
**Public Safety and Administration
Subcommittee**

Additional Pages

March 19, 2025

C00A00 Judiciary

Budget Amendment

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of operating the Appointed Attorney Program may not be expended until the Judiciary submits a report to the budget committees on the costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program, including the results of initial appearances before District Court commissioners when attorneys were appointed to represent indigent defendants as part of the Appointed Attorney Program and the total number of defendants provided with representation by the program number of initial appearances by District and County, the number of attorney shifts in the program by District and County, the waiver rate of defendants waiving their right to counsel at their initial appearance, the total annual appointed attorney shifts and hours scheduled by District, the total number of attorneys enrolled in the program, the total annual costs of the program by District, and the total number of initial appearances with an appointed attorney, private attorney, or public defender representing the defendant by District and County. The report shall be submitted by December 15, 2025, and the budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: This language restricts funds pending the submission of the annual report on the costs and utilization of the Appointed Attorney Program.

C00A00 Judiciary

Committee Narrative

C00A00.13 Pre-Trial Home Detention

Adopt the following narrative:

Private Home Detention Monitoring Reports: The committees request quarterly reports providing data on private home detention monitoring funded by the Judiciary. Each report should provide, at a minimum, the following information:

- the number of defendants enrolled in private home detention monitoring;
- ~~the number of defendants removed from the program due to noncompliance;~~
- ~~the number of defendants removed from the program for specific other reasons;~~
- the total funds spent on private home detention monitoring in the prior quarter;
- the total funds remaining for private home detention monitoring; and
- anticipated costs for the remainder of the year.

In addition, the first report should include the Judiciary's guidelines for when invoices need to be submitted by private home detention monitoring providers.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Private home detention monitoring quarterly reports	Judiciary	October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026 July 15, 2026

C81C
Office of the Attorney General

Committee Narrative

C81C00.01 Legal Counsel and Advice

Access to Counsel in Evictions Final Implementation and Future Costs Report: With final implementation of the Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) program slated to occur in fiscal 2026, the committees request a report on the status of the program at final implementation, including the total cost of the implementation of the program, the status of the coordinated intake program, the total number of participating legal services providers, the total funding granted to each provider in fiscal 2025, the program’s procedures for ensuring adequate coverage in each jurisdiction, the total number of cases in fiscal 2025, the results of all cases in fiscal 2025, and the number of rejected tenants and the reasons for rejection in fiscal 2025. The report should also include a breakdown of all funding available in fiscal 2026 and the total estimated cost to operate the program in fiscal 2026, the estimated cost of operating the program in fiscal 2027, ~~and~~ information on all funding available for the program in fiscal 2027, and a recommendation on a permanent funding source for the program.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Final implementation of ACE and future cost report	Maryland Legal Services Corporation	November 15, 2025

D15A05
Boards, Commissions, and Offices
Executive Department

DLS Recommendation Related to Supplemental Budget No. 1

D15A05.05 Governor's Office of Community Initiatives

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</u>
Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:			
1. Delete 5 new positions and associated funding added in Supplemental Budget No. 1 for the Office of Immigrant Affairs. These positions can be reclassified from other offices within the Executive Department.	-676,281	GF	-5.00
Total Change	- 676,281		-5.00

D15A05
Boards, Commissions, and Offices
Executive Department

Committee Narrative

D15A05.06 State Ethics Commission

County Executive Ethics Law: Currently, there are nine counties governed by county executives, namely Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Cecil, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George’s, and Wicomico counties. The committees are interested in understanding the State’s conflict of interest laws relating to the nine counties governed by county executives and Baltimore City, which is governed by the Mayor as the chief executive. The committees request that the State Ethics Commission submit a report on the conflict of interest laws relating to the nine counties with county executives and Baltimore City. The report should also include a summary and an analysis of other local laws in these nine jurisdictions and Baltimore City related to the conflict of interest for county executives and the Mayor of Baltimore City.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on county executive ethics law	State Ethics Commission	December 1, 2025

D21
Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

Committee Narrative

D21A01.03 State Aid for Police Protection

Adopt the following narrative:

Report on the State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) Enhancement: SAPP funds provide support to local and county police agency operations. The statutory funding formula considers jurisdictional populations, the number of police officers in the recipient agency, and total jurisdictional taxable income. Baltimore City does not receive funding under the original formula in exchange for the State operating the Baltimore City Detention Center. In each year from fiscal 2023 through 2025, the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) received an additional \$45,878,143 for an enhancement to SAPP. In each year, the enhancement funds were allocated to jurisdictions, including Baltimore City, based on a share that corresponded with the most recently available violent crime data. The committees request that GOCPP submit a report describing, separately by year for fiscal 2023 through 2025, the amount of funding awarded under the formula and the enhancement in each jurisdiction as well as how much SAPP funding was actually spent. To the extent that the jurisdictions may have used enhancement funding differently than funding is used under the SAPP formula, the report should also describe these purposes for each jurisdiction in fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the SAPP enhancement	GOCPP	November 1, 2025

