



Report of the
**Public Safety and
Administration Subcommittee**
To the House Appropriations Committee

2025 SESSION

Recommendations, Reductions, and
Summary of Action Pertaining to:
House Bill 350

General Assembly of Maryland
House Appropriations Committee
Public Safety and Administration Subcommittee
2025 Session Membership Roster

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Contents

	<u>Budget Code</u>	<u>Page</u>
Recommended Reductions		vii
Legislative and Judicial		
Judiciary	C00A00	1
Office of the Public Defender.....	C80B00	8
Office of the Attorney General.....	C81C	11
Executive and Administrative Control		
Uninsured Employers' Fund.....	C96J00	12
Workers' Compensation Commission.....	C98F00	13
Board of Public Works	D05E01	14
Executive Department – Governor	D10A01	16
Boards, Commissions, and Offices	D15A05	17
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy	D21	19
State Board of Elections	D38I01	23
Military Department	D50H01	25
Maryland Department of Emergency Management	D52	28
Department of Veterans and Military Families	D55P00	31
Office of Administrative Hearings	D99A11	32
Financial and Revenue Administration		
Comptroller of Maryland.....	E00A	33
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission.....	E17	35
State Department of Assessments and Taxation	E50C	36
Property Tax Assessment Appeals Boards.....	E80E	38
Service and Civic Innovation		
Department of Service and Civic Innovation	I00	39

	<u>Budget Code</u>	<u>Page</u>
Public Safety and Correctional Services		
Administration and Offices	Q00A	40
Corrections	Q00B	47
Division of Pretrial Detention and Services	Q00T04	53
Juvenile Services		
Department of Juvenile Services	V00A	54
State Police		
Department of State Police	W00A	55
Sections		
Sections.....		57

Recommended Reductions
Public Safety and Administration Subcommittee

<u>Agency</u>	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Higher Ed Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
2026 Budget Request						
Judiciary	-\$7,961,681	\$0	\$0	\$0	-\$7,961,681	-5.0
Office of the Public Defender	-94,198	0	0	0	-94,198	
Workers' Compensation Commission	0	-554,685	0	0	-554,685	
Board of Public Works	-1,500,000	0	0	0	-1,500,000	
Executive Department – Governor	-303,287	0	0	0	-303,287	-2.0
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy	-225,341	0	0	0	-225,341	-3.0
State Board of Elections	0	-470,746	0	0	-470,746	
Military Department	-86,387	0	-195,832	0	-282,219	-5.0
Maryland Department of Emergency Management	-101,264	0	-101,264	0	-202,528	-2.0
Department of Service and Civic Innovation	-1,658,223	0	0	0	-1,658,223	-21.0
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services – Corrections	-700,000	0	0	0	-700,000	
Department of State Police	0	-1,737,994	0	0	-1,737,994	-15.0
Subtotal – Fiscal 2026 Regular Budget	-\$12,630,381	-\$2,763,425	-\$297,096	\$0	-\$15,690,902	-53.0
Fiscal 2026 Total Budget	-\$12,630,381	-\$2,763,425	-\$297,096	\$0	-\$15,690,902	-53.0
Grand Total Budget Bill	-\$12,630,381	-\$2,763,425	-\$297,096	\$0	-\$15,690,902	-53.0

11A:

C00A00
Judiciary

Budget Amendments

Add the following language:

Provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$687,742 in general funds and 5 new positions shall be abolished. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.

Explanation: This action will abolish 5 new positions in the Judiciary’s fiscal 2026 allowance in the following programs: circuit court judges (2); District Court (2); and Clerks of the Circuit Court (1). These positions are being abolished due to a lack of demonstrated need for the new positions.

Amendment No. _____

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

Further provided that this appropriation shall be reduced by \$393,939 in general funds to increase turnover expectancy among new positions. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.

Explanation: This reduction is made in order to increase the turnover rate for new positions within the Judiciary from 5.72% to 25.00%.

Amendment No. _____

C00A00.04 District Court

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.

