



## MEDCHI LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

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*Your Guide to Health Care Legislation*

*During the 2026 Legislative Session*

**February 3, 2026**

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**MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society**  
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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Oppose	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>HB 46</u></a>	Sports Wagering - Gambling Prevention Technology Pilot Program - Establishment	Establishing the Gambling Prevention Technology Pilot Program in the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission; requiring Bowie State University and Morgan State University to participate in the Pilot Program; requiring the Commission, in collaboration with certain entities, to designate certain no gambling zones on each campus, develop certain informational signage, and identify and implement certain technologies; and requiring the Commission to submit a report on the Pilot Program on or before January 1, 2031.	Queen	In the House - Hearing canceled	Ways and Means		Hold	PH
<a href="#"><u>HB 49</u></a>	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	Health		Oppose	PH

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\*Please Note: Dr. Stephen Rockower, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Prescription Drug Affordability Board.\*

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>HB 60</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 421)</u></a>	Sickle Cell Disease - Institutions of Higher Education - Policies, Procedures, and Educational Campaigns	Prohibiting an institution of higher education from denying access or services to a student based on the student's diagnosis of sickle cell disease; requiring an institution of higher education to provide reasonable accommodations for students with sickle cell disease; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to develop an education and awareness campaign for institutions of higher education in the State regarding students with sickle cell disease; etc.	Patterson	In the House - Hearing 1/27 at 1:00 p.m.	Appropriations Tue 1/27 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#"><u>HB 88</u></a>	Health Insurance - Bulk Purchasing Pools for Prescription Drugs	Authorizing certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to join bulk purchasing pools for prescription drugs.	Taveras	In the House - Hearing 2/05 at 1:45 p.m.	Health Thu 2/5 1:45 PM		No Position	HI
<a href="#"><u>HB 105</u></a>	Public Health - Restaurants - Disclosure of Main Food Allergens	Requiring restaurants to make available to each customer a written disclosure of each main food allergen, if any, that is an ingredient in each menu item; and excluding a violation of the Act from certain criminal penalties.	Foley	In the House - Hearing canceled	Health		Support with Amendment	PH
<a href="#"><u>HB 137</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 222)</u></a>	Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications	Establishing qualifications for an individual to be appointed by a court as a custody evaluator; and authorizing a court to waive certain requirements for a court employee or an individual under contract with the court under certain circumstances.	Kaufman	In the House - Hearing 1/29 at 2:00 p.m.	Judiciary Thu 1/29 2:00 PM		No Position	BC

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>HB 153</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 12)</u></a>	Residential Rental Apartments - Air-Conditioning Requirement	Requiring a landlord to provide air-conditioning to residential rental units in apartment buildings with four or more individual dwelling units in a certain manner beginning June 1, 2026, for newly constructed residential rental units and beginning October 1, 2026, for residential rental units that undergo renovation that includes the replacement or substantial upgrade of electrical systems or heating systems; and applying the Act prospectively.	Lehman	In the House - Hearing 2/05 at 1:00 p.m.	Economic Matters Thu 2/5 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#"><u>HB 158</u></a>	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Maternal Health Monitoring Pilot Program	Establishing the Maternal Health Monitoring Pilot Program in the Maryland Department of Health to support pregnant and postpartum Maryland Medical Assistance Program recipients who have higher risks of pregnancy complications because of maternal hypertension or maternal diabetes; requiring the Department to select at least one managed care organization to administer the Program; requiring the managed care organizations to contract with a technology vendor to offer remote patient monitoring services to participants; etc.	Woods	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m.	Health Wed 2/4 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	PH

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">HB 166</a>	Public Health - Henrietta Lacks Commission - Establishment (Henrietta Lacks Commission of Maryland Act of 2026)	Establishing the Henrietta Lacks Commission to take certain actions related to the legacy of Henrietta Lacks and the use of HeLa cells; and requiring the Commission, beginning in 2027, to report by December 1 annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on its activities regarding oversight of life sciences activities in the State and promotion of education on the life of Henrietta Lacks.	Metzgar	In the House - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Government, Labor, and Elections Tue 2/10 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">HB 178</a>	Public Health - Sickle Cell Disease - Specialized Clinics and Scholarship Program for Medical Residents	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to establish certain specialized clinics for the management and treatment of sickle cell disease and establish a scholarship program for medical residents who specialize in classical hematology with a focus on sickle cell disease; and requiring the Governor for fiscal year 2028 to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$6,138,000 to support clinic operations, staffing, training, and social support services.	Patterson	In the House - Hearing 2/10 at 2:00 p.m.	Health Tue 2/10 2:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">HB 181</a>	Public Health - Restaurants - Disclosure of Main Food Allergens	Requiring restaurants to make available to each customer a certain written disclosure of each main food allergen, if any, that the restaurant knows or reasonably should know is an ingredient in each menu item.	Woods	In the House - Hearing 2/03 at 3:00 p.m.	Health Tue 2/3 3:00 PM		Support with Amendment	PH

