# **Decision Document**

House Appropriations Committee
Public Safety and Administration Subcommittee
2025 Session

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
1.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriation.  Provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$687.  5 new positions shall be abolished. The Chief Justice is a reduction across the Judiciary.	,742 in gener		Concur in part – Judiciary accepts the deletion of 2 case manager positions and disagrees with the cuts for St. Mary's County Circuit Court.		
	<b>Explanation:</b> This action will abolish 5 new positions in tallowance in the following programs: Circuit Court Judgand Clerks of the Circuit Court (1). These positions are being of demonstrated need for the new positions.	es (2); Distric	et Court (2);			
2.	Add the following language to the general fund appropriati	on:		Disagree.		
	Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by to increase turnover expectancy among new positions. The to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.					
	<b>Explanation:</b> This reduction is made in order to increase positions within the Judiciary from 5.72% to 25.00%.	the turnover	rate for new			
3.	Reduce \$600,000 in general funds made for the purpose of duplicating equipment expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.	-\$ 600,000	GF	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.		

Amount Position House Senate
Change Change Agency Response Hearing Notes Decisions Decisions

4. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$8,600,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of providing attorneys for required representation at initial appearances before District Court commissioners consistent with the holding of the Supreme Court of Maryland in DeWolfe v. Richmond may be expended only for that purpose. Funds not expended for this restricted purpose may not be transferred by budget amendment or otherwise to any other purpose and shall revert back to the General Fund.

**Explanation:** This language restricts the use of \$8.6 million of the Judiciary's general fund appropriation for the implementation of DeWolfe v. Richmond to that purpose only.

5. 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. 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.

Concur.

Concur in part – Judiciary accepts the recommendation to request a report but disagrees on what data should be provided. It has indicated that different data would be more helpful for evaluation. Judiciary also disagrees with the restriction of funds.

			Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
	Information Request	Author	<b>Due Dat</b>	e			
	Appointed Attorney Program costs and utilization	Judiciary	Decembe	er 15, 2025			
6.	Reduce \$670,000 in general furincreases for contractual personance increases for State employees.		-\$ 670,000 (	GF .	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.		
7.	Reduce \$1,000,000 in general purpose of equipment repairs and to align with fiscal 2024 actual exp	maintenance expenses	-\$ 1,000,000 C	GF .	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.		
8.	Increase contractual employee tu better align with fiscal 2025 levels		-\$ 435,000 (	GF .	Disagree – Judiciary states that Senior Judges should not have a turnover rate applied due to the on-call nature of their work.		
9.	Reduce \$150,000 made for the attorneys for required represappearances before District C consistent with the holding of the Maryland in DeWolfe v. Rich fiscal 2024 actual expenses.	sentation at initial Court Commissioners he Supreme Court of	-\$ 150,000 (	GF	Concur.		
10.	Reduce \$175,000 in general funds of travel expenses to align wi expenses.		-\$ 175,000 C	GF	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.		

Amount	<b>Position</b>		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

11. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Annual Court Performance Measures:** The committees request a report on the performance of the circuit and District courts, to be submitted by December 15, 2025, with annual court performance measures data for the circuit and District courts.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Annual court performance	Judiciary	December 15, 2025
measures report		

12. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Problem-Solving Court (PSC) Performance and Funding:** The committees request a report on the work of the Judiciary's PSCs, to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should show the funding allocated and performance data for all PSC types in fiscal 2025, including the average length of time a defendant's case is active in each type of court, the reasons defendants fail to successfully complete a program, and the average cost per defendant in each type of PSC. The report should also include the anticipated costs by PSC type and location for fiscal 2026 and 2027.

December 15, 2025

**Position** 

House

Senate

Amount

		<b>Change</b>	<u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	<u>Decisions</u>	<b>Decisions</b>
13.	Adopt the following narrative:			Concur.		
	<b>Judgeship Need for Fiscal 2027:</b> The committees reneeds at the Judiciary to be submitted by December include a detailed analysis of the Judiciary's fiscal 2027	15, 2025. The rep	ort should			
	Information Request Author	<b>Due Dat</b>	te			
	Judgeship needs for fiscal 2027 Judiciary	Decembe	er 15, 2025			
14.	Reduce \$500,000 in general funds made for the purpose of communications expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.		GF .	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.		
15.	Reduce \$900,000 in general funds made for the purpose of printing expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses.		GF .	Concur in part – Judiciary requests that the Chief Justice have the authority to allocate cuts across the Judiciary.		
16.	Reduce \$1,200,000 in general funds made for the purpose of software license expenses to decrease the funding available for additional software licenses.		GF	Disagree – Judiciary states that this reduction will impact its ability to renew licenses for financial reporting, performance testing, and quality assurance, and will limit the growth of licenses for courtroom video conferencing and end user support services.		

			Amount Change	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
17.	Reduce \$1,250,000 in general purpose of contracted Information to align with fiscal 2024 actual exp	Technology services	,250,000 G	F	Disagree – Judiciary states that this would impact data infrastructure cabling statewide, which would result in the inability to maintain equipment replacement schedules.		
18.	Adopt the following narrative:				Concur.		
	Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Status Report: The committees request a report on the Judiciary's MITDPs to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should include actual costs for all projects in fiscal 2025 and anticipated costs for all projects through fiscal 2029, along with status updates for all projects.						
	Information Request	Author	<b>Due Dat</b>	e			
	MITDP status report	Judiciary	Decembe	er 15, 2025			
19.	Adopt the following narrative:				Concur.		
	Land Records Improvement Fund (LRIF) Balance Report: The committees request a report on the status of the LRIF to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should include the fiscal 2025 revenues and expenditures for the fund along with forecasted revenues and expenditures for fiscal 2026 through 2029. The report should also include a breakdown of the expenditures for circuit court offices.						
	<b>Information Request</b>	Author	<b>Due Dat</b>	e			
	LRIF balance report	Judiciary	Decembe	er 15, 2025			

				Judiciary			
			Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
20.	Adopt th	he following narrative:			Concur in part – Judiciary agrees with the recommendation to		
	<b>Private Home Detention Monitoring Reports:</b> 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:		produce the report but asks that the request for data regarding removals from the program be removed from the request.				
	• 1	the number of defendants enrolled in private home	e detention mo	onitoring;			
	• 1	the number of defendants removed from the progra	am due to non	acompliance;			
		the number of defendants removed from the preasons;	rogram for sp	pecific other			

quarter;

**Information Request** 

Judiciary

Author

the total funds spent on private home detention monitoring in the prior

the total funds remaining for private home detention monitoring; and

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

anticipated costs for the remainder of the year.