Amendment No. _____

C00A00

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 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Appointed Attorney Program costs and utilization	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

Amendment No. _____

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce \$670,000 in general funds made for salary increases for contractual personnel to align with increases for State employees. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-670,000	GF
2. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of duplicating equipment expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-400,000	GF

C00A00

- | | | |
|---|------------|------|
| 3. Increase contractual employee turnover expectancy to better align with fiscal 2025 levels. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this cut across the Judiciary. | -435,000 | GF |
| 4. Reduce \$150,000 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 to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. | -150,000 | GF |
| Total Change | -1,655,000 | 0.00 |

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	1,635.00	1,635.00		0.00
General Fund	264,963,884	263,308,884	-1,655,000	
Total Funds	264,963,884	263,308,884	-1,655,000	

Amendment No. _____

C00A00.06 Administrative Office of the Courts

- | | | | |
|--|----------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated: | | <u>Funds</u> | <u>Positions</u> |
| 1. Reduce \$175,000 in general funds made for the purpose of travel expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary. | -175,000 | GF | |
| Total Change | -175,000 | | 0.00 |

C00A00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	255.00	255.00		0.00
General Fund	103,948,814	103,773,814	-175,000	
Special Fund	35,000,000	35,000,000	0	
Federal Fund	1,028,179	1,028,179	0	
Total Funds	139,976,993	139,801,993	-175,000	

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

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	Due Date
Annual court performance measures report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

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 that 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
PSC funding and performance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

Judgeship Need for Fiscal 2027: The committees request a report on judgeship needs at the Judiciary to be submitted by December 15, 2025. The report should include a detailed analysis of the Judiciary’s fiscal 2027 judgeship needs.

C00A00

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Judgeship needs for fiscal 2027	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

Budget Amendments

C00A00.09 Judicial Information Systems

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce \$500,000 in general funds made for the purpose of communications expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-500,000	GF
2. Reduce \$900,000 in general funds made for the purpose of printing expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-900,000	GF
3. Reduce \$1,000,000 in general funds made for the purpose of equipment repairs and maintenance expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-1,000,000	GF
4. Reduce \$1,200,000 in general funds made for the purpose of software license expenses to decrease the funding available for additional software licenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-1,200,000	GF
5. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of duplicating equipment expenses to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-200,000	GF

C00A00

6. Reduce \$1,250,000 in general funds made for the purpose of contracted Information Technology services to align with fiscal 2024 actual expenses. The Chief Justice is authorized to allocate this reduction across the Judiciary.	-1,250,000	GF
Total Change	-5,050,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	173.00	173.00		0.00
General Fund	71,938,805	66,888,805	-5,050,000	
Special Fund	6,999,761	6,999,761	0	
Total Funds	78,938,566	73,888,566	-5,050,000	

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

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	Due Date
MITDP status report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
LRIF balance report	Judiciary	December 15, 2025

C00A00

C00A00.13 Pre-Trial Home Detention

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 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

**C80B00
Office of the Public Defender**

Budget Amendments

C80B00.01 General Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.	-22,146 GF	
 Total Change	 -22,146	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	80.00	80.00		0.00
General Fund	16,117,895	16,095,749	-22,146	
Total Funds	16,117,895	16,095,749	-22,146	

Amendment No. _____

C80B00.02 District Operations

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.	-70,256 GF	
 Total Change	 -70,256	 0.00

C80B00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	856.50	856.50		0.00
General Fund	132,131,641	132,061,385	-70,256	
Special Fund	514,576	514,576	0	
Federal Fund	1,707,504	1,707,504	0	
Total Funds	134,353,721	134,283,465	-70,256	

Amendment No. _____

C80B00.03 Appellate and Inmate Services

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

1. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.