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">HB 196</a>	Public Health - Baby Food Testing - Definition of Baby Food	Altering the definition of "baby food" for purposes of certain provisions of law governing baby food testing to include, rather than exclude, infant formula and to include infant cereal; and altering the defined term "toxic heavy metal" to be "toxic element" for purposes of certain provisions of law governing baby food testing.	Taveras	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m.	Health Wed 2/4 1:00 PM		Support	PH
<a href="#">HB 203</a>	Labor and Employment - Training Repayment Agreements - Prohibition	Prohibiting employers from requiring, as a condition of employment, employees or prospective employees to enter into training repayment agreements; defining "training repayment agreement" as one that requires an employee to pay an employer or a third party, such as a training provider, a sum of money if the employee voluntarily or involuntarily leaves employment with the employer; and providing that an agreement that constitutes a training repayment agreement is null and void as being against the public policy of the State.	Vogel	In the House - Hearing 2/05 at 2:00 p.m.	Government, Labor, and Elections Thu 2/5 2:00 PM		No Position	BC

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">HB 209</a>	Health Care Providers - Assisted Reproductive Treatment - Informed Consent and Fraud	Prohibiting a health care provider from using the health care provider's human reproductive material when providing assisted reproductive treatment without the consent of the recipient of the treatment; prohibiting a health care provider from using a donor's human 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	Health		No Position	PH
<a href="#">HB 222</a>	Educational Institutions - Opioid Overdose-Reversing Medications - Policy Requirements (Naloxone Access Act)	Requiring the State Board of Education to update a certain drug addiction and prevention education program to include information on the mitigating effects of naloxone or other opioid overdose-reversing medication; requiring each county board of education and certain institutions of higher education to update certain policies to include information on authorized possession of naloxone or other opioid overdose-reversing medication by certain individuals and immunity from liability; etc.	Vogel	In the House - Hearing 1/20 at 1:00 p.m. (Ways and Means) Tue 1/20 1:00 PM	Appropriations; Ways and Means		Support	PH

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">HB 273</a> <a href="#">(SB 14)</a>	Health Insurance - Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) Enrollment - Effective Dates	Altering the effective dates of enrollment in a Small Business Health Options (SHOP) Exchange plan for individuals who enroll during certain special enrollment periods.	Chair, Health Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/29 at 2:00 p.m.	Health Thu 1/29 2:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">HB 277</a> <a href="#">(SB 139)</a>	Insurance - Third Party Administrators - Enforcement	Altering the grounds on which the Maryland Insurance Commissioner may deny an applicant for registration as or refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke the registration of a third party administrator; and altering the violations for which the Commissioner may impose civil penalties against a third party administrator.	Chair, Health Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/29 at 2:00 p.m.	Health Thu 1/29 2:00 PM		Support	HI
<a href="#">HB 279</a> <a href="#">(SB 196)</a>	Correctional Services - Medication Review Committee - Administration of Psychotropic Medication to an Incarcerated Individual	Authorizing the establishment of a medication review committee within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services that convenes to determine whether to approve the administration of psychotropic medication to a certain incarcerated individual under certain circumstances; providing that psychotropic medication may not be administered to an incarcerated individual who refuses the medication except under certain circumstances; etc.	Chair, Health Committee	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m.	Health Wed 2/4 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">HB 280</a> <a href="#">(SB 205)</a>	Health Insurance - Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders - Codification of Federal Requirements	Codifying in State law certain provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations related to mental health parity and clarifying the authority of the Maryland Insurance Administration to enforce certain laws; requiring health insurance carriers to collect and report on data in a certain manner; requiring health insurance carriers to provide certain benefits under certain circumstances; requiring health insurance carriers to explain differences in access to care under certain circumstances; etc.	Chair, Health Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/29 at 2:00 p.m.	Health Thu 1/29 2:00 PM		Support	HI
<a href="#">HB 291</a> <a href="#">(SB 102)</a>	Sports Wagering Proceeds - Promotional Play Exclusion - Limitation	Authorizing the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to establish a certain limit, by regulation, on the amount of money given away as free promotional play by a sports wagering licensee that may be excluded from sports wagering proceeds.	Chair, Ways and Means Committee	In the House - Hearing 2/05 at 1:00 p.m.	Ways and Means Thu 2/5 1:00 PM		Hold	PH
<a href="#">HB 316</a>	Confidentiality of Medical Records - Definition of Medical Record	Altering the definition of "medical record" for purposes of law governing the confidentiality of medical records to require that certain information be recorded by a health care provider through certain means, instead of entered into the record of a patient or recipient, and to include certain electronic messages.	Kaufman	In the House - Hearing 2/03 at 3:00 p.m.	Health Tue 2/3 3:00 PM		Oppose	BC

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">HB 322</a> <a href="#">(SB 260)</a>	Maryland Health Care Commission - Membership	Altering the membership of the Maryland Health Care Commission by reducing from nine to eight the number of members who are individuals who do not have any connection with the management or policy of a health care provider or payor and including a representative of a hospital; and altering from five to four the number of Commission members who must be residents of different counties with a population of 300,000 or more.	Kerr	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:30 p.m.	Health Wed 2/11 1:30 PM		No Position	BC
<a href="#">HB 331</a> <a href="#">(SB 342)</a>	Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program	Establishing the Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program to increase the reuse and recycling of beverage containers and reduce the litter, pollution, and costs associated with beverage containers; prohibiting a producer from selling, offering for sale, or distributing in or importing into the State a redeemable beverage container unless the producer is registered with the Department of the Environment, pays a certain fee, and is part of a beverage container stewardship organization; etc.	Terrasa	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m. (Environment and Transportation) and Hearing 2/24 at 1:00 p.m. (Economic Matters)	Economic Matters; Environment and Transportation Wed 2/11 1:00 PM Wed 2/11 1:00 PM		Support	PH

