



MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society

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MedChi Legislative Newsletter

Your Guide to Health Care Legislation

During the 2022 Legislative Session

January 18, 2022

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society
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MedChi Boards and Commissions Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 14 (SB 48)	Health - Advance Care Planning and Advance Directives	Requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission to coordinate the implementation of advance care planning programs in the State; requiring each health insurance carrier to offer electronic advance directives to its members and enrollees at certain times and make arrangements to receive certain notifications; and authorizing a health insurance carrier to contract with an electronic advance directives service under certain circumstances.	Cullison	In the House - Hearing canceled	Health and Government Operations		Support
HB 28 (SB 62)	Pharmacists - Aids for the Cessation of Tobacco Product Use	Authorizing a pharmacist who meets the requirements of regulations adopted by the State Board of Pharmacy to prescribe and dispense nicotine replacement therapy medications approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as aids for the cessation of the use of tobacco products.	Bhandari	In the House - Hearing 1/20 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/20 2:30 PM		Oppose
HB 32 (SB 2)	Mental Health Law - Petitions for Emergency Evaluation - Electronic Record	Authorizing a petition for emergency evaluation to be in the form of an electronic record.	Bagnall	In the House - Hearing 1/26 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/26 2:30 PM		Support
HB 49	Public Health - Emergency and Allergy Treatment Program - Nurse Practitioners	Authorizing nurse practitioners to prescribe and dispense auto-injectable epinephrine to certain certificate holders who operate youth camps.	Johnson	In the House - Hearing 1/19 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/19 2:30 PM		TBD

MedChi Boards and Commissions Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 55	Health Occupations - Nurse Anesthetists - Drug Authority and Collaboration	Authorizing a nurse anesthetist to prescribe, order, and administer drugs, including controlled dangerous substances, without obtaining approval from a practitioner with whom the nurse anesthetist collaborates, subject to certain limitations; and authorizing a nurse anesthetist to collaborate with a podiatrist.	Cullison	In the House - Hearing 2/01 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/1 2:30 PM		TBD
HB 66	Health Occupations - Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives - Previous Cesarean Section	Allowing a licensed direct-entry midwife to assume or take responsibility for a patient who had a previous cesarean section and regulating the circumstances under which the responsibility may be assumed or taken.	Cullison	In the House - Hearing 2/01 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/1 2:30 PM		Oppose
HB 112 (SB 230)	Health Occupations - Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses - Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting	Requiring health occupations boards to issue a temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit to a service member, veteran, or military spouse who meets certain requirements; and prohibiting a health occupations board from issuing a certain temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit if the issuance would pose a risk to public health, welfare, or safety.	Crosby	In the House - Hearing 1/20 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/20 2:30 PM		No Position
HB 180	Interstate Medical Licensure Compact - Sunset Extension and Reporting	Extending from September 30, 2022, to September 30, 2027, the termination date of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and other provisions of law related to the Compact; and requiring the State Board of Physicians to include an update on the status of the Compact in its 2023 annual report.	Bagnall	In the House - Hearing 1/25 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 1/25 2:30 PM		Support

MedChi Boards and Commissions Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 229 (SB 19)	Pharmacists - Administration of Maintenance Injectable Medications - Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections	Altering the definition of "maintenance injectable medication" for the purposes of provisions of law governing the administration of maintenance injectable medications by pharmacists to include a medication that treats a sexually transmitted infection and is not a vaccine.	K. Young	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		No Position
HB 276	Health Occupations - Clinical Nurse Specialists - Prescribing Authority	Defining "clinical nurse specialist" and "practice as a clinical nurse specialist" for the purpose of authorizing clinical nurse specialists to prescribe drugs and durable medical equipment under regulations adopted by the State Board of Nursing; altering the definition of "authorized prescriber" for purposes of the Maryland Pharmacy Act to include clinical nurse specialists; and authorizing a licensed physician to personally prepare and dispense a prescription written by a clinical nurse specialist.	Cullison	In the House - Hearing 2/01 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/1 2:30 PM		
HB 286	Emergency Medical Services - Paramedics - Immunization Administration - Effective Date	Delaying the effective date to January 1, 2026, of certain provisions of law that repeal the authority of paramedics to administer influenza and 2019CoV immunizations under certain circumstances.	Kaiser	In the House - Hearing 2/08 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/8 2:30 PM		