October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026 July 15, 2026

**Due Date** 

## C80B00 Office of the Public Defender

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position Change	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
1.	Reduce \$94,198 in general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.	-\$ 94,198 G	F	Disagree.		
2.	Reduce \$1,697,900 in general funds and delete 12 new office secretary positions, 9 new office clerk positions, 2 new administrative positions, and 2 new information technology-related positions.	-\$ 1,697,900 G	F -25.00	Disagree.		

### C81C Office of the Attorney General

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**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.

**Information Request** Author Due Date

Final implementation of ACE and Maryland Legal Services November 15, 2025 future cost report Corporation

### C82D00 Office of the State Prosecutor

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

## C85E00 Maryland Tax Court

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

## C94I00 Subsequent Injury Fund

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

### C96J00 Uninsured Employers' Fund

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

#### 1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Report on Operational Needs: The committees are concerned about the significant increase in operating expenditures due to the procurement of a contract with a third-party administrator (TPA) to perform many core functions of the agency. The committees direct that, in conjunction with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Uninsured Employers' Fund (UEF) produce a report documenting whether a TPA is needed for the entire current five-year contract. The report should also provide an analysis of the agency's current and future staffing needs and consider the possible shift of claim management functions in-house.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
UEF operational needs	UEF DBM	December 1, 2025

### C98F00

#### **Workers' Compensation Commission**

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Increase the turnover expectancy to 7.0%. The Workers' Compensation Commission currently has 18 vacant positions, which is much higher than the 3.76 necessary vacancies to meet the fiscal 2026 budgeted turnover rate of 3.27%. At a 7.0% turnover expectancy, the agency will need to maintain 8.05 vacant positions. That number of vacant positions is approximately 10 fewer positions than the agency's current number of vacancies.

-\$ 554,685 SF Concur.

# D05E01 Board of Public Works

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

- 1. Reduce the contingent fund appropriation by -\$1,500,000 GF \$1.5 million leaving \$1.0 million. Approximately \$1.0 million of the \$2.5 million appropriation was used in fiscal 2024 and no funding has been used so far in fiscal 2025. In addition, the contingent fund appropriation was only recently increased from \$0.5 million to \$2.5 million in fiscal 2024.
- No response.

2. Adopt the following narrative:

No response.

**Maryland Zoo Operational Reporting:** In continuance of the practice that began in July 2008, the committees request that the Maryland Zoological Society, Inc. (MZS) submit audited financial statements for fiscal 2025 and quarterly reports showing monthly attendance figures for the zoo for fiscal 2026 by visitor group. This should include a breakdown of the kinds of passes allocated.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Audited financials	MZS	November 1, 2025
Quarterly reports showing monthly attendance	MZS	July 15, 2025 October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026

# D05E01 Board of Public Works

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

#### 3. Adopt the following narrative:

Data for Forecasting Payments to Erroneously Confined Individuals: The Board of Public Works (BPW) is required to make payments to erroneously confined individuals by § 10-501 of the State Finance and Procurement Article. Forecasting these payments requires data held by BPW and the Office of the Administrative Hearings (OAH), including orders for compensation and updates on hearing schedules for and outcomes of petitions with OAH. The committees request that BPW and OAH report on the data needed to forecast the required payments to erroneously confined individuals, including but not limited to orders for compensation and updates on hearing schedules and outcomes for petitions with OAH. The data is requested to be submitted by September 1, 2025, to inform the baseline budget process and again by January 1, 2026, to reflect the basis for the Governor's fiscal 2027 allowance.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Data for forecasting payments to erroneously confined individuals	BPW OAH	September 1, 2025 January 1, 2026

Concur in part – Board of Public Works staff does not have a way of assessing the universe of individuals who may file a claim for compensation at the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) in the future. They are willing to provide data on the number of compensation eligibility claims currently pending at OAH at any given time.

D10A01 Executive Department – Governor

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
1.	Reduce 2.0 new positions (N2617199 and N2617200). The Executive Department – Governor has 13 vacant positions as of December 31, 2024. The function of the new positions can be filled by reclassifying existing long-term vacant positions.	-\$ 303,287 G	F -2.00	Disagree as 6 vacant positions are in various stages of the recruitment process, and additional positions are necessary.		
2.	Eliminate the deficiency appropriation for the federal government affairs contract due to the fiscal condition of the State.	-\$ 480,000 G	F	Concur.		

# D15A05 Executive Department – Boards, Commissions and Offices

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Governor's Office of Small, Minority and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) may not be expended until GOSBA, in consultation with the Department of General Services, submits a report detailing the results of the agency Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation attainment and the Small Business Reserve and MBE liaison surveys. The report shall be submitted by December 1, 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 action adds language restricting general funds until GOSBA, in consultation with the Department of General Services (DGS), submits a report detailing the results of the agency MBE participation attainment and liaison surveys to the budget committees by December 1, 2025.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Agency MBE participation attainment and liaison survey report	GOSBA DGS	December 1, 2025

Disagree – Agency requests the due date be modified from December 1, 2025, to January 15, 2026.

## D16A06 Secretary of State

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

# D21 Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Concur.

Further provided that \$250,000 of the general fund appropriation made for the purpose of administrative expenses may not be expended until the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) submits a report to the budget committees by November 1, 2025, regarding Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) awards and funding. The report shall include:

- (1) each grant award made on July 1, 2025, for the fiscal 2026 awards, including the grant number, implementing agency, project title, start date, end date, amount of award, whether the grant is supported with general funds or federal VOCA funds, jurisdiction of implementation, and a brief description/abstract of the grant;
- (2) the total amount of grants awarded from general funds and federal VOCA funds on July 1, 2025;
- (3) the amount of unexpended funds for each open three-year VOCA grant and the reason funds are unexpended, including whether the funds are being held in reserve for future grants;
- (4) for the federal fiscal 2021 and 2022 three-year funding cycles, an identification of the respective amount of funds expended for the purpose of direct provision of services, administration, and that which went unobligated; and
- (5) <u>a comparison of aggregate-level performance measures or outcome measures</u> of the VOCA program for fiscal 2019 through 2025 or as many recent years that GOCPP is able to provide.