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>HB 340</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 238)</u></a>	School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact	Entering into the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact for the purpose of authorizing licensed school psychologists who hold multistate licenses to provide school psychological services in member states; establishing requirements for multistate licensure; establishing the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact Commission; providing for the withdrawal from the Compact; etc.	Mireku-North	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 2:00 p.m.	Ways and Means Wed 2/11 2:00 PM		No Position	BC
<a href="#"><u>HB 341</u></a>	Maryland Commission for Boys' and Men's Health - Establishment	Establishing the Maryland Commission for Boys' and Men's Health in the Maryland Department of Health; providing the purpose of the Commission is to raise public awareness of health issues specific to boys and men, including prostate and testicular cancer, oral cancer, cardiovascular disease, depression, diabetes, and substance use disorders; and requiring the Commission to submit a report every 2 years beginning in 2028, to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly, with recommendations for certain policy changes.	Wims	In the House - Hearing 2/10 at 2:00 p.m.	Health Tue 2/10 2:00 PM		No Position	PH

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">HB 372</a> <a href="#">(SB 169)</a>	Hospitals - Emergency Pregnancy-Related Medical Conditions - Procedures	Requiring a hospital to conduct screening on a patient presenting at an emergency department of the hospital to determine whether the patient has an emergency pregnancy-related medical condition; establishing requirements and prohibitions related to the treatment and transfer of a patient who has an emergency pregnancy-related medical condition; requiring a hospital to allow the termination of a pregnancy in certain circumstances; etc.	Lopez	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:30 p.m.	Health Wed 2/11 1:30 PM		Support	BC
<a href="#">HB 377</a> <a href="#">(SB 326)</a>	Physician Assistants - Parity With Other Health Care Practitioners	Altering certain provisions of law to include physician assistants in the health care practitioners who may take certain actions, including actions related to the guardianship of disabled persons, admission of individuals to mental health facilities, the Emergency and Allergy Treatment Program, and the Attendant Care Program; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to cover charges related to examinations by a physician assistant for certain emergency evaluatees; etc.	S. Johnson	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m.	Health Wed 2/4 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	BC

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">HB 385</a> <a href="#">(SB 269)</a>	Courts and Judicial Proceedings - Evidence - Rebuttable Presumption of Medical Bills	Establishing a rebuttable presumption in an action for personal injury or wrongful death that a medical bill from a health care provider or an agent of the health care provider is authentic, fair, and reasonable if the bill was properly provided in discovery; and establishing that a party may overcome the presumption that a medical bill is authentic, fair, and reasonable by proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the medical bill, or any charge in a medical bill, is not authentic, is unfair, or is unreasonable.	Moon	In the House - Hearing 2/18 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary Wed 2/18 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
<a href="#">HB 393</a> <a href="#">(SB 272)</a>	Health Insurance - Scalp Cooling Systems - Required Coverage	Requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations, and managed care organizations that provide coverage for chemotherapy to treat cancer to provide coverage for scalp cooling systems used for the preservation of hair in connection with chemotherapy treatment; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2027.	Nkongolo	In the House - Hearing 2/05 at 1:45 p.m.	Health Thu 2/5 1:45 PM		No Position	HI

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<a href="#"><u>HB 410</u></a>	Public Health - Food and Milk Product Labeling - Requirements	Establishing requirements and prohibitions regarding food and milk product labeling; and requiring the Maryland Department of Health to create a marketing program and educational materials to inform consumers about the meaning of quality dates and safety dates for food labels by July 1, 2027, and to post the information on the Department's website.	Boyce	In the House - Hearing 2/03 at 3:00 p.m.	Health Tue 2/3 3:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#"><u>HB 417</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>(SB 435)</u></a>	Public Health - Medetomidine and Xylazine Consumer Protection Act	Prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, or exposing for sale a medetomidine product or xylazine product unless the purchaser provides proof the intended use is for institutional, veterinary, or scientific purposes; prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, or exposing for sale a medetomidine or xylazine product to an individual under the age of 21 years; requiring a retailer that prepares, distributes, sells, or exposes for sale a medetomidine or xylazine product to maintain certain records; etc.	Pippy	In the House - Hearing 2/10 at 2:00 p.m.	Health Tue 2/10 2:00 PM		Support	PH
<a href="#"><u>HB 422</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>(SB 394)</u></a>	Public Health - Expedited Partner Therapy - Bacterial Vaginosis	Adding bacterial vaginosis to the list of diagnoses for which certain health care providers may prescribe, dispense, or otherwise provide antibiotic therapy to a sexual partner of a diagnosed patient without making a personal physical assessment of the sexual partner.	Bagnall	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:30 p.m.	Health Wed 2/11 1:30 PM		Support	PH

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<a href="#">HB 427</a> <a href="#">(SB 336)</a>	Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances - Extension	Extending to December 31, 2027, the Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances to study and make recommendations related to the use of natural psychedelic substances; and requiring the Task Force to submit an updated report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before October 31, 2026.	Guzzone	In the House - Hearing 2/10 at 2:00 p.m.	Health Tue 2/10 2:00 PM		No Position	PH
<a href="#">HB 445</a> <a href="#">(SB 276)</a>	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Coverage for Orthoses and Prostheses (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, 2027; clarifying that certain mandated benefits related to prostheses include all prostheses determined by a treating health care provider to be medically necessary for completing daily living activities, essential job-related activities or performing certain other physical activities; etc.	Martinez	In the House - First Reading Health	Health		No Position	HI