MedChi Boards and Commissions Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 287 (SB 243)	Secretary of Health - Professional Qualification Requirement	Requiring the Secretary of Health to be professionally qualified through certain experience or education in at least one health-related field, health or law policy, health care facilities administration, health economics or financial management, government operations related to health care, or as a health care provider.	Pena-Melnyk	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		
HB 292	Occupational Licensing Boards and Commission on Judicial Disabilities - Reporting Disciplinary Activities	Requiring business occupation licensing boards to include on license, registration, and certification application and renewal forms an option for the applicant to provide the applicant's gender, race, and ethnicity; requiring the business occupation licensing boards to encourage applicants to provide gender, race, and ethnicity information; requiring business and health occupation licensing boards to include certain information related to disciplinary activities in the boards' annual reports; etc.	Davis	In the House - Hearing 2/08 at 2:30 p.m. (Health and Government Operations)	Economic Matters; Health and Government Operations Tue 2/8 2:30 PM		
SB 2 (HB 32)	Mental Health Law - Petitions for Emergency Evaluation - Electronic Record	Authorizing a petition for emergency evaluation to be in the form of an electronic record.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 1/25 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/25 1:00 PM		Support
SB 19 (HB 229)	Pharmacists - Administration of Maintenance Injectable Medications - Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections	Altering the definition of "maintenance injectable medication" for the purposes of provisions of law governing the administration of maintenance injectable medications by pharmacists to include a medication that treats a sexually transmitted infection and is not a vaccine.	Lam	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs		No Position

MedChi Boards and Commissions Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 48 (HB 14)	Health - Advance Care Planning and Advance Directives	Requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission to coordinate the implementation of advance care planning programs in the State; requiring each health insurance carrier to offer electronic advance directives to its members and enrollees at certain times and make arrangements to receive certain notifications; and authorizing a health insurance carrier to contract with an electronic advance directives service under certain circumstances.	Kramer	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support
SB 62 (HB 28)	Pharmacists - Aids for the Cessation of Tobacco Product Use	Authorizing a pharmacist who meets the requirements of regulations adopted by the State Board of Pharmacy to prescribe and dispense nicotine replacement therapy medications approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as aids for the cessation of the use of tobacco products.	Washington	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Finance	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; Finance		Oppose
SB 77	Health Occupations Boards - Investigations - Right to Counsel	Authorizing a licensee or certificate holder to be represented by counsel during an investigation by a health occupations board that may result in charges or sanctions; and authorizing a licensee or certificate holder to have counsel present at any interview conducted by or on behalf of the health occupations board during the investigation.	West	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs		Support
SB 144	Health - Authorization to Prescribe and Administer Amygdalin - Repeal	Repealing certain provisions of law relating to the prescription, administration, and regulation of amygdalin.	Feldman	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support

MedChi Boards and Commissions Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 154	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact	Entering into the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact; establishing criteria for participating states; authorizing an advanced practice registered nurse to practice in a party state under certain scope of practice rules; establishing the Interstate Commission of APRN Compact Administrators and its duties and powers; providing for the amendment of and withdrawal from the Compact; and providing the Compact is contingent on the enacting of substantially similar legislation in six other states.	Eckardt	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs		Support with Amendment
SB 159	Health Occupations - Authorized Prescribers - Reporting of Financial Gratuities or Incentives	Requiring each authorized prescriber who receives a financial gratuity or incentive from a pharmaceutical distributor or manufacturer to file a financial disclosure form with the health occupations board that licenses the authorized prescriber within 30 days after the financial gratuity or incentive is received by the authorized prescriber; and applying the Act prospectively.	Kelley	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs		Support with Amendment
SB 230 (HB 112)	Health Occupations - Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses - Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting	Requiring health occupations boards to issue a temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit to a service member, veteran, or military spouse who meets certain requirements; and prohibiting a health occupations board from issuing a certain temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit if the issuance would pose a risk to public health, welfare, or safety.	Jackson	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs		No Position