D38I01
State Board of Elections

Committee Narrative

D38I01.03 Major Information Technology Development Projects

Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Readiness for Upcoming Elections: The committees are interested in the readiness and timing of implementation of all MITDPs managed by the State Board of Elections (SBE) for the upcoming calendar 2026 midterm elections and calendar 2028 presidential election. The committees request that SBE submit a report discussing MITDP details related to the vendors contracted for the development and implementation of the projects and how likely these projects are to be ready for the calendar 2026 midterm election and calendar 2028 presidential election. Additionally, the report should discuss the components of each project that are likely to be ready and usable for those elections and the components that are not expected to be completed in time to be used for those elections. The report should also include potential issues with the MITDPs related to security for voters, polling place security, electoral integrity, and strategies to mitigate those issues.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on MITDP readiness for upcoming elections	SBE	November 1, 2025

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Committee Narrative

D52A01.04 State Disaster Recovery Division

Disaster Relief for Businesses: The committees request that the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM), in consultation with the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, submit a report on disaster relief for businesses in Maryland. In the report, MDEM and the Maryland Chamber of Commerce should study and make recommendations regarding:

- the State’s established policies and procedures to respond to natural disasters that impact businesses in the State;
- private sector strategies that may be utilized to respond to natural disasters that impact businesses; and
- the efficacy of establishing a private sector program to assist businesses in recovery efforts following a natural disaster.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on disaster relief for businesses	MDEM	December 1, 2025

D99A11
Office of Administrative Hearings

Committee Narrative

D99A11.01 General Administration

Adopt the following narrative:

Alternative Dispute Resolution Techniques Usage Measures: The committees request that the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) begin including additional measures regarding the use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) techniques in the agency’s annual Managing for Results (MFR) submission. The measures should include a list of case types for which ADR techniques may be utilized, the percentage of each case type ~~resolved with ADR techniques~~ where ADR is requested and where cases are resolved with ADR techniques, the average length of time from receipt of an appeal to the conclusion of the appeal when ~~ADR techniques~~ is requested and leads to a settlement, and the average length of time from receipt of appeal to conclusion in cases for which ADR techniques are not utilized.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
ADR techniques usage measures	OAH	With the fiscal 2027 MFR submission

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

Committee Narrative

E00A01.01 Executive Direction

Requirements to Accept Cryptocurrency Payments: The committees request that the Comptroller of Maryland submit a report on the feasibility of the agency to receive payments for taxes, fees, and fines in the form of cryptocurrencies. The report should discuss how the Comptroller could begin accepting such payments, including the hardware or software that would be needed, cybersecurity requirements, and any other necessary provisions. The report should also describe the potential timeline, budgetary impacts, and any challenges or considerations for expanding tax, fee, and fine collection to include cryptocurrencies.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on requirements to accept cryptocurrency payments	Comptroller of Maryland	August 1, 2025

E00A
Comptroller of Maryland

Committee Narrative

E00A01.01 Executive Direction

Baby Bond Accounts: Baby bonds are government-funded accounts that are established at a child’s birth and provide money for future asset-building investments such as college education and home purchases. The committees request that the Comptroller of Maryland submit a report on baby bond accounts, including:

- the feasibility and fiscal impact on Maryland of implementing a State baby bond account program;
- current baby bond programs operated in other jurisdictions and their eligibility requirements;
- the recommended State entity to administer a State baby bond account program and how that entity may implement the program;
- the estimated costs for the State, including funding options; and
- recommended eligibility criteria for participation in a State baby bond account program.

The report should also discuss the current economic, social, and political factors that may affect a baby bond account program’s implementation, including information on how the program may close wealth gaps in the State and help Marylanders:

- pay for college;
- purchase homes; and
- start businesses.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on State baby bond accounts	Comptroller of Maryland	November 1, 2025

Q00A
Administration and Offices
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendment

Q00A01.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$500,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits a report to the budget committees describing how the agency has incorporated feedback from the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) about the previous medical and mental health contract's structure and lack of oversight into the current contract. The report shall include the following:

- (1) a detailed justification of the agency's decision to re-enter a fixed-fee payment structure, including an explanation of why the methodology selected is in the State's best interest and whether the agency intends to renegotiate the contract structure;
- (2) **the personnel terms and mandated staffing levels required in the medical and mental health contracts for both Corrections and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services;**
- (3) **the monthly staffing and vacancy levels of Centurion of Maryland for positions supporting the contract, broken out by Corrections and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services and by medical and mental health services;**
- (4) an update on the development of a contingency plan outlining the agency's efforts to supplement medical and mental health services and personnel should its contractors fail to meet the terms of the contract;
- (5) a timeline and strategy to achieve and maintain contract staffing levels and ensure that hourly rates paid to the contract's health care professionals are competitive with similar positions across the State;
- (6) a description of the procedures to ensure invoices accurately reflect the resources provided by the contractors and to identify and address inaccurate staffing reports collected from the contractors;
- (7) a description of the procedures to guarantee contractors complete medical and mental health examinations within the required timeframes as well as investigate and resolve inmate complaints in a timely manner; and

- (8) determinations and outcomes regarding liquidated damages, including the **monthly amount charged and collected as of through the submission of the report and future estimates of liquidated damages.**

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than August 1, 2025. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and comment. Funds restricted pending the receipt of a report may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund if the report is not submitted to the budget committees.

Explanation: A November 2024 fiscal compliance audit issued by OLA contained nine findings related to DPSCS medical and mental health contracts and procurements from April 2018 to December 2023. During this period, the agency contracted with YesCare. Issues with the structure and oversight of the YesCare contracts may also apply the new contract with Centurion of Maryland. This language restricts funding pending a report discussing OLA’s feedback, ~~and~~ the changes made to the new medical and mental health care contracts, **staffing levels supporting the new contract, and liquidated damages.**

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on health care contract structure and oversight	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

Q00A
Administration and Offices
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Committee Narrative

Blockchain Technology Report: The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by August 15, 2025, on the potential use of blockchain technology for managing inmate records including, but not limited to, criminal records, medical records, and identifying documents like Social Security cards and birth certificates. The report should discuss existing challenges with collecting, storing, and releasing the personal records of currently and formerly incarcerated individuals and how blockchain technology can address those issues and streamline the records management process. The report should consider the feasibility of integrating this technology and any concerns the agency may have regarding its use.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Blockchain technology report	DPSCS	August 15, 2025

Q00B
Corrections
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendment

Q00B01.01 General Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$700,000 in general funds made for the purpose of inmate healthcare expenses is reduced. The Secretary is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

Explanation: As of March 10, 2025, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) estimates that it is owed \$700,000 in liquidated damages from Centurion of Maryland, the medical and mental health care contractor for Corrections and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services. This amount accounts for damages accrued during February 2025, as DPSCS agreed to waive damages for the six-month period beginning August 1, 2024, and concluding January 28, 2025. This action reduces the general fund appropriation by \$700,000 to account for liquidated damages the agency expects to collect.

V00A
Department of Juvenile Services

Budget Amendment

V00E01.02 Facility Operations Administration & Support – Community and Facility Operations Administration

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$3,000,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of opening the Catoctin Treatment Center may not be expended for that purpose, but instead may be used only to reopen the Alfred D. Noyes Children’s Center as an adolescent drug treatment center that serves as a treatment alternative to detention. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert to the General Fund.

Explanation: This action restricts funding provided for opening the Catoctin Treatment Center to be used for the purpose of reopening the Alfred D. Noyes Children’s Center (Noyes) as an adolescent drug treatment center instead. Previously, the Department of Juvenile Services operated Noyes as a detention center, but it was closed in October 2022.

W00A
Department of State Police

Committee Narrative

W00A01.01 Office of the Superintendent

Adopt the following narrative:

Report on Consent Decree and Federal Grants: In July 2022, the Department of Justice announced that it would be investigating the Department of State Police (DSP) to determine if the department’s hiring and promotional practices had violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. A consent decree was filed in October 2024 and provisionally approved in the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland in November 2024. The Board of Public Works approved the department’s use of \$2.75 million in general funds for required monetary awards in October 2024, and in January 2025, approved the use of \$357,500 in general funds to procure two entry-level selection tests to replace the existing written and physical fitness tests, with the contract’s anticipated delivery date being July 1, 2025. Final approval of the consent decree was expected in March 2025. In February 2025, the federal government filed to dismiss the case without a stated reason and without instruction for how DSP was to proceed. The committees request that DSP submit a report providing an update on the consent decree and any future court rulings relevant to this matter. The department should also update the committees on how it will address these issues if the case is closed.

The report should also identify the federal grant funding that the department is a current recipient of or regularly receives, provide information on the likelihood of receiving those federal grants in the future, and describe contingency plans it has if the federal funding becomes unavailable in fiscal 2026. The report should also describe contingency plans if federal funding becomes unavailable in future State fiscal years for which information is available and how the department addressed any federal funds that became unavailable in fiscal 2025, if applicable.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on consent decree and federal grants	DSP	July 1, 2025