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<a href="#"><u>HB 468</u></a>	Health and Taxation - Digital Social Media Services and the Mental Health Care Fund for Children and Youth	Establishing the Mental Health Care Fund for Children and Youth to support improved access to mental health care services for children and youth in the State; imposing a tax on certain annual revenues derived from certain digital social media services in the State; providing for the calculation and collection of the tax; requiring the Comptroller to distribute revenue from the tax in a certain manner; etc.	Martinez	In the House - Hearing 2/12 at 1:00 p.m.	Ways and Means Thu 2/12 1:00 PM			PH
<a href="#"><u>HB 476</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>(SB 474)</u></a>	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 2/18 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary Wed 2/18 1:00 PM	Oppose	BC	
<a href="#"><u>HB 494</u></a>	Health Insurance - Primary Care Investment Targets - Reimbursement and Reporting	Requiring certain entities to provide reimbursement to health care providers in a manner that meets the annual primary care investment targets established by the State on or after February 1, 2026; and requiring certain entities to provide a description of the entity's progress in meeting the annual primary care investment targets to the Maryland Insurance Commissioner when filing a premium rate or premium rate change with the Commissioner.	Bagnall	In the House - First Reading Health	Health	Support	HI	

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<a href="#">HB 498</a> <a href="#">(SB 444)</a>	Certificate of Need - Intermediate Health Care Facilities	Repealing the exemption from the certificate of need requirement for a change in bed capacity for intermediate care facilities that offer substance use disorder treatment services; providing a certificate of need is not required for a change in bed capacity at certain facilities offering certain treatment services if a written notice is filed with the Commission 45 days before the facility's establishment, the facility is consistent with the State Health Plan, will result in more efficient service delivery, and is in the public interest; etc.	Cullison	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:30 p.m.	Health Wed 2/11 1:30 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">HB 504</a>	State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists - Physician Members - Repeal	Altering the membership of the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists by removing the physician members.	Martinez	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:30 p.m.	Health Wed 2/11 1:30 PM		Oppose	BC
<a href="#">HB 515</a>	Public Health - Local Drug Overdose Fatality Review Teams - Membership	Requiring that the hospital representative on a local drug overdose fatality review team be a vice president, a chief medical officer, or an assistant medical officer at the hospital.	Vogel	In the House - First Reading Health	Health		FYI	FYI

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<a href="#">HB 520</a> <a href="#">(SB 470)</a>	State Board of Physicians - Naturopathic Doctors - Scope of Practice, Renewals, and Professional Liability Insurance	Altering the drugs that may be prescribed, provided, or administered or for which a starter dose may be dispensed by a naturopathic doctor; altering the methods by which a naturopathic doctor may administer medication; altering the requirements for renewal of a naturopathic doctor license; altering the grounds for discipline of naturopathic doctors; requiring the State Board of Physicians to include certain information regarding professional liability insurance on a naturopathic doctor's licensee profile; etc.	Cullison	In the House - First Reading Health	Health		Oppose	BC
<a href="#">HB 526</a>	Civil Actions - Settlement Agreements - Payment and Release	Requiring a settling defendant in a tort action for money damages to provide a proposed release to a plaintiff within 10 days and to pay all sums due to a plaintiff under a settlement agreement within 15 days; providing for the protection by a plaintiff of certain third-party rights of recovery or subrogation; and establishing the accrual of interest on settlement sums under certain circumstances.	Kaufman	In the House - Hearing 2/18 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary Wed 2/18 1:00 PM		Hold	BC
<a href="#">HB 529</a> <a href="#">(SB 244)</a>	Code Revision - Health - Maryland Medical Assistance Program	Revising, restating, and recodifying the laws of this State relating to the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.	The Speaker	In the House - First Reading Health	Health		No Position	PH

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>HB 544</u></a>	Vehicle Laws - Cannabis Use in Motor Vehicle With Minor Occupant - Prohibition	Prohibiting an individual from smoking, vaping, or consuming cannabis in the passenger area of a motor vehicle in which a minor is an occupant.	R. Long	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 2:00 p.m.	Judiciary Wed 2/11 2:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#"><u>HB 551</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>(SB 327)</u></a>	Criminal Law - Drug Paraphernalia and Controlled Paraphernalia Prohibitions - Repeal	Repealing prohibitions relating to drug paraphernalia and controlled paraphernalia.	Simpson	In the House - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary Tue 2/10 1:00 PM		Support	PH
<a href="#"><u>HB 595</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>(SB 466)</u></a>	Income Tax - Credit for Physician Preceptors in Areas With Health Care Workforce Shortages - Alterations	Altering eligibility for a credit against the State income tax for physician preceptors by repealing a requirement that a student in a physician preceptorship program be enrolled in a medical school or medical training program in the State and reducing the required number of hours for a preceptor rotation for community-based clinical training; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.	LewisAddison	In the House - Hearing 2/12 at 1:00 p.m. (Ways and Means)	Health; Ways and Means Thu 2/12 1:00 PM		Hold	BC