MedChi Boards and Commissions Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 243 (HB 287)	Secretary of Health - Professional Qualification Requirement	Requiring the Secretary of Health to be professionally qualified through experience or education in health law or policy, health care facilities administration, health economics or financial management, government operations related to health care, or as a health care provider.	Feldman	In the Senate - Reassigned to Finance	Finance		
SB 253	Maryland Health Care Commission - User Fee Assessments	Increasing the maximum amount, from \$16,0000 to \$20,000,000, of user fees the Maryland Health Care Commission may assess against hospitals, nursing homes, payors, and health care practitioners.	Kelley	In the Senate - Hearing 1/26 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/26 1:00 PM		

MedChi Health Insurance Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 142	Health Insurance - Coverage of In Vitro Fertilization - Revisions	Expanding the benefits for expenses arising from in vitro fertilization procedures that certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations are prohibited from excluding from coverage; prohibiting certain carriers from denying coverage of benefits for expenses arising from in vitro fertilization procedures because a policyholder or subscriber or dependent spouse of a policyholder or subscriber is a genetic carrier and at risk for a fetal anomaly; etc.	Amprey	In the House - Hearing 1/27 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/27 2:30 PM		TBD
HB 213	Health Information Exchanges - Definition and Privacy Regulations	Altering the definition of a "health information exchange" as used in provisions of law governing the confidentiality of medical records; and providing that regulations governing the privacy and security of protected health information obtained or released through a health information exchange may not prohibit the sharing and disclosing of information that is required to be exchanged under federal law or for payment purposes or the use of electronic health information for purposes important to public health.	Kelly	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Support
HB 260	State Board of Physicians - Dispensing Permits	Transferring oversight of the inspection of the offices of dispensing physicians from the Office of Controlled Substances Administration to the State Board of Physicians; and altering the circumstances under which a physician may dispense drugs, devices, or topical medications.	Carr	In the House - Hearing 1/25 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 1/25 2:30 PM		Support

MedChi Health Insurance Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 180	Insurance - Conformity With Federal Law - The No Surprises Act and Other Provisions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021	Providing that the federal No Surprises Act and certain other provisions of the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 regarding transparency apply to certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations; and authorizing the Maryland Insurance Commissioner to enforce the Act.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/19 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/19 1:00 PM		No Position

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 6 (SB 150)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Dental Coverage for Adults	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, beginning January 1, 2023, and subject to certain limitations, to provide comprehensive dental care for adults whose annual household income is at or below 133 percent of the federal poverty level; and repealing certain provisions of law requiring the implementation of a pilot program to provide limited dental coverage to adult recipients under the Program.	Cullison	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		TBD
HB 48 (SB 94)	Public Health - Maryland Suicide Fatality Review Committee	Establishing the Maryland Suicide Fatality Review Committee; providing that a person has immunity from liability for certain actions related to the Committee; providing for the sharing of information with and confidentiality of information obtained by the Committee; exempting Committee meetings from the Open Meetings Act; and prohibiting certain persons from testifying in any proceeding about details of a Committee meeting.	Belcastro	In the House - Hearing 1/26 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/26 2:30 PM		Support
HB 96	Public Health - Nondiscrimination in Access to Anatomical Gifts and Organ Transplantation - Financial Status	Prohibiting covered entities from taking certain actions regarding organ transplantation and anatomical gifts solely on the basis of an individual's financial status; and requiring, except under certain circumstances, covered entities to make certain modifications to policies, practices, and procedures to allow an individual with financial issues access to services related to organ transplantation.	Shetty	In the House - Hearing 1/26 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/26 2:30 PM		TBD