Funds **Positions**

-995 GF

Total Change

-995 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	68.00	68.00		0.00
General Fund	10,923,784	10,922,789	-995	
Total Funds	10,923,784	10,922,789	-995	

Amendment No. _____

C80B00.04 Involuntary Institutionalization Services

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

1. Reduce general funds made for the purpose of increasing the turnover expectancy for contractual positions to 10.00%.

Funds **Positions**

-801 GF

Total Change

-801 0.00

C80B00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	28.00	28.00		0.00
General Fund	3,837,448	3,836,647	-801	
Total Funds	3,837,448	3,836,647	-801	

Amendment No. _____

C81C
Office of the Attorney General

Committee Narrative

C81C00.01 Legal Counsel and Advice

Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) Final Implementation and Future Costs Report:

With final implementation of the 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, 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

C96J00
Uninsured Employers' Fund

Committee Narrative

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	Due Date
UEF operational needs	UEF DBM	December 1, 2025

C98F00
Workers' Compensation Commission

Budget Amendments

C98F00.01 General Administration

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
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	
Total Change	-554,685	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	115.00	115.00		0.00
Special Fund	24,377,752	23,823,067	-554,685	
Total Funds	24,377,752	23,823,067	-554,685	

Amendment No. _____

**D05E01
Board of Public Works**

Budget Amendments

D05E01.02 Contingent Fund

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce the contingent fund appropriation by \$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.	-1,500,000	GF
 Total Change	-1,500,000	0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
General Fund	2,500,000	1,000,000	-1,500,000	
Total Funds	2,500,000	1,000,000	-1,500,000	

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

D05E01.10 Miscellaneous Grants to Private Nonprofit Groups

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	Due Date
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

D05E01.15 Payments of Judgments Against the State

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	Due Date
Data for forecasting payments to erroneously confined individuals	BPW OAH	September 1, 2025 January 1, 2026

D10A01
Executive Department – Governor

Budget Amendments

D10A01.01 General Executive Direction and Control

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Positions</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	GF	-2.00
 Total Change	 -303,287		 2.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	125.00	123.00		2.00
General Fund	21,327,332	21,024,045	-303,287	
Special Fund	2,544,225	2,544,225	0	
Total Funds	23,871,557	23,568,270	-303,287	

Amendment No. _____

D15A05
Boards, Commissions, and Offices

Budget Amendments

D15A05.03 Governor’s Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs

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	Due Date
Agency MBE participation attainment and liaison survey report	GOSBA DGS	January 1, 2026

Amendment No. _____

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.

D15A05

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

Budget Amendments

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

D21A01.01 Administrative Headquarters

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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) a comparison of aggregate-level performance measures or outcome measures 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 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

D21

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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Annual VOCA report	GOCPP	November 1, 2025

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

D21A01.03 State Aid for Police Protection

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

D21

Budget Amendments

VICTIM SERVICES UNIT

D21A03.01 Victim Services Unit

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.

Amendment No. _____

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 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.

D21

Information Request

Author

Due Date

CICB fiscal 2025 annual
report

GOCPP

November 1, 2025

Amendment No. _____

D38I01
State Board of Elections

Budget Amendments

D38I01.03 Major Information Technology Development Projects

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</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	SF
 Total Change	 -470,746	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Fund	3,042,669	2,571,923	-470,746	
Total Funds	3,042,669	2,571,923	-470,746	

Amendment No. _____

Committee 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

D38I01

- an assessment of future risks to the project’s timeline and how SBE plans to mitigate those risks.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Quarterly report on all MITDPs	SBE	July 15, 2025 October 15, 2025 January 15, 2026 April 15, 2026

Major Information Technology Development Project (MITDP) Readiness for Upcoming Elections: The committees are interested in the readiness and timing of implementation of the Statewide Pollbook Modernization MITDP and the New Voting System MITDP 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

D50H01 Military Department

Committee Narrative

D50H01.01 Administrative Headquarters

Report on Maryland Military Department Efforts to Fill Vacant Positions: As of December 31, 2024, the Military Department had 49 vacant positions, 9 of which had been unfilled for more than one year. Given that the department was making consistent progress in filling vacant positions until fiscal 2023, the vacancies in fiscal 2024 reflect a significant increase, more than double the 23 vacancies reported as of December 31, 2023. The Military Department reported that a key reason for the increase in vacancies was an internal hiring freeze in fiscal 2024 implemented in response to funding shortfalls. The committees request that the Military Department submit a report on the status of all December 2024 vacant positions, the status of the internal hiring freeze, and active recruitment efforts to fill vacant positions.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on Military Department efforts to fill vacant positions	Military Department	August 1, 2025