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>HB 598</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 380)</u></a>	Physicians - Licensing - Internationally Trained Physicians	Authorizing the State Board of Physicians, beginning October 1, 2028, to issue a license, not to exceed 3 years, to practice medicine to an internationally trained physician under certain circumstances; requiring the Board to adopt regulations establishing minimum qualifications and application fees and to provide a pathway to full licensure; etc.	Hill	In the House - First Reading Health	Health		Hold	BC
<a href="#"><u>HB 599</u></a>	Health - Licensure of Hospitals - Ownership Requirements	Requiring that hospitals, to qualify for a license on or after October 1, 2026, qualify as a nonprofit organization under federal law and be registered as a nonprofit organization with the State; requiring hospitals that receive licensure on or after October 1, 2026, to maintain status as a nonprofit organization as a condition of licensure; and providing that, on or after October 1, 2026, the ownership of a licensed hospital may be transferred only to a nonprofit organization.	Hill	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 1:30 p.m.	Health Wed 2/11 1:30 PM			BC

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>HB 619</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 333)</u></a>	Interstate Podiatric Medical Licensure Compact	Entering into the Interstate Podiatric Medical Licensure Compact; authorizing a podiatrist to practice in a participating state under certain scope of practice rules; establishing the Interstate Podiatric Medical Licensure Compact Commission to oversee the Compact and its duties and powers; and providing the Act is contingent on the enactment of substantially similar provisions in four other states.	Cullison	In the House - First Reading Health	Health		No Position	BC
<a href="#"><u>HB 624</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 411)</u></a>	Hospitals - Clinical Staffing Committees and Plans - Establishment (Safe Staffing Act of 2026)	Requiring certain hospitals licensed in the State to establish and maintain a clinical staffing committee and to implement a clinical staffing plan; requiring each clinical staffing committee to develop a clinical staffing plan; requiring, on or before July 1 each year, each hospital's clinical staffing committee to conduct a review of the clinical staffing plan for certain purposes; requiring, on or before January 1, 2028, each hospital to implement a clinical staffing plan and assign personnel in accordance with the plan; etc.	White Holland	In the House - First Reading Health	Health		Support	BC

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>HB 637</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 385)</u></a>	Public Health - Recommendations for Immunizations, Screenings, and Preventive Services - Pharmacist Administration and Required Health Insurance Coverage (The Vax Act)	Requiring the Secretary of Health to issue recommendations for certain immunizations, screenings, and preventive services based on certain evidence-based scientific and clinical guidance; altering the authority of pharmacists to administer certain vaccinations; altering the health insurance coverage requirements for certain immunizations, screenings, and preventive services; and repealing obsolete language regarding the pertussis vaccine.	The Speaker	In the House - First Reading Health	Health		Support	PH
<a href="#"><u>HB 737</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SB 416)</u></a>	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.	Hill	In the House - First Reading Health	Health		Support with Amendment	HI

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 12 (HB 153)</a>	Residential Rental Apartments - Air-Conditioning Requirement	Requiring a landlord to provide air-conditioning to residential rental units in apartment buildings with four or more individual dwelling units in a certain manner beginning June 1, 2026, for newly constructed residential rental units and beginning October 1, 2026, for residential rental units that undergo renovation that includes the replacement or substantial upgrade of electrical systems or heating systems; and applying the Act prospectively.	West	In the Senate - Hearing 1/20 at 1:00 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Tue 1/20 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">SB 14 (HB 273)</a>	Health Insurance - Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) Enrollment - Effective Dates	Altering the effective dates of enrollment in a Small Business Health Options (SHOP) Exchange plan for individuals who enroll during certain special enrollment periods; etc.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/28 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/28 2:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">SB 19</a>	Maryland Commission on Women's Health Advancement - Establishment	Establishing the Maryland Commission on Women's Health Advancement to study the feasibility of establishing a State women's hospital in Southern Maryland and a statewide clinical network to advance women's health; requiring the Commission by January 1, 2027, to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an initial action plan, including a timeline, milestones, and specific research objectives; etc.	Ellis	In the Senate - Hearing 1/27 at 2:30 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/27 2:30 PM		No Position	PH

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 39</a>	Behavioral Health - Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics and Outpatient Mental Health Centers - Reimbursement Rates	Establishing the Workgroup on Certified Behavioral Health Clinic Implementation and Rate Methodology in the Behavioral Health Administration; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to conduct a certain rate study of outpatient mental health centers in the State; requiring the Department to increase the Maryland Medical Assistance Program reimbursement rate for outpatient mental health centers by 3% in fiscal years 2026 and 2027; etc.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing canceled	Finance		No Position	PH
<a href="#">SB 78</a>	Public Health - Prostate-Specific Antigen Testing (Protect Our Prostate Act)	Requiring certain providers and laboratories to provide certain written information to patients receiving prostate-specific antigen testing; and requiring clinical laboratories that administer prostate-specific antigen tests to follow certain disclosure requirements, use standard calibration for testing assays and report test results in a standard manner, make certain disclosures to ordering providers, and follow guidelines from certain organizations.	Ellis	In the Senate - Hearing 2/12 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/12 1:00 PM		Oppose	PH

