
HB 421 (SB 36)	Public Safety - 9-1-1 Trust Fund - 9-8-8 Suicide Prevention Hotline	Authorizing the use of the 9-1-1 Trust Fund for certain expenditures that support the 9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline; and altering a certain restriction on the use of the 9-1-1 Trust Fund to prohibit funds from being used for expenses solely related to the 9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline, instead of preventing the use of funds for any costs associated with the 9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline.	S. Johnson	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/11 1:00 PM		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 466 (SB 277)	Health Equality for Service Members Act	Establishing rules of interpretation related to the uniformed services; altering the rule of interpretation for "veteran"; and altering the application of certain provisions of law governing public health, the regulation of health occupations, and housing vouchers and assistance to apply to all uniformed services, rather than only the armed forces.	Kipke	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/11 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
HB 474 (SB 129)	Public Health - Maryland Commission on Health Equity - Advisory Committee and Hospital Reporting	Requiring the Maryland Commission on Health Equity, in coordination with the Maryland Department of Health, to establish a health equity measures advisory committee to determine the 10 widest disparities in health care quality, access, or outcomes for vulnerable populations; and requiring the health equity advisory committee to review the health equity reports submitted annually to the Department by licensed State hospitals.	Bagnall	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Support with Amendment	PH
SB 1	Legally Protected Health Care - Reproductive, Fertility Preservation, and Contraceptive Treatment and Services (IVF and Contraception Shield Act of 2025)	Altering the definition of "legally protected health care" to include certain reproductive, fertility preservation, and contraceptive treatment, including medications and supplies, for the purposes of certain provisions of law that prohibit health occupations disciplinary actions and certain actions in criminal and civil proceedings and the use of certain resources in furtherance of certain investigations and proceedings related to legally protected health care.	Waldstreicher	In the Senate - Hearing canceled	Finance		Hold	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 5	Maryland Health Benefit Exchange - State-Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program - Sunset Repeal	Renaming the State-Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program to be the State-Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Program; repealing the termination date of certain provisions of law that establish and govern the funding for the Program; authorizing rather than requiring the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to establish and implement the Program; and prohibiting the Exchange from implementing the Program if certain funds are not available.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing 1/29 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/29 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
SB 25 (HB 152)	Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications	Specifying certain qualifications necessary for an individual to be appointed by a court as a custody evaluator.	Carozza	In the Senate - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Tue 1/28 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
SB 29	Education - Phone-Free Schools Pilot Program - Establishment	Establishing the Phone-Free Schools Pilot Program; requiring the Carroll County and Montgomery County public school systems to develop and implement a policy that prohibits student cell phone use during the school day, subject to certain exceptions; and requiring the eligible school systems to submit a report on the effectiveness of the Pilot Program on or before September 1, 2026.	Waldstreicher	In the Senate - Hearing 1/29 at 1:30 p.m.	Education, Energy, and the Environment Wed 1/29 1:30 PM		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 36 (HB 421)	Public Safety - 9-1-1 Trust Fund - 9-8-8 Suicide Prevention Hotline	Authorizing the use of the 9-1-1 Trust Fund for costs related to the operation of the 9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline, including software interfaces and joint training; and altering a certain restriction on the use of the 9-1-1 Trust Fund to prohibit funds from being used for expenses solely related to the 9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline, instead of preventing the use of funds for any costs associated with the 9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline.	Kagan	In the Senate - Hearing 1/15 at 10:30 a.m.	Budget and Taxation Wed 1/15 10:30 AM		Support	PH
SB 60	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Required Coverage for Calcium Score Testing	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations, and managed care organizations to provide coverage for calcium score testing for individuals who have at least three of the following risk factors: diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or a family history of premature coronary artery disease.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/28 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	HI