Budget Amendments

D50H01.03 Army Operations and Maintenance

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general and federal funds to delete 4.0 long-term vacant positions within the Army Operations and Maintenance program.	-60,319 GF -168,092 FF	-4.00
Total Change	-228,411	4.00

D50H01

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	95.00	91.00		4.00
General Fund	3,819,587	3,759,268	-60,319	
Special Fund	1,575	1,575	0	
Federal Fund	15,091,558	14,923,466	-168,092	
Total Funds	18,912,720	18,684,309	-228,411	

Amendment No. _____

D50H01.05 State Operations

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce general and federal funds to delete 1.0 long-term vacant position within the State Operations program.	-26,068 GF -27,740 FF	-1.00
Total Change	-53,808	1.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	76.50	75.50		1.00
General Fund	7,601,507	7,575,439	-26,068	
Federal Fund	5,137,763	5,110,023	-27,740	
Total Funds	12,739,270	12,685,462	-53,808	

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

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,

D50H01

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 program participation	Military Department	December 31, 2025

D52
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Committee Narrative

D52A01.01 Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund (RMRLF): In total, only three counties have submitted applications for funding from the Maryland Department of Emergency Management’s (MDEM) 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on the RMRLF	MDEM	July 1, 2025

D52A01.02 Maryland 911 Board

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

D52

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.

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

Budget Amendments

D52A01.04 State Disaster Recovery Division

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. 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 GF -101,264 FF	-2.00
Total Change	-202,528	2.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	2.00	0.00		2.00
General Fund	1,000,000	898,736	-101,264	
Federal Fund	101,264	0	-101,264	
Total Funds	1,101,264	898,736	-202,528	

Amendment No. _____

D52

Committee Narrative

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

D55P00
Department of Veterans and Military Families

Committee Narrative

D55P00.05 Veterans Home Program

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.

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

D55P00.11 Outreach and Advocacy

Report on the Maryland Joins Forces (MJF) Initiative and Its Progress: 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

D99A11
Office of Administrative Hearings

Committee Narrative

D99A11.01 General Administration

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 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 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

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

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

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:

E00A

- 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

E17
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission

Committee Narrative

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	Due Date
MFR measures for cannabis violations and confiscated contraband	ATCC	With submission of the fiscal 2027 budget

E50C
State Department of Assessments and Taxation

Budget Amendments

E50C00.01 Office of the Director

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

. 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 development project. The reports shall include:

- (1) a description of project milestones achieved, remaining milestones, and the overall project schedule;
- (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 Cloud Revenue Integrated System (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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
CRIS status reports	SDAT	July 15, 2025 December 15, 2025

Amendment No. _____

E50C

Committee Narrative

E50C00.02 Real Property Valuation

Vacancies Among Assessors in the Real Property Valuation Program: The committees request that the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) submit 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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status updates on staffing in the Real Property Valuation Program	SDAT	July 15, 2025 December 15, 2025

E80E
Property Tax Assessment Appeals Boards

Committee Narrative

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	Due Date
MFR performance data submission	PTAAB	July 15, 2025

I00
Department of Service and Civic Innovation

Budget Amendments

I00A01.02 Maryland Corps Program

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. 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	GF -21.00
Total Change	-1,658,223	21.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Position	60.00	39.00		21.00
General Fund	26,254,176	24,595,953	-1,658,223	
Special Fund	28,589,222	28,589,222	0	
Total Funds	54,843,398	53,185,175	-1,658,223	

Amendment No. _____

Q00A
Administration and Offices
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

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 submits a report to the budget committees describing how the agency has incorporated feedback from the Office of Legislative Audits 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 through the submission of the report and future estimates of liquidated damages.

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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 the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) contained nine findings related to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (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, 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

Amendment No. _____

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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 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;
- (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:

Q00A

- (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 the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) up to litigation. This action restricts funding pending a report including status updates and plans to complete both projects.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Strategy for completing major IT projects	DPSCS	September 1, 2025

Amendment No. _____

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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 General Assembly is 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.

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Information Request	Author	Due Date
Recidivism report	DPSCS	November 15, 2025

Amendment No. _____

Committee Narrative

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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
JRA report	DPSCS	December 1, 2025

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 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:

- 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.