In addition to the report submission, data shall be provided in an electronic format subject to the concurrence of the Department of Legislative Services. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the report to review and

# D21 Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

comment. 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 if the report is not submitted.

**Explanation:** The VOCA grant program is a major source of funding to victim services providers in the State. This language restricts \$250,000 pending the submission of information related to VOCA awards and funding in fiscal 2026. For each open three-year grant cycle (federal fiscal 2023, 2024, and 2025), GOCPP is required to include the amount of currently unexpended funds, the reason these funds remain unspent, and whether they will be held in reserve. The report is also required to provide further detail regarding the expenditure of funds for the two most recently completed funding cycles – federal fiscal 2021 and 2022. Finally, the report is required to provide a comparison of the program's aggregate outcomes or performance measures in recent fiscal years.

<b>Information Request</b>	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Annual VOCA report	GOCPP	November 1, 2025

- 2. Delete funding for the Police Accountability grant due -\$ 4,000,000 GF to the expiration of an enhanced public safety funding initiative.
- B. Delete enhancement funding for the State Aid for Police -\$ 45,878,143 GF Protection program due to the expiration of an enhanced public safety funding initiative.

Disagree – The purpose of this grant is to enhance law enforcement and community relationships. This funding increases communication, collaboration, and training.

Disagree – The State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) program is a very flexible funding source for local law enforcement agencies, large or small. Due to its less restrictive criteria and reporting requirements, SAPP allows local law enforcement agencies to fund their highest needs.

Amount	<b>Position</b>		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

4. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, provided that \$225,341 in general funds are reduced and the following 3 new regular positions are deleted: N2617703; N2617704; and N2617705.

**Explanation:** This action reduces general fund expenditures and 3.0 new positions in the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's fiscal 2026 budget due to the availability of vacant positions, which could be reclassified to support these activities.

5. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of agency administration may not be expended until the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy submits the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Fiscal 2025 Annual Report to the budget committees. The report shall include information about the agency's implementation of Chapter 705 of 2024 and indicate whether additional support from the General Fund may be required in fiscal 2026 to ensure a balance in the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund. The report shall be submitted by November 1, 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:** Though the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP) is required to submit this report, Chapter 705 of 2024 makes alterations to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) program, with most provisions taking effect July 1, 2025. The legislation also authorizes the Governor for fiscal 2026 and each year thereafter to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF) that is adequate to ensure a balance in the fund. The provision authorizing an appropriation to CICF

Disagree – The agency's currently vacant positions are all designated for other purposes and half (7 grant monitor positions) cannot be filled in fiscal 2025 due to cost containment actions.

D21
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

takes effect July 1, 2024. This report will provide the committees with information about fiscal 2025 claims and the CICF balance prior to the 2026 legislative session.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
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CICB Fiscal 2025 Annual Report GOCPP November 1, 2025

D22
Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

# D38I01 State Board of Elections

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position Change	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
1.	Delete special funds for the Voter Registration and Election Administration Modernization Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP). Considering recent delays in ongoing MITDPs managed by the State Board of Elections, this project should be deferred.	-\$ 470,746 SI	7	Disagree – The agency responds that the current voter registration system will soon be twenty years in service and requires immediate modernization to support post-2030 census redistricting activities.		

Concur.

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Quarterly Reports on all Major Information Technology Development Projects (MITDP): The State Board of Elections (SBE) is currently implementing three MITDPs for a statewide pollbook system replacement, new voting system, and a new Campaign Reporting Information System. The committees remain interested in monitoring the progress of SBE's implementation of the MITDPs. The committees request that SBE submit quarterly reports on all MITDP activities and expenditures separately for each of the three projects through their completion. Each report should include the following for each project:

- a description of activities undertaken in the quarter, complete with dates identifying whether project milestones were achieved or if delays were experienced and an assessment of the resulting effect that any delays experienced in the quarter have on the project's overall timeline;
- actual project spending in each month of the quarter and any updates on total estimated project costs; and
- an assessment of future risks to the project's timeline and how SBE plans to mitigate those risks.

### D38I01 State Board of Elections

		Amount Position Change Change	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>			
Quarterly report on all MITDPs	SBE	July 15, 2025 October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026			

## D50H01 Military Department

**Position** 

Amount

House

Senate

		<u>Chang</u>		Agency Response Hearing Notes	<u>Decisions</u>	<u>Decisions</u>
1.	Adopt the following narrative:			No response.		
	Report on Maryland Military Department of December 31, 2024, the Military Department of December 31, 2024, the Military Department of December 31, 2024, the Military December 31, 2023. The Military December 31, 2023 and internal himself of the Status of all December 31, 2023. The common submit a report on the status of all December 31, 2023, and active recruitment of December 31, 2024, the Military Department of December 31, 2023, the Military December 31, 2023, t	rtment had 49 vacant postur. Given that the departisations until fiscal 2023, more than double the 23 vepartment reported that a ring freeze in fiscal 2024 uttees request that the Milber 2024 vacant positions	sitions, 9 of which ment was making the vacancies in vacancies reported key reason for the 4 implemented in litary Department s, the status of the			
	Information Request Auth	or D	ue Date			
	Report on Military Department Milita efforts to fill vacant positions	ary Department A	ugust 1, 2025			
2.	Reduce general and federal funds to delete vacant positions within the Army C Maintenance program.	· ·	319 GF 092 FF	Disagree – The Department notes that of the 9 long-term vacant positions, 7 positions have been filled with 2 positions pending selection.		
3.	Reduce general and federal funds to dele vacant position within the State Operation		068 GF 740 FF	Disagree – The Department notes that of the 9 long-term vacant positions, 7 positions have been filled with 2 positions pending selection.		