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Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 101	Landlord and Tenant - Repossession for Failure to Pay Rent - Lead Risk Reduction Compliance	Requiring as part of a complaint for repossession for failure to pay rent that a landlord provide registration or licensing information for a property for which registration or licensing is required under local law and to state whether a property is an affected property under certain lead-based paint abatement laws; requiring a rental property in Baltimore City to be in compliance with lead-based paint abatement requirements before a landlord may file a complaint for repossession of the property for failure to pay rent; etc.	Rosenberg	In the House - Hearing 1/18 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation Tue 1/18 1:00 PM		Support
HB 109 (SB 242)	Maryland Department of Health - System for Newborn Screening - Requirements	Requiring the newborn screening program in the Maryland Department of Health to require testing for each condition listed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Recommended Uniform Screening Program.	Shetty	In the House - Hearing 1/19 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/19 2:30 PM		Support
HB 129 (SB 12)	Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services and Public Safety Answering Points - Modifications	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to require that proposals requesting Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program funding contain response standards that minimize law enforcement interaction for individuals in crisis; altering the definition of "mobile crisis team" to include prioritizing limiting interaction of law enforcement with individuals in crisis; and requiring each public safety answering point to develop a written policy for calls involving an individual suffering an active mental health crisis.	Charkoudian	In the House - Hearing 1/26 at 2:30 p.m. (Health and Government Operations)	Health and Government Operations; Judiciary Wed 1/26 2:30 PM		Support

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 141 (SB 23)	Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses	Requiring that equity be considered when State transportation plans, reports, and goals are developed; altering the membership of the advisory committee on State transportation goals; establishing the Commission on Transportation Equity to assist in developing policies and performance measures to ensure the State transportation system is equitable; requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct transit equity analyses and consult with certain communities before announcing or proposing service changes; etc.	Ruth	In the House - Hearing 1/27 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation Thu 1/27 1:00 PM		Support
HB 164	Institutions of Higher Education - Pregnant Students - Policy	Prohibiting an institution of higher education from requiring pregnant students to take a leave of absence, withdraw, or limit studies; requiring an institution of higher education to allow pregnant students, students who have recently given birth, and students who are the nonbirth parents of a recently born child to take a leave of absence and return to the institution in good academic standing, subject to a certain condition; requiring an institution to adopt and implement a written policy on pregnancy discrimination awareness; etc.	Healey	In the House - Hearing 1/25 at 1:00 p.m.	Appropriations Tue 1/25 1:00 PM		Support
HB 245	Program for Preventing HIV Infection for Rape Victims - Alterations and Repeal of Sunset	Repealing the termination date of the Pilot Program for Preventing HIV Infection for Rape Victims; repealing the limit on the total annual amount physicians, qualified health care providers, and hospitals are entitled to be paid for providing certain treatment or follow-up care; and altering the requirement that the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services report to the Governor and General Assembly on the operation and results of the program.	Reznik	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations and Judiciary	Health and Government Operations; Judiciary		Support

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 267	Criminal Law - Threat Against Public Health Official or Hospital Staff Member	Prohibiting a person from making or sending a threat to a public health official with the intent to intimidate, interfere with, or impede a public health official from performing the official's duties; and providing that a person who violated the Act is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to imprisonment of up to 90 days and a fine of up to \$500, or both.	K. Young	In the House - Hearing 1/25 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary Tue 1/25 1:00 PM		Support
HB 293 (SB 241)	Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services - 9-8-8 Trust Fund	Establishing the 9-8-8 Trust Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to provide reimbursement for costs associated with designating and maintaining 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to designate 9-8-8 as the primary phone number for the State's behavioral health crisis hotline; requiring the Department by December 1 each year to report on the expenditure of funds and additional services provided by the funding; etc.	K. Young	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations and Appropriations	Appropriations; Health and Government Operations		Support
SB 12 (HB 129)	Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services and Public Safety Answering Points - Modifications	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to require that proposals requesting Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program funding contain response standards that minimize law enforcement interaction for individuals in crisis; altering the definition of "mobile crisis team" to include prioritizing limiting interaction of law enforcement with individuals in crisis; and requiring each public safety answering point to develop a written policy for calls involving an individual suffering an active mental health crisis.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 1/25 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/25 1:00 PM		Support