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>SB 83</u></a>	Health Occupations - Grounds for Discipline - Federal and Court Actions	Altering the grounds for discipline by certain health occupations boards to include being disciplined by any branch of the uniformed services or the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; and altering the grounds for discipline of a naturopathic doctor by the State Board of Physicians to include being convicted or disciplined by a court of any state or country.	Simonaire	In the Senate - Hearing 2/03 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/3 2:00 PM		No Position	BC
<a href="#"><u>SB 102</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>(HB 291)</u></a>	Sports Wagering Proceeds - Promotional Play Exclusion - Limitation	Authorizing the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to establish a certain limit, by regulation, on the amount of money given away as free promotional play by a sports wagering licensee that may be excluded from sports wagering proceeds.	Chair, Budget and Taxation Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/21 at 10:00 a.m.	Budget and Taxation Wed 1/21 10:00 AM		Hold	PH
<a href="#"><u>SB 120</u></a>	Health Insurance - Required Benefits for Dental Preventive Care - Frequency Limitation Interval (Healthy Moms and Family Smiles Act)	Shortening, from 120 to 90, the maximum interval of days that certain carriers may impose as a frequency limitation on dental preventive care; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2027.	Ellis	In the Senate - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/4 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 139</a> <a href="#">(HB 277)</a>	Insurance - Third Party Administrators - Enforcement	Altering the grounds on which the Maryland Insurance Commissioner may deny an applicant for registration as or refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke the registration of a third party administrator; and altering the violations for which the Commissioner may impose civil penalties against a third party administrator.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/28 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/28 2:00 PM		Support	HI
<a href="#">SB 169</a> <a href="#">(HB 372)</a>	Hospitals - Emergency Pregnancy-Related Medical Conditions - Procedures	Requiring a hospital to conduct screening on a patient presenting at an emergency department of the hospital to determine whether the patient has an emergency pregnancy-related medical condition; establishing requirements and prohibitions related to the treatment and transfer of a patient who has an emergency pregnancy-related medical condition; requiring a hospital to allow the termination of a pregnancy in certain circumstances; etc.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing 2/03 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/3 2:00 PM		Support	BC
<a href="#">SB 195</a>	Motorcycles - Protective Headgear Requirement - Exception (In Remembrance of Gary "Pappy" Boward)	Establishing an exception to the prohibition against operating or riding on a motorcycle without certain protective headgear for an individual at least 21 years old who has been licensed to operate a motorcycle for at least 2 years or has completed a certain motorcycle safety course and for the individual's passenger.	McKay	In the Senate - Hearing 1/28 at 11:00 a.m.	Judicial Proceedings Wed 1/28 11:00 AM		Oppose	PH

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 196</a> <a href="#">(HB 279)</a>	Correctional Services - Medication Review Committee - Administration of Psychotropic Medication to an Incarcerated Individual	Authorizing the establishment of a medication review committee within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services that convenes to determine whether to approve the administration of psychotropic medication to a certain incarcerated individual under certain circumstances; providing that psychotropic medication may not be administered to an incarcerated individual who refuses the medication except under certain circumstances; etc.	Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/21 at 11:00 a.m.	Judicial Proceedings Wed 1/21 11:00 AM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">SB 205</a> <a href="#">(HB 280)</a>	Health Insurance - Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders - Codification of Federal Requirements	Codifying in State law certain provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations related to mental health parity and clarifying the authority of the Maryland Insurance Administration to enforce certain laws; requiring health insurance carriers to collect and report on data in a certain manner; requiring health insurance carriers to provide certain benefits under certain circumstances; requiring health insurance carriers to explain differences in access to care under certain circumstances; etc.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/28 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/28 2:00 PM		Support	HI

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 222</a> <a href="#">(HB 137)</a>	Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications	Establishing qualifications for an individual to be appointed by a court as a custody evaluator; and authorizing a court to waive certain requirements for a court employee or an individual under contract with the court under certain circumstances.	Carozza	In the Senate - Hearing 1/20 at 1:00 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Tue 1/20 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
<a href="#">SB 238</a> <a href="#">(HB 340)</a>	School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact	Entering into the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact for the purpose of authorizing licensed school psychologists who hold multistate licenses to provide school psychological services in member states; establishing requirements for multistate licensure; establishing the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact Commission; providing for the withdrawal from the Compact; etc.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 2/18 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Energy, and the Environment Wed 2/18 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
<a href="#">SB 240</a>	Office of Health Care Quality Stakeholder Advisory Council - Establishment	Establishing the Office of Health Care Quality Stakeholder Advisory Council to provide feedback to the Office of Health Care Quality regarding maintaining oversight of health care facilities and to notify the Secretary of Health if the Office is negligent in providing oversight of health care facilities; and requiring the Advisory Council, beginning in 2027, and by December 1 annually, to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.	Lewis Young	In the Senate - Hearing 2/03 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/3 2:00 PM		No Position	BC

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 244</a> <a href="#">(HB 529)</a>	Code Revision - Health - Maryland Medical Assistance Program	Revising, restating, and recodifying the laws of this State relating to the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.	The President	In the Senate - Hearing 1/27 at 2:30 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/27 2:30 PM		No Position	PH
<a href="#">SB 246</a>	Health Services Cost Review Commission - Term of Office of Members	Authorizing a member of the Health Services Cost Review Commission to continue to serve for a period not to exceed 6 months after the expiration of the member's term of office, rather than until a successor is appointed and qualifies; and repealing the authority of a member of the Commission who was appointed after a term began to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.	Beidle	In the Senate - Hearing 1/27 at 2:30 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/27 2:30 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">SB 249</a>	Tobacco Product Licensees - Additional Licensure for Electronic Smoking Devices	Repealing a provision of law authorizing a person holding a certain license relating to cigarettes or other tobacco products to manufacture, distribute, or sell electronic smoking devices in the same capacity as a person holding a certain license relating to electronic smoking devices; exempting the holder of a certain license who is an applicant for a license to act as an electronic smoking devices retailer or vape shop vendor from the requirement to pay an additional license fee for the license; etc.	Beidle	In the Senate - Hearing 2/05 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/5 1:00 PM		Support	PH