# D50H01 Military Department

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

4. Adopt the following narrative:

No response.

**Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program Update:** The committees are interested in better understanding the Tricare Premium Reimbursement program, including program participation and outreach activities performed to increase enrollment. The committees request that the Military Department submit a report highlighting program participation and rates, reimbursement claims submitted year to date, and average grant amounts for fiscal 2026. In addition, the report should include information about how the department plans to increase program enrollment.

Information Request Author Due Date

Tricare Premium Reimbursement Military Department December 31, 2025 program participation

# D52 Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Adopt the following narrative:

No response.

Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund: In total, only three counties have submitted applications for funding from the Maryland Department of Emergency Management's (MDEM) Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund (RMRLF) since it was established in calendar 2021. The RMRLF was established to fund local projects with State funds and to receive funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund (STRLF) program. Because MDEM has stated that the reason for the limited number of applications could be that local governments do not have the expertise or resources to develop a project proposal and application, the committees are interested in what resources MDEM can provide to assist local governments with applying for RMRLF and STRLF funding. The committees request that MDEM submit an update on the status of the RMRLF, including:

- the status of STRLF awards;
- descriptions of activities and communications at and between MDEM and local emergency management departments regarding funding opportunities;
- descriptions of technical assistance and other support MDEM offers local governments to prepare applications;
- a list of project funding applications submitted for federal and RMRLF awards, including total estimated cost and amounts requested and awarded for each project and by jurisdiction; and
- the special fund revenue and repayment schedules associated with existing loans made through the RMRLF.

# D52 Maryland Department of Emergency Management

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Da	nte			
Report on the RMRLF	MDEM	July 1,	2025			

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

State and Local Cybersecurity Efforts: The State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) is funded through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and is jointly managed federally by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. The Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) receives the money and disburses it to local jurisdictions. In November 2024, MDEM issued a report summarizing how the SLCGP money from federal fiscal 2022 was awarded. The committees request that MDEM submit a report that provides the following information for federal fiscal 2023 and 2024:

- SLCGP grants awarded by jurisdiction and remaining unallocated balance;
- nonfederal match expenditures by use;
- descriptions of requested projects, requested funding amounts, and actual funding awards;
- a plan for the use of any remaining unallocated funds; and
- a description of the need for further State-match funding beyond fiscal 2026.

<b>Information Request</b>	Author	<b>Due Date</b>	
SLCGP information for federal fiscal 2023 and 2024	MDEM	November 1, 2025	

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position Change	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
3.	Delete funding for 2 new positions (PINs 2617548 and 2617549). The Maryland Department of Emergency Management had 20.0 vacant positions as of December 31, 2024, and should reclassify 2 vacant positions instead of adding 2 new positions.	-\$ 101,264 G -\$ 101,264 FI		Disagree – Given the high level of uncertainty surrounding federal funding and the importance of the State Disaster Recovery Fund program development and administration, the department disagrees with the Department of Legislative Services' recommendation to remove funding for the positions identified in the Governor's Allowance. The Maryland Department of Emergency Management currently has 4 PINs that have been vacant for at least one year, all of which are in process of reclassification or hiring.		

#### D55P00

#### **Department of Veterans and Military Families**

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

#### 1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Quarterly Reports on Charlotte Hall Veterans Home (CHVH) Facility Operations, Staffing, and Federal Ratings: The Department of Veterans and Military Families (DVMF) oversees the operation of CHVH, the only assisted-living and skilled-nursing care for veterans and their spouses in the State. The committees are interested in how the new management contractor operates CHVH and its efforts on increasing staffing and residency numbers. Additionally, the committees would like to continue to monitor the low ratings from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) surrounding nursing home facility performance. The committees request that DVMF submit quarterly reports in collaboration with the CHVH contractor on the progress of CHVH's operations, census numbers, staffing levels, efforts to increase census and staffing numbers, the number of resident complaints, and resident complaints by type of complaint, as well as any report, rating, or fine from CMS. In each quarterly report, the report should note the period covered by the data and the corresponding dates.

<b>Information Request</b>	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on status of CHVH operations, staffing, and federal ratings	DVMF	July 1, 2025 October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026

#### D55P00

#### **Department of Veterans and Military Families**

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

#### 2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Report on the Maryland Joins Forces (MJF) Initiative and its progress: The MJF is a new initiative that was launched in November 2023. This initiative focuses on five main areas: employment; food and housing insecurity; education; health and wellness; and volunteer services. The committees are interested in monitoring the progress of this initiative and the Department of Veterans and Military Families' (DVMF) plans to address the five focus areas identified. The committees request DVMF to submit a report highlighting the number of veterans and military families served by this initiative, including the number of veterans and military families who actually benefitted from this initiative, its partnerships with other organizations, and activities conducted through this initiative. The report should also include information on the effectiveness and challenges in administering this initiative.

Information Request	Author	Due Date	
Report on the MJF initiative and its progress	DVMF	December 1, 2025	

### D60A10 State Archives

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

D74
Office of the Correctional Ombudsman

Amount	Position	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House	Senate
<u>Change</u>	<u>Change</u>		<u>Decisions</u>	<u>Decisions</u>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

## D99A11 Office of Administrative Hearings

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

#### 1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

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, the average length of time from receipt of an appeal to the conclusion of the appeal when ADR techniques lead 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	<b>Due Date</b>
ADR techniques usage measures	ОАН	With the fiscal 2027 MFR submission

# **E00A**Comptroller of Maryland

Amount	Position	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House	Senate
<u>Change</u>	<u>Change</u>		<u>Decisions</u>	<u>Decisions</u>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

### E17 Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

#### 1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Managing for Results (MFR) Measures for Cannabis Violations and Confiscated Contraband: Chapters 254 and 255 of 2023 required the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission (ATCC) to carry out inspections of retail businesses selling cannabis products to identify violations of licensing and registration laws for cannabis business in Maryland. ATCC's annual MFR submission includes indicators for the number of tobacco and alcohol retailer inspections, violations of law found, and amount of contraband confiscated by ATCC agents. While ATCC has added performance measures for the number of unlicensed cannabis inspections and the number of compliance inspections conducted targeting underage sales, no measures were added as indicators for violations found or amount of contraband confiscated. The committees request that ATCC include additional measures for the number of cannabis violations found and the amount of confiscated contraband, consistent with measures reported for tobacco and alcohol, in the MFR submission with the fiscal 2027 budget.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
MFR measures for cannabis violations and confiscated contraband	ATCC	With submission of the fiscal 2027 budget

### E20B State Treasurer

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

## **E50C**State Department of Assessments and Taxation

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Concur.