SB 72 (HB 367)	Health Occupations Boards - English Proficiency Requirements and Licensure by Endorsement for Nursing	Prohibiting a health occupations board from requiring additional evidence of English proficiency as a condition for licensure, certification, or registration if an applicant holds a valid, unrestricted license, certification, or registration from another state that requires evidence of English proficiency for licensure, certification, or registration; adding manners of acceptable proof of English proficiency for the State Board of Nursing; etc.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/28 1:00 PM		No Position	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 83	Public Health - Overdose and Infectious Disease Prevention Services Program	Authorizing a community-based organization, with the approval of the Maryland Department of Health, to establish an Overdose and Infectious Disease Prevention Services Program to provide a location for the consumption of preobtained drugs, provide sterile needles, administer first aid, and provide certain other services; authorizing a Program to bill the insurance carrier of an individual who uses the services; authorizing the Department to approve not more than six programs, preferably two in urban, two in rural, and two in suburban areas; etc.	Hettleman	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support	PH
SB 94	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring	Requiring, beginning on January 1, 2026, the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide coverage for self-measured blood pressure monitoring for certain eligible Program recipients; requiring the Program to develop and implement an education campaign to inform eligible program recipients and health care providers about the benefits of blood pressure monitoring and the availability of certain assistance; and requiring the Department to submit an annual report beginning December 1, 2027 on the program's outcomes.	Ellis	In the Senate - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/28 1:00 PM		Support	HI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 111 (HB 382)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Step Therapy, Fail-First Protocols, and Prior Authorization - Prescription to Treat Serious Mental Illness	Prohibiting the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations, and managed care organizations from applying a prior authorization requirement, step therapy protocol, or fail-first protocol for prescription drugs used to treat certain mental illnesses of certain insureds and enrollees.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing 1/29 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/29 1:00 PM		Support	HI
SB 129 (HB 474)	Public Health - Maryland Commission on Health Equity - Advisory Committee and Hospital Reporting	Requiring the Maryland Commission on Health Equity, in coordination with the Maryland Department of Health, to establish a health equity measures advisory committee to determine the 10 widest disparities in health care quality, access, or outcomes for vulnerable populations; and requiring the health equity advisory committee to review the health equity reports submitted annually to the Department by licensed hospitals in the State.	Ellis	In the Senate - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 1/30 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 130	County Boards of Education - Student Cellular Device Use Policy - Established	Requiring each county board of education to develop and implement a policy that prohibits students from using a cellular device during instructional time during the school day; and prohibiting the policy from preventing a student from using a cellular device for any purpose documented in a student's individualized education program, to monitor or address a student's documented health issue, or for education purposes when directed by an educator or administrator.	Benson	In the Senate - Hearing 1/29 at 1:30 p.m.	Education, Energy, and the Environment Wed 1/29 1:30 PM		Support	PH
SB 140	Overdose Awareness Day	Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim August 31 as Overdose Awareness Day.	Jackson	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment	Education, Energy, and the Environment		FYI	FYI
SB 149 (HB 128)	Responding to Emergency Needs From Extreme Weather (RENEW) Act of 2025	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.	Hester	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment and Finance	Education, Energy, and the Environment; Finance		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 156 (HB 334)	Universal Newborn Nurse Home Visiting Services - Program Establishment and Insurance Coverage	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to establish a program to provide universal newborn nurse home visiting services to all families with newborns residing in the State; requiring insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations that provide certain health benefits under certain insurance policies or contracts to provide certain coverage and reimbursement for universal newborn nurse home visiting services; requiring a report on the status of newborn nurse home visiting services by December 1, 2026; etc.	Lewis Young	In the Senate - Hearing 1/29 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/29 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
SB 163	Health - General Article - References to Mental Health	Replacing references to mental hygiene with references to mental health in certain provisions of law governing public health.	M. Washington	In the Senate - Hearing 1/15 at 10:30 a.m.	Finance Wed 1/15 10:30 AM		FYI	FYI