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 23 (HB 141)	Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses	Requiring that equity be considered when State transportation plans, reports, and goals are developed; altering the membership of the advisory committee on State transportation goals; establishing the Commission on Transportation Equity to assist in developing policies and performance measures to ensure the State transportation system is equitable; requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct transit equity analyses and consult with certain communities before announcing or proposing service changes; etc.	Carter	In the Senate - Hearing 1/26 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/26 1:00 PM		Support
SB 94 (HB 48)	Public Health - Maryland Suicide Fatality Review Committee	Establishing the Maryland Suicide Fatality Review Committee, the State Team, to identify and address the factors contributing to suicide deaths and facilitate system changes in the State to prevent suicide deaths; requiring the State Teams to meet quarterly and report annually to the Governor and General Assembly; providing for the sharing of information with and confidentiality of information obtained by the Committee; exempting Committee meetings from the Open Meetings Act; etc.	Eckardt	In the Senate - Hearing 1/18 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/18 1:00 PM		Support
SB 99	Cigarettes, Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices - Local Law Authorization	Authorizing a county or municipality to enact and enforce local laws regulating the sale and distribution of cigarettes, other tobacco products, and electronic smoking devices, except for the issuance of certain licenses or the imposition of certain taxes.	Kramer	In the Senate - Hearing 1/27 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 1/27 2:00 PM		Support

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 150 (HB 6)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Dental Coverage for Adults	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, beginning January 1, 2023, and subject to certain limitations, to provide certain dental care for adults whose annual income is at or below 133 percent of the federal poverty level; and repealing certain provisions of law requiring the implementation of a pilot program to provide limited dental coverage to adult recipients under the Program.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 1/25 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/25 1:00 PM		TBD
SB 168	Department of Health - ImmuNet and Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations	Repealing the exemption for certain health care providers or agents from the requirement to provide individuals receiving vaccinations with certain documents, notify the individuals or the parent or guardian of a minor of a certain right, and report all vaccines administered to ImmuNet; altering the membership of and term limits for members of the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations; etc.	Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/20 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Thu 1/20 1:00 PM		Support
SB 176	Vehicle Laws - Rear-Facing Child Safety Seats - Requirement	Requiring a person transporting a child under the age of 2 years in a motor vehicle to secure the child in a rear-facing child safety seat that complies with applicable federal regulations until the child reaches the manufacturer's weight or height limit for the child safety seat.	Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/13 at 1:30 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Thu 1/13 1:30 PM		Support
SB 196	Maryland Department of Health - Overdose Report	Extending the termination date for certain provisions of law requiring the Secretary of Health to examine and report on fatal overdoses involving opioids and other controlled substances; and altering the requirements relating to the examination and report.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/18 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/18 1:00 PM		Support

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 200	Public Health - Prescription Drug Monitoring Program - Naloxone Medication Data	Altering the requirements of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to require the Program to monitor the dispensing of naloxone medication by all prescribers and dispensers in the State and to require dispensers to report naloxone medication data to the Program.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/27 at 2:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 1/27 2:00 PM		Support
SB 241 (HB 293)	Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services - 9-8-8 Trust Fund	Establishing the 9-8-8 Trust Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to provide reimbursement for costs associated with designating and maintaining 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to designate 9-8-8 as the primary phone number for the State's behavioral health crisis hotline; requiring the Department by December 1 each year to report on the expenditure of funds and additional services provided by the funding; etc.	Augustine	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support
SB 242 (HB 109)	Maryland Department of Health - System for Newborn Screening - Requirements	Requiring the newborn screening program in the Maryland Department of Health to require testing for each condition listed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Recommended Uniform Screening Program.	Hershey	In the Senate - Hearing 2/03 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/3 1:00 PM		Support

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 1	Constitutional Amendment - Cannabis - Adult Use and Possession	Establishing that, on or after July 1, 2023, an individual in the State who is at least 21 years old may use and possess cannabis.	Clippinger	In the House - First Reading Judiciary	Judiciary		FYI
HB 50	Public Health - Abortion, Artificial Insemination, and Sterilization - Requirement	Requiring, rather than prohibiting, licensed hospitals, hospital directors, and hospital governing boards to authorize within the hospitals the performance of any medical procedure that results in artificial insemination, sterilization, or termination of pregnancy or to refer to any source for these medical procedures.	Amprey	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		FYI
HB 106 (SB 173)	Health Insurance - Nonprofit Health Service Plan - Board of Directors	Altering the required composition of the board of directors of a nonprofit health service plan; requiring the board be composed of at least 11 members and no more than 23 members; and requiring the Board to seek to include individuals with a diverse range of experience relevant to the mission of the corporation as a nonprofit health services plan including experience in data, consumer experience, government programs, population health, geriatrics, diversity, equity and inclusion.	Cullison	In the House - Hearing 1/27 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/27 2:30 PM		FYI
HB 188 (SB 120)	Acupuncture Licensure Requirements	Altering the education requirements that an applicant for licensure by the State Acupuncture Board must achieve to be issued a license; and requiring that an applicant who is issued a license on or before May 31, 2026 must achieve a diplomate in acupuncture from the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine or a passing score on an examination determined by the Board to be equivalent to the examination given by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.	Cullison	In the House - Hearing 2/03 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 2/3 2:30 PM		FYI