, provided that \$50,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of administration in the Office of the Director may not be expended until the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) submits two reports to the budget committees on the status of the Cloud Revenue Integrated System (CRIS) development project. The reports shall include:

- (1) <u>a description of project milestones achieved, remaining milestones, and the overall project schedule;</u>
- (2) the number of vacancies among staff for the project and how long those positions have been vacant;
- (3) a description of actions taken by SDAT to fill vacancies specified above; and
- (4) a discussion of how any vacancies among staff for the project have affected project progression.

The first report shall be submitted by July 15, 2025, and the second report shall be submitted by December 15, 2025. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the second 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 reports are not submitted to the budget committees.

**Explanation:** There have been ongoing concerns about information technology staffing and delays in the CRIS project. This language restricts funds budgeted for administrative purposes until SDAT submits two reports updating the budget committees on the status of the CRIS project.

## **E50C**State Department of Assessments and Taxation

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Da	ate			
CRIS status reports	SDAT	July 15 Decem	5, 2025 ber 15, 2025			

2. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Vacancies Among Assessors in the Real Property Valuation Program: The committees request that the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) submits two reports on the status of vacancies within the Real Property Valuation Program. Each report shall include the following information on the two quarters immediately preceding the due date:

- the number of employees in the program that have left State service (by employee class title and jurisdiction);
- the number of new hires (by employee class title and jurisdiction);
- the number of positions posted;
- the number of qualifying applicants received in response to each posting;
- the length of time from the posting of each position to the acceptance of an offer of employment;
- the amount of time that it takes for the average hire to finish the training and probationary period; and
- the average and median salaries for listed positions.

### E50C State Department of Assessments and Taxation

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
Information Request	Author	Due Da	ate			
Status updates on staffing in the Real Property Valuation Program	SDAT	July 15 Decem	, 2025 ber 15, 2025			

## **E80E**Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Managing for Results (MFR) Performance Data Submission: Due to staff turnover, the Property Tax Assessment Appeals Board (PTAAB) did not submit updated MFR data with the fiscal 2026 budget. The committees request that by July 15, 2025, PTAAB submit its updated fiscal 2026 MFR data submission, including actual data for calendar 2023 and projections for calendar 2024 and 2025.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
MFR performance data submission	PTAAB	July 15, 2025

I00
Department of Service and Civic Innovation

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position Change	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
1.	Reduce funding for a new customer relationship management system due to the fiscal condition of the State and the early stages of implementing Maryland Corps.	-\$ 1,038,500 G	F	Disagree – The Department of Service and Civic Innovation anticipates the software will reduce inefficiencies and improve communication and compliance more broadly for the department.		
2.	Reduce 21 new positions and \$1,658,223 in funding corresponding to 17 admin officer III positions (\$1,351,723), 2 administrator II positions (\$143,598), and 2 administrator IV positions (\$162,903). This action reduces general funds provided for Young Adult Service Year Option Pathway grants and requires that special funds that are currently allocated for 21 positions be used to backfill the reduced grant funding. This action recognizes that existing administrator vacancies should be used in lieu of adding new administrator positions. This action maintains an increase of 5 admin officer III positions and the current staff-to-participant ratio of 1:50.	-\$ 1,658,223 G	F -21.00	Concur in part – The Department of Service and Civic Information agrees to lower the amount of new coaches but proposes a reduction of 10 rather than 21.		

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. 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:
- 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;
- 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;
- (3) 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;
- (4) 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;
- (5) 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
- (6) <u>determinations and outcomes regarding liquidated damages, including the amount charged and collected as of the submission of the report.</u>

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

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.

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

2. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Concur.

Further 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 the agency's procurement strategy for completing the Computerized Criminal History (CCH) and Electronic Patient Health Record (EPHR) projects. In addition to providing a strategy to complete the projects, the CCH portion of the plan shall include the following:

(1) a project status update;

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

- (2) evidence that the agency has procured a program manager to carry out the project;
- (3) a comprehensive review of neighboring states' criminal history systems;
- (4) justification for each cancellation and reissuance of the request for proposals; and
- (5) an explanation of the agency's decision to pursue an in-house solution.

The EPHR portion of the plan shall include the following:

- (1) a project status update, including an update on compliance with the Duvall v. Moore consent decree, in regard to the legacy and future systems; and
- (2) justification for the utilization of an Interagency Cooperative Purchasing Agreement.

The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than September 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:** The CCH major information technology (IT) project has experienced multiple delays, largely due to multiple cancellations and reissuances of the request for proposals. The estimated completion date for this project has been pushed back from the initial estimate of fiscal 2022 to fiscal 2028. Similarly, the EPHR is behind schedule and is estimated to complete two years after the expiration of the Duvall v. Moore decree in June 2026, opening DPSCS up to litigation. This action restricts funding pending a report including status updates and plans to complete both projects.

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

Information Request Author Due Date

Strategy for completing major IT DPSCS September 1, 2025

projects

3. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Concur.

Further provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of general administration may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services submits a report to the budget committees on the impact of incarceration on the future outcomes of returning offenders. The report shall include three-year recidivism numbers for the fiscal 2016 through 2022 release cohorts and an analysis of recent recidivism trends, including a comparison to past years and other states. The report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than November 15, 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:** The budget committees are interested in a more detailed examination of recidivism than what is provided in the annual Managing for Results data submission. This action restricts funds for administration pending statistics on three-year term recidivism data and an analysis of recidivism trends.