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 260</a> <a href="#">(HB 322)</a>	Maryland Health Care Commission - Membership	Altering the membership of the Maryland Health Care Commission by reducing from nine to eight the number of members who are individuals who do not have any connection with the management or policy of a health care provider or payor and including a representative of a hospital; and altering from five to four the number of Commission members who must be residents of different counties with a population of 300,000 or more.		In the Senate - Hearing 2/03 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/3 2:00 PM		No Position	BC
<a href="#">SB 269</a> <a href="#">(HB 385)</a>	Courts and Judicial Proceedings - Evidence - Rebuttable Presumption of Medical Bills	Establishing a rebuttable presumption in an action for personal injury or wrongful death that a medical bill from a health care provider or an agent of the health care provider is authentic, fair, and reasonable if the bill was properly provided in discovery; and establishing that a party may overcome the presumption that a medical bill is authentic, fair, and reasonable by proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the medical bill, or any charge in a medical bill, is not authentic, is unfair, or is unreasonable.	Henson	In the Senate - Hearing 2/03 at 2:00 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Tue 2/3 2:00 PM		No Position	BC

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 272</a> <a href="#">(HB 393)</a>	Health Insurance - Scalp Cooling Systems - Required Coverage	Requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations, and managed care organizations that provide coverage for chemotherapy to treat cancer to provide coverage for scalp cooling systems used for the preservation of hair in connection with chemotherapy treatment; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2027.	Gile	In the Senate - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/4 1:00 PM		No Position	HI
<a href="#">SB 276</a> <a href="#">(HB 445)</a>	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Coverage for Orthoses and Prostheses (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, 2027; clarifying that certain mandated benefits related to prostheses include all prostheses determined by a treating health care provider to be medically necessary for completing daily living activities, essential job-related activities, or performing certain other physical activities; etc.	Beidle	In the Senate - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/4 1:00 PM		No Position	HI

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 326</a> <a href="#">(HB 377)</a>	Physician Assistants - Parity With Other Health Care Practitioners (Physician Assistant Parity Act of 2026)	Altering certain provisions of law to include physician assistants in the health care practitioners who may take certain actions, including actions related to the guardianship of disabled persons, admission of individuals to mental health facilities, the Emergency and Allergy Treatment Program, and the Attendant Care Program; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to cover charges related to examinations by a physician assistant for certain emergency evaluatees; etc.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/10 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	BC
<a href="#">SB 327</a> <a href="#">(HB 551)</a>	Criminal Law - Drug Paraphernalia and Controlled Paraphernalia Prohibitions - Repeal	Repealing prohibitions relating to drug paraphernalia and controlled paraphernalia.	McCray	In the Senate - Hearing 2/05 at 1:00 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Thu 2/5 1:00 PM		Support	PH
<a href="#">SB 333</a> <a href="#">(HB 619)</a>	Interstate Podiatric Medical Licensure Compact	Entering into the Interstate Podiatric Medical Licensure Compact; authorizing a podiatrist to practice in a participating state under certain scope of practice rules; establishing the Interstate Podiatric Medical Licensure Compact Commission to oversee the Compact and its duties and powers; and providing the Act is contingent on the enactment of substantially similar provisions in four other states.	Kramer	In the Senate - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/10 1:00 PM		No Position	BC

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>SB 336</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 427)</u></a>	Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances - Extension	Extending to December 31, 2027, the Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances to study and make recommendations related to the use of natural psychedelic substances; and requiring the Task Force to submit an updated report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before October 31, 2026.	Feldman	In the Senate - Hearing 2/11 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/11 2:00 PM		No Position	PH
<a href="#"><u>SB 342</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 331)</u></a>	Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program	Establishing the Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program to increase the reuse and recycling of beverage containers and reduce the litter, pollution, and costs associated with beverage containers; prohibiting a producer from selling, offering for sale, or distributing in or importing into the State a redeemable beverage container unless the producer is registered with the Department of the Environment, pays a certain fee, and is part of a beverage container stewardship organization; etc.	Brooks	In the Senate - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Energy, and the Environment Tue 2/10 1:00 PM		Support	PH
<a href="#"><u>SB 379</u></a>	Recovery Residence Grant Program - Funding	Extending through fiscal year 2030 the requirement that an appropriation of \$500,000 be included in the annual budget bill for the Recovery Residence Grant Program.	Guzzone	In the Senate - Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m.	Budget and Taxation Wed 2/4 1:00 PM		No Position	PH

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>SB 380</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 598)</u></a>	Physicians - Licensing - Internationally Trained Physicians	Authorizing the State Board of Physicians, beginning October 1, 2028, to issue a license, not to exceed 3 years, to practice medicine to an internationally trained physician under certain circumstances; requiring the Board to adopt regulations establishing minimum qualifications and application fees and to provide a pathway to full licensure; etc.	Lewis Young	In the Senate - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/10 1:00 PM		Hold	BC
<a href="#"><u>SB 385</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 637)</u></a>	Public Health - Recommendations for Immunizations, Screenings, and Preventive Services - Pharmacist Administration and Required Health Insurance Coverage (The Vax Act)	Requiring the Secretary of Health to issue recommendations for certain immunizations, screenings, and preventive services based on certain evidence-based scientific and clinical guidance; altering the authority of pharmacists to administer certain vaccinations; altering the health insurance coverage requirements for certain immunizations, screenings, and preventive services; and repealing obsolete language regarding the pertussis vaccine.	The President	In the Senate - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/10 1:00 PM		Support	PH