SB 211 (HB 116)	Health Insurance - Federal Conformity - Definitions of Health Benefit Plan	Altering certain definitions of "health benefit plan" to conform to federal regulatory requirements for hospital indemnity.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/16 at 3:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 1/16 3:00 PM		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 215 (HB 132)	Cannabis - On-Site Consumption Establishments and Cannabis Events	Limiting application submissions for on-site consumption licenses to social equity applicants under certain circumstances; authorizing a political subdivision to establish hours of operation for on-site consumption establishments; authorizing the holder of an on-site consumption license to repackage and process cannabis and cannabis products under certain circumstances; authorizing the holder of a certain cannabis event registration to hold certain cannabis events; providing certain fees for a cannabis event registration; etc.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 1/30 1:00 PM		Oppose	PH
SB 222 (HB 46)	Public Health - Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council - Membership	Altering the membership of the Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council to include the Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Administration or the Administrator's designee.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/16 at 3:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 1/16 3:00 PM		FYI	FYI
SB 224 (HB 94)	Opioid-Associated Disease Prevention and Outreach Programs - Appeals and Membership of Standing Advisory Committee	Authorizing a local health department or community-based organization to appeal to the Secretary of Health or the Secretary's designee rather than to the Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services, an adverse decision of the Maryland Department of Health and a local health officer regarding an application for authorization to operate an Opioid-Associated Disease Prevention and Outreach Program; etc.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/21 at 3:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/21 3:00 PM		No Position	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 253 (HB 62)	Controlled Hazardous Substance Facility Permit - Research Facilities - Chemical Warfare Material Requirements	Providing that certain provisions of law regarding chemical warfare material requirements under a controlled hazardous substance facility permit do not apply to the incineration of chemical warfare materials at a certain research facility if the incineration is done for research, development, or demonstration purposes.	Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/29 at 1:30 p.m.	Education, Energy, and the Environment Wed 1/29 1:30 PM			PH
SB 277 (HB 466)	Health Equality for Service Members Act	Establishing rules of interpretation related to the uniformed services; altering the rule of interpretation for "veteran"; and altering the application of certain provisions of law governing public health, the regulation of health occupations, and housing vouchers and assistance to apply to all uniformed services, rather than only the armed forces.	Simonaire	In the Senate - Hearing 1/28 at 1:00 p.m. (Finance)	Education, Energy, and the Environment; Finance Tue 1/28 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
SB 303 (HB 321)	Pharmacy Benefits Managers - Definition of Purchaser and Alteration of Application of Law	Altering the definition of "purchaser" for the purpose of certain provisions of State insurance law governing pharmacy benefits managers to exclude certain nonprofit health maintenance organizations; and repealing certain provisions that restrict applicability of certain provisions of law to pharmacy benefits managers that provide pharmacy benefits management services on behalf of a carrier.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing 2/05 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/5 2:00 PM		Support	HI
SB 306	Workers' Compensation - Prescription Drug and Pharmaceutical Services - Reimbursements	Requiring the State Workers' Compensation Commission to regulate fees and other charges for the reimbursements of prescription drugs and pharmaceutical services; and limiting covered reimbursements to a cost index or indexes.	Beidle	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support with Amendment	HI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 310	Education - Youth Suicide Prevention School Program - Revisions	Altering the requirements of the Youth Suicide Prevention School Program to increase pupil awareness of the relationship between gambling and youth suicide.	Simonaire	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment	Education, Energy, and the Environment		Support	PH
SB 328	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Annual Behavioral Health Wellness Visits - Coverage and Reimbursement	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain health insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations, beginning on July 1, 2026, to provide coverage and certain reimbursement for annual behavioral health wellness visits; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2026.	Augustine	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support	HI
SB 356 (HB 39)	Public Health - Repeal of Prohibition on Transfer of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (Carlton R. Smith Act)	Repealing the prohibition on an individual from knowingly transferring or attempting to transfer the human immunodeficiency virus to another individual.	Smith	In the Senate - Hearing 1/29 at 11:00 a.m.	Judicial Proceedings Wed 1/29 11:00 AM		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 406 (HB 383)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Coverage for Orthoses (So Every Body Can Move Act)	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide certain coverage related to orthoses beginning January 1, 2026; defining "orthosis" as a certain custom device to treat a neuromuscular or musculoskeletal disorder or acquired condition; and establishing that certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations must comply with certain provider network requirements.	Beidle	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support	HI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*