<b>Information Request</b>	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Recidivism report	DPSCS	November 15, 2025

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

4. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) Report:** The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submit a report by December 1, 2025, on the following items:

- annual updates on the number of offenders petitioning and approved for the JRA provisions including, but not limited to, administrative release, medical/geriatric parole, certificates of rehabilitation, and graduated sanctions;
- the number of offenders affected by the JRA diminution and earned compliance credit rules; and
- annual JRA cost savings updates along with any efforts/initiatives to increase savings.

<b>Information Request</b>	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
JRA report	DPSCS	December 1, 2025

5. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Correctional Program Participation Measures: The committees are concerned that there is little information available to track the participation of offenders in the various programs, services, and opportunities available to them. The availability of programs and services was reduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, and there was little opportunity for the budget committees to review the effect this had on offender rehabilitative efforts. The committees request that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) add data tables to the department's annual Managing for Results submission starting with the fiscal 2027 allowance that provide:

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

- annual counts of programming participants by primary assignment and facility;
- counts of participants by secondary, tertiary, or subsequent programming assignments by facility; and
- annual counts of nonparticipants by facility.

<b>Information Request</b>	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Correctional program participation measures	DPSCS	With the submission of the fiscal 2027 allowance and annually thereafter

#### 6. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

**Public Information Act (PIA) Compliance Report:** The PIA allows citizens to access public records that pose no public interest to withhold. The Maryland PIA Compliance Board has repeatedly ruled that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has violated PIA over the years, but there has been little indication that compliance is improving. The committees request that DPSCS submit a report by August 1, 2025, on PIA compliance. The report should include a recent history of actions taken to resolve cases brought before the Maryland PIA Compliance Board. The report should also include detailed descriptions of strategies and objectives that will bring DPSCS into compliance with the PIA, including ways these efforts will address:

training and education of staff;

Amount Position House Senate

<u>Change Change Agency Response Hearing Notes Decisions Decisions</u>

- systemic sources of nonresponsiveness to requests or wrongful denial of records;
- regulatory changes needed;
- ways that the department can proactively share information with the public to preempt the need for a PIA request; and
- other challenges in complying with the law.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
PIA compliance report	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

7. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Concur.

, provided that \$250,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of overtime earnings may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits a report on a plan to eliminate the use of mandatory overtime. The report scope shall include the entire department. The report shall first include a detailed strategic plan to eliminate the need for mandatory overtime, including the identification of staffing levels that the department must achieve at each facility so that voluntary overtime levels are sufficient to cover all staffing needs. The plan shall identify the amount of mandatory overtime use by reason and the number of staff that would need to be hired to satisfy the overtime needs in each category. The plan shall justify these levels using a National Institute of Corrections approved staffing matrix. The plan shall identify how the department prioritizes overtime for qualified officers with low pay rates to minimize unnecessary expenses. In addition to the strategic plan, the report shall also include:

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

- a breakdown of total correctional officer (CO) overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from July 2024 to October 2025, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual; and
- a breakdown of mandatory CO overtime hours worked and expenses paid per facility per pay period from July 2024 to October 2025, including the number of individuals affected and the median number of hours worked per individual.

The report shall be submitted by November 1, 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:** Excessive overtime has become a drain on human resources in the department and led to a riskier work environment for State employees, offenders, and volunteers. Overtime has climbed quickly as DPSCS struggles to fill CO positions. Overworked COs are less equipped to address safety issues, and assaults have increased alongside overtime in correctional and detention facilities. This language restricts overtime funding for DPSCS Administration and Offices – Administrative Services until a report is submitted detailing overtime trends, efforts to reduce overtime, and a plan to eliminate mandatory overtime use.

<b>Information Request</b>	Author	<b>Due Date</b>	
Overtime strategic plan	DPSCS	November 1, 2025	

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

8. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Concur.

Further provided that \$200,000 of this appropriation made for the purpose of Administrative Services may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) submits the second of four quarterly hiring and attrition reports to the budget committees. The reports shall include a breakdown of all hires and separations for each of the three months in question by category of employee (correctional officer, community supervision agent, or administrative employee) and by reason for separation. The report shall also include narrative summarizing all hiring events and changes to the hiring process that occurred during the quarter; the quantity, type, and cost of bonuses disbursed; as well as overall applications received, tested, and interviewed. The first quarterly report shall be submitted to the budget committees no later than October 1, 2025, with each of the following quarterly reports submitted to the budget committees no later than January 1, 2026, April 1, 2026, and July 1, 2026, respectively. The budget committees shall have 45 days from the date of the receipt of the second quarterly 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:** Correctional officer vacancies within DPSCS remain high at 10.8% as of December 1, 2024. The quarterly reports required in fiscal 2026 will continue the cooperation between DPSCS and the budget committees to track all departmental hiring and the success of recent staffing initiatives. This action restricts funding for administration pending the submission of the second of four quarterly reports on hiring and attrition within DPSCS.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Quarterly hiring and attrition reports	DPSCS	October 1, 2025 January 1, 2026 April 1, 2026 July 1, 2026

Q00A
DPSCS – Administration and Offices

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
9.	Delete funding for the new correctional officer body-worn camera program in correctional facilities.	-\$ 4,100,000 C	3F	Disagree – The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services stated that the program will reduce inmate assaults on staff and the number of settlements paid by the State.		

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

- , provided that \$100,000 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, in collaboration with experts, technical assistants, and transgender stakeholders, on the treatment of transgender individuals in correctional facilities. The report shall contain data for fiscal 2022 through 2025 on the following items:
- (1) annual total of transgender individuals in each of the agency's correctional facilities and pretrial detention centers by gender identity;
- (2) annual totals of transgender individuals in each DPSCS correctional facility by housing placement category, including administrative segregation, disciplinary segregation, mental health unit, medical unit, dormitory, double cell, single cell, and all other housing placement categories, disaggregated by the gender of the housing placement and by the gender identity of the transgender individual;
- (3) the number and share of transgender individuals placed in restrictive housing, disaggregated by reason for placement and compared to the cisgender population;
- (4) annual average and median length of time transgender individuals spent in restrictive housing overall and disaggregated by reason for placement into restrictive housing compared to their cisgender peers for each DPSCS correctional facility;
- annual number of requests by transgender individuals to transfer housing assignments, disaggregated by type of housing transfer request (including but not limited to transfer to a different gendered unit or facility, transfer into or out of a medical or mental health unit or facility, or transfer into or out of restrictive confinement) and the outcomes of those requests;