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# MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 389</a>	Land Use - Transit-Oriented Development - Alterations (Maryland Transit and Housing Opportunity Act)	Providing for the automatic designation of certain transit-oriented developments as enterprise zones; requiring the Maryland Development Corporation to prioritize certain redevelopment projects when making loans under the Strategic Infrastructure Revolving Loan Program; altering the authority of local legislative bodies to regulate land use planning on land located near certain transit stations; delaying the collection of certain development excise taxes and development impact fees for certain residential real estate projects; etc.	The President	In the Senate - Hearing 2/17 at 1:00 p.m. (Finance)	Education, Energy, and the Environment; Finance Tue 2/17 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">SB 394</a> <a href="#">(HB 422)</a>	Public Health - Expedited Partner Therapy - Bacterial Vaginosis	Adding bacterial vaginosis to the list of diagnoses for which certain health care providers may prescribe, dispense, or otherwise provide antibiotic therapy to a sexual partner of a diagnosed patient without making a personal physical assessment of the sexual partner.	Gile	In the Senate - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/10 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.\*

\*Please Note: Dr. Stephen Rockower, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Prescription Drug Affordability Board.\*

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#"><u>SB 411</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 624)</u></a>	Hospitals - Clinical Staffing Committees and Plans - Establishment (Safe Staffing Act of 2026)	Requiring certain hospitals licensed in the State to establish and maintain a clinical staffing committee and to implement a clinical staffing plan; requiring each clinical staffing committee to develop a clinical staffing plan; requiring, on or before July 1 each year, each hospital's clinical staffing committee to conduct a review of the clinical staffing plan for certain purposes; requiring, on or before January 1, 2028, each hospital to implement a clinical staffing plan and assign personnel in accordance with the plan; etc.	Augustine	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support	BC
<a href="#"><u>SB 416</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 737)</u></a>	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.	Lam	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support with Amendment	HI
<a href="#"><u>SB 418</u></a>	Professional Licensing Portability - Members of the Foreign Service and Spouses	Authorizing members of the Foreign Service and spouses of members of the Foreign Service, for the duration of the assignment or detail, to practice in the State under an occupational or professional license issued in another jurisdiction under certain circumstances.	Simonaire	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment; Finance	Education, Energy, and the Environment; Finance		Hold	BC

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<a href="#"><u>SB 421</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 60)</u></a>	Sickle Cell Disease - Institutions of Higher Education - Policies, Procedures, and Educational Campaigns	Prohibiting an institution of higher education from denying access or services to a student based on the student's diagnosis of sickle cell disease; requiring an institution of higher education to provide reasonable accommodations for students with sickle cell disease; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to develop an education and awareness campaign for institutions of higher education in the State regarding students with sickle cell disease; etc.	M. Washington	In the Senate - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m. (Education, Energy, and the Environment)	Education, Energy, and the Environment; Finance Tue 2/10 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
<a href="#"><u>SB 435</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(HB 417)</u></a>	Public Health - Medetomidine and Xylazine Consumer Protection Act	Prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, or exposing for sale a medetomidine product or xylazine product unless the purchaser provides proof the intended use is for institutional, veterinary, or scientific purposes; prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, or exposing for sale a medetomidine or xylazine product to an individual under the age of 21 years; requiring a retailer that prepares, distributes, sells, or exposes for sale a medetomidine or xylazine product to maintain certain records; etc.	Folden	In the Senate - Hearing 2/11 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/11 2:00 PM		Support	PH

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 444</a> <a href="#">(HB 498)</a>	Certificate of Need - Intermediate Health Care Facilities	Repealing the exemption from the certificate of need requirement for a change in bed capacity for intermediate care facilities that offer substance use disorder treatment services; providing a certificate of need is not required for a change in bed capacity at certain facilities offering certain treatment services if a written notice is filed with the Commission 45 days before the facility's establishment, the facility is consistent with the State Health Plan, will result in more efficient service delivery, and is in the public interest; etc.	Kramer	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		FYI	FYI
<a href="#">SB 466</a> <a href="#">(HB 595)</a>	Income Tax - Credit for Physician Preceptors in Areas With Health Care Workforce Shortages - Alterations	Altering eligibility for a credit against the State income tax for physician preceptors by repealing a requirement that a student in a physician preceptorship program be enrolled in a medical school or medical training program in the State and reducing the required number of hours for a preceptor rotation for community-based clinical training; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.	King	In the Senate - First Reading Budget and Taxation	Budget and Taxation		Hold	BC

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
<a href="#">SB 470</a> <a href="#">(HB 520)</a>	State Board of Physicians - Naturopathic Doctors - Scope of Practice, Renewals, and Professional Liability Insurance	Altering the drugs that may be prescribed, provided, or administered or for which a starter dose may be dispensed by a naturopathic doctor; altering the methods by which a naturopathic doctor may administer medication; altering the requirements for renewal of a naturopathic doctor license; altering the grounds for discipline of naturopathic doctors; requiring the State Board of Physicians to include certain information regarding professional liability insurance on a naturopathic doctor's licensee profile; etc.	Hayes	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Oppose	BC
<a href="#">SB 474</a> <a href="#">(HB 476)</a>	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.	Waldstreicher	In the Senate - First Reading Judicial Proceedings	Judicial Proceedings		Oppose	BC

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