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 190	Criminal Procedure - Medical Emergency - Immunity	Altering certain provisions relating to immunity from criminal arrest, charge, or prosecution for a person experiencing a medical emergency after ingesting or using alcohol or drugs or assisting someone experiencing a certain medical emergency.	Cardin	In the House - Hearing 1/18 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary Tue 1/18 1:00 PM		FYI
SB 10	Workers' Compensation - COVID-19 Occupational Disease Presumption	Establishing that first responders, public safety employees, and health care workers are presumed to have an occupational disease that is compensable under workers' compensation law after a positive test or diagnosis for COVID-19; and applying the Act retroactively.	Jackson	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		FYI
SB 120 (HB 188)	Acupuncture Licensure Requirements	Altering the education requirements that an applicant for licensure by the State Acupuncture Board must achieve to be issued a license; and requiring that an applicant issued a license on or before May 31, 2026 must have achieved a diplomate in acupuncture from the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, or a passing score on an examination that is determined by the Board to be equivalent to the examination given by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing 1/26 at 1:30 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Wed 1/26 1:30 PM		FYI
SB 166	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Doula Program	Establishing the Maryland Medical Assistance Program Doula Program to provide doula services to program recipients who are pregnant or postpartum; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to administer the Doula Program; requiring a provider to meet certain requirements in order to participate in the Doula Program; and requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to cover certain doula services, with certain limitations.	Ellis	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		FYI

MedChi FYI Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 167	Maryland Insurance Administration - Enforcement Authority - Payment of Claims	Authorizing the Maryland Insurance Commissioner to require an insurer that holds a certificate of authority to fulfill the holder's obligations or pay a claim or an amount due instead of, or in addition to, suspending or revoking the certificate; and authorizing the Commissioner, on a finding of a violation of certain provisions of law, to require an insurer, a nonprofit health service plan, or a health maintenance organization to provide a payment that has been improperly denied.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/19 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/19 1:00 PM		FYI
SB 173 (HB 106)	Health Insurance - Nonprofit Health Service Plan - Board of Directors	Altering the required composition of the board of directors of a nonprofit health service plan; requiring the Board to consist of at least 11 members and no more than 23; and requiring the board to include individuals with a diverse range of experience relevant to the mission of the corporation as a nonprofit health service plan including experience in data, consumer experience, government programs, population health, geriatrics, diversity, equity and inclusion.	Feldman	In the Senate - Hearing 1/26 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/26 1:00 PM		FYI
SB 185	Maryland Insurance Administration - Virtual Hearings	Requiring that hearings held by the Maryland Insurance Commissioner be considered open to the public if a member of the public can observe the hearing virtually through an electronic media platform; and authorizing the Commissioner to direct that a hearing be held virtually, subject to certain limitations.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/19 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/19 1:00 PM		FYI

MedChi FYI Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 207	Insurance Carriers - Cybersecurity Standards	Establishing certain cybersecurity standards applicable to insurance carriers, including health maintenance organizations and third-party administrators; requiring a carrier to take certain actions related to cybersecurity, including developing, implementing, and maintaining a written information security program, identifying certain threats, and establishing a certain incident response plan; etc.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/19 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/19 1:00 PM		FYI
SB 263	Health - Food Service Facilities - Beverage Options With Children's Meals	Requiring a food service facility that offers children's meals to offer certain beverages, plain water, whole, nonfat, or low fat unsweetened milk, a certain nondairy beverage or a beverage consisting of 6 ounces or less of 100% fruit or vegetable juice or a combination of both, as the default beverages included with the meal.	Beidle	In the Senate - Hearing 2/03 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/3 1:00 PM		