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
<u>(6)</u>	annual number of housing placement asse- individuals pursuant to DPSCS Executive Directi					
<u>(7)</u>	annual number of requests by transgender gender-affirming care and the outcomes of those type of medical care;					
(8)	annual number of requests by individuals ident Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standard individuals for privacy in showers, bathrooms, an and the outcomes of those requests;	115.41 and by	y transgender			
<u>(9)</u>	annual number of PREA complaints filed and inverse for complaints made by transgender individual peers;					
(10)	annual number of complaints received, number investigated, and outcomes of each complaint for regarding violence, sexual abuse, harassment transgender individuals, other abuse, access to gen and access to gendered commissary items;	each correct discrimina	tional facility tion against			
<u>(11)</u>	the number and dollar amount of settlements paid during each fiscal year from fiscal 2022 to 2025;	to transgende	er individuals			
(12)	all policies regarding transgender individuals including but not limited to intake procedures, identification individuals, provision of gender-affirming health safety from violence and sexual abuse, and accessitems;	entification o care, housing	f transgender g assignment,			
<u>(13)</u>	a plan to issue guidelines that, at a minimum, are	e the equival	ent of PREA			

Standard 115.42; and

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

(14) an analysis of whether the above DPSCS policies are being implemented and followed at each correctional facility and an analysis of the education and training that DPSCS staff receive regarding LGBTQ+ individuals, along with a discussion of any obstacles to implementation and compliance.

The report shall be submitted by October 1, 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:** Transgender inmates are subject to high rates of violence, sexual abuse, and inappropriate housing assignments, such as unwarranted restrictive housing. Committee narrative in the 2024 Joint Chairmen's Report requested that DPSCS submit a report on the treatment of transgender individuals by October 1, 2024. However, as of February 1, 2025, DPSCS had not submitted the requested report. This language restricts funding for general administration until DPSCS submits a report, in collaboration with experts, technical assistants, and transgender stakeholders, on the treatment of transgender individuals.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on the treatment of transgender individuals	DPSCS	October 1, 2025

#### 2. Adopt the following narrative:

**Delinquent Payments Report:** A June 2024 audit conducted by the Office of Legislative Audits found that Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE) failed to collect late payments, mostly from State agencies. The committees request that MCE within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) provide a report on the status of the payments owed by State and non-State customers, including whether any additional delinquent payments have accrued since its

Amount Position House Senate
<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/j.jup/en-2">Change Change Change Agency Response Hearing Notes</a> Decisions Decisions

June 2024 fiscal compliance audit. The report should be provided by October 30, 2025.

Information Request Author Due Date

Report on delinquent payments to DPSCS MCE

October 30, 2025

MCE

3. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Reentry Passport Program Rollout: The Reentry Passport Program is expected to provide all previously incarcerated individuals with access to an online portal after release where they can store and retrieve critical documents like their Social Security card or their birth certificate. Previous expectations set the Reentry Passport Program to be available for all returning citizens by fall 2023. However, the program remains in the pilot phase, and more work is needed to be done by the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) so that all returning citizens will have access to this service moving forward. The committees request that DPSCS submit a report by October 1, 2025, on the Reentry Passport Program rollout. The report should document the progress of expanding the existing pilot and future plans to fully implement the program, including:

- the number of individuals who already have Reentry Passport accounts;
- the dates that those individuals gained access to the passport;
- the list of functional passport functions;
- the list of nonfunctional/upcoming passport functions;

Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>

- the exact timeline by which all returning citizens will be able to access the passport;
- historic levels of returning citizens monthly;
- projected levels of returning citizens that will require new access to the passport monthly;
- projected levels of returning citizens that will require ongoing access to the passport monthly;
- the list of documents that must be uploaded;
- the list of documents that may be uploaded;
- the process by which documents are uploaded, and by whom;
- the process by which returning citizens access documents;
- ways that the Maryland Total Human-services Integrated Network supports the initiative;
- challenges to full rollout; and
- the potential impact on recidivism.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Reentry Passport program rollout	DPSCS	October 1, 2025

Amount	<b>Position</b>		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

4. Adopt the following narrative:

Concur.

Women's Prerelease Programming: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) was required by the Corrections Services Article §§ 3-301 through 3-305 to operate a comprehensive rehabilitative prerelease unit for women by November 1, 2023. The committees note that DPSCS has been consistently delayed in meeting the statutory requirement to build a new, standalone, prerelease facility. While design for the new facility has been delayed, DPSCS is still required to provide evidence-based and gender-responsive services to incarcerated women in its custody and has reportedly begun to do so. However, the amount of information on the new programming is limited, and the committees seek further details into the department's plans to comply with the comprehensive and gender-responsive programming requirements of the statute. The committees ask that DPSCS provide a report on the following information on the women's prerelease unit at the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women no later than August 1, 2025:

- an overview of the current prerelease program for women;
- goals and objectives;
- curriculum and activities, including particular attention to work release and job-related services;
- eligibility requirements;
- the number of applicants, individuals approved, individuals denied, current population, and average daily population for each month in fiscal 2025 in Project FRESH and any other prerelease programming for women;
- resources dedicated to the program, including staff, funding, and facility space;

Amount	<b>Position</b>		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

- a literature review of the program's evidence-based practices for preparing women to reenter society;
- a plan to measure program effectiveness, including any outcomes or performance data that will be measured and reported;
- a summary of participant satisfaction and feedback on the program;
- an evaluation of the inclusivity and accessibility of the program for women with various backgrounds and needs;
- implementation challenges and future steps for improvement or expansion within the existing facility during the delay in constructing the new facility; and
- a comparison to the opportunities, resources, and conditions provided in men's prerelease facilities.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
Report on women's prerelease	DPSCS	August 1, 2025
programming		

### $\label{eq:Q00G} Q00G$ DPSCS – Police and Correctional Training Commissions

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	<b>Decisions</b>	<u>Decisions</u>

1. Concur with Governor's allowance.

### Q00T04 DPSCS – Division of Pretrial Detention and Services

Amount	<b>Position</b>		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

1. Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Concur.

- , provided that \$100,000 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 on compliance with the Duvall v. Moore decree. The report shall include:
- (1) an update on the compliance status of each of the provisions;
- (2) the total number of motions issued;
- (3) a summary of any costs associated with the compliance process;
- (4) <u>a strategy and timeline for reaching full compliance by the June 2026</u> deadline; and
- (5) a discussion of the utilization and effectiveness of third-party consultants in the compliance process.

The report shall be submitted by November 1, 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 the 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:** The deadline to comply with the medical and mental health provisions in the Duvall v. Moore decree have been extended four times from the original deadline of June 2020. DPSCS must reach full compliance by June 2026 or face litigation regarding the conditions of pretrial detention. This language restricts funds for administration pending a report on compliance with the decree.

### Q00T04 **DPSCS – Division of Pretrial Detention and Services**

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<u>Change</u>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

**Information Request** Author **Due Date** 

Status update on compliance with DPSCS Duvall v. Moore decree November 1, 2025

V00A
Department of Juvenile Services

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position Change	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
1.	Reduce the general fund appropriation for the Enhance Services Continuum to the level previously authorized by the General Assembly in fiscal 2025.	-\$ 4,200,000 G	F	Disagree – Key stakeholders have consistently called on the department to strengthen its service continuum. This funding would be used to expand credible messenger mentoring programs.		
2.	Delete the general fund appropriation for the Catoctin Treatment Center due to its absence from the department's 2024 facilities master plan.	-\$ 3,000,000 G	F	Disagree – While the Catoctin Treatment Center is not included in the facilities master plan, the department recognizes the critical need for expanding inpatient treatment beds. Rather than eliminating these funds, the Department of Juvenile Services is prepared to explore alternative approaches, including potential partnerships with private providers or other entities, to establish sustainable, high-quality treatment options in the community.		

# W00A Department of State Police

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position Change	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
1.	Delete grant funding for the Maryland Sheriffs' Association due to the expiration of an enhanced public safety funding initiative.	-\$ 333,000	GF	Disagree – The department recognizes that these funds are not mandated but asserts that the funding is valuable. The funds assist in providing executive-level training and in-service credits validated by the Maryland Police Training Commission to over 150 law enforcement agencies.		
2.	Add the following language to the special fund appropriate provided that \$1,047,270 in special funds are reduced regular positions are deleted: N2619124, N2619125 N2619128, N2619129, N2619130, N2619131, N261913 N2619135, N2619136, N2619137, and N2619138.  Explanation: This action reduces reclassification special appear to be double budgeted and reduces 15.0 new positions that the Police's fiscal 2026 budget. Given that the position reclassifications, it is assumed that these cadet positions was and therefore the new positions are not not seen to the positions and therefore the new positions are not not seen the positions are not not seen the seen that the positions are not not seen the seen that the positions are not not seen the seen that the positions are not not seen the seen that the positions are not not s	and the folloon, N2619126, N2619133 ial fund expetions in the Das were initiativill be filled to	N2619127, B, N2619134, enditures that Department of Ily funded as	Concur in part – While the Department of State Police (DPS) concurs with the recommendation to reduce duplicative funding, it disagrees with the recommendation to delete the 15.0 new cadet positions. DSP intends to expand the cadet program to 50 positions in fiscal 2025. This program is in demand and is an effective way to recruit people who may be interested in the Trooper Academy but are not yet eligible due to their		

age.

### W00A**Department of State Police**

Concur.

		Amount <u>Change</u>	Position <u>Change</u>	Agency Response Hearing Notes	House <u>Decisions</u>	Senate <u>Decisions</u>
3.	Reduce fiscal 2026 grant funding for the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council to the expected level of expenditures.	-\$ 690,724 SI	F	Disagree – The department requests that the appropriation be reflected as higher than the grant program's anticipated expenditure to ensure there is no risk of reducing the carry forward balance of the associated special fund.		

Add the following section:

#### **Section XX Uniform Crime Report**

SECTION XX. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That \$100,000 of the general fund appropriation within the Department of State Police (DSP) may not be expended until DSP submits the Crime in Maryland, 2024 Uniform Crime Report (UCR) to the budget committees. 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 the 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.

Further provided that, if DSP encounters difficulty obtaining, or validating the accuracy of, the necessary crime data by November 1, 2025, from local jurisdictions who provide the data for inclusion in the UCR, DSP shall notify the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP). From each jurisdiction's third quarterly State Aid for Police Protection (SAPP) disbursement, the office shall withhold a portion, totaling at least 15% but no more than 50%, of that jurisdiction's SAPP grant for fiscal 2026 upon receipt of notification from DSP, GOCPP shall withhold SAPP funds until such a time that the jurisdiction submits its crime data to DSP, and DSP verifies the accuracy of the data. DSP and GOCPP shall submit a report to the budget committees indicating any jurisdiction from which crime data was not received by November 1, 2025, and the amount of SAPP funding from each jurisdiction.

## W00A Department of State Police

Amount	Position		House	Senate
<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Agency Response Hearing Notes</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Decisions</b>

**Explanation:** This annual language was originally added because DSP had not been submitting its annual crime report in a timely manner due to issues related to receiving crime data from the local jurisdictions. Though data contributors were able to provide the department with 2021 and 2022 crime data on time, there were delays in compiling the 2021 and 2022 UCRs due to the inability for all contributors to submit data in compliance with the new federal reporting system. The 2023 UCR was submitted in December 2024.

This language withholds a portion of the general fund appropriation until the budget committees receive the 2024 UCR. The language also specifies that GOCPP, upon receipt of notification from DSP, must withhold a portion of a delinquent jurisdiction's SAPP grant until certain crime data is received by DSP. Finally, DSP and GOCPP must submit a report to the budget committees that includes information on any jurisdiction that did not report crime data by November 1, 2025, and the amount of SAPP funding that is withheld from each jurisdiction.

Information Request	Author	<b>Due Date</b>
2024 UCR data verification	DSP	November 1, 2025
2024 UCR	DSP	45 days prior to expenditure of funds