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

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 the 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;
- 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	Due Date
PIA compliance report	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

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.

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

Budget Amendments

Q00A01.10 Administrative Services

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

, 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 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:

- (1) 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
- (2) 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 the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (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

Q00A

until a report is submitted detailing overtime trends, efforts to reduce overtime, and a plan to eliminate mandatory overtime use.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Overtime strategic plan	DPSCS	November 1, 2025

Amendment No. _____

Add the following language to the general fund appropriation:

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 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 25, 2025, with each of the following quarterly reports submitted to the budget committees no later than January 25, 2026, April 25, 2026, and July 25, 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 the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (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	Due Date
Quarterly hiring and attrition reports	DPSCS	October 25, 2025 January 25, 2026 April 25, 2026 July 25, 2026

Amendment No. _____

Q00B
Corrections
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

DIVISION OF CORRECTIONS – HEADQUARTERS

Q00B01.01 General Administration

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;
- (5) 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;
- (6) annual number of housing placement assessments for transgender individuals pursuant to DPSCS Executive Directive OPS.131.0001;
- (7) annual number of requests by transgender individuals to receive gender-affirming care and the outcomes of those requests disaggregated by type of medical care;

Q00B

- (8) annual number of requests by individuals identified as vulnerable under Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standard 115.41 and by transgender individuals for privacy in showers, bathrooms, and while changing clothing, and the outcomes of those requests;
- (9) annual number of PREA complaints filed and investigated and the outcome for complaints made by transgender individuals compared to cisgender peers;
- (10) annual number of complaints received, number of complaints that were investigated, and outcomes of each complaint for each correctional facility regarding violence, sexual abuse, harassment, discrimination against transgender individuals, other abuse, access to gender-affirming health care, and access to gendered commissary items;
- (11) the number and dollar amount of settlements paid to transgender individuals during each fiscal year from fiscal 2022 to 2025;
- (12) all policies regarding transgender individuals and/or gender dysphoria, including but not limited to intake procedures, identification of transgender individuals, provision of gender-affirming health care, housing assignment, safety from violence and sexual abuse, and access to gendered commissary items;
- (13) a plan to issue guidelines that, at a minimum, are the equivalent of PREA Standard 115.42; and
- (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.

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

Amendment No. _____

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.

Amendment No. _____

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

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on delinquent payments to MCE	DPSCS	October 30, 2025

Q00B

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;
- 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

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- a comparison to the opportunities, resources, and conditions provided in men’s prerelease facilities.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on women’s prerelease programming	DPSCS	August 1, 2025

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;
- 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;

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- 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	Due Date
Reentry Passport program rollout	DPSCS	October 1, 2025

Q00T04
Division of Pretrial Detention and Services
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Budget Amendments

Q00T04.09 General Administration

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 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) a strategy and timeline for reaching full compliance by the June 2026 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. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (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.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Status update on compliance with Duvall v. Moore decree	DPSCS	November 1, 2025

Amendment No. _____

V00A
Department of Juvenile Services

Budget Amendments

V00E01.02 Residential Contractual

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.

Amendment No. _____

W00A
Department of State Police

Committee 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

Budget Amendments

W00A01.02 Field Operations Bureau

Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

. provided that \$1,047,270 in special funds are reduced and the following 15 new regular positions are deleted: N2619124, N2619125, N2619126, N2619127, N2619128, N2619129, N2619130, N2619131, N2619132, N2619133, N2619134, N2619135, N2619136, N2619137, and N2619138.

W00A

Explanation: This action reduces reclassification special fund expenditures that appear to be double budgeted and reduces 15.0 new positions in the Department of State Police’s fiscal 2026 budget. Given that the positions were initially funded as reclassifications, it is assumed that these cadet positions will be filled using existing vacant positions and, therefore, the new positions are not needed.

Amendment No. _____

W00A01.08 Vehicle Theft Prevention Council

Amend appropriation for the purposes indicated:

	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Positions</u>
1. Reduce fiscal 2026 grant funding for the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council to the expected level of expenditures.	-690,724 SF	
 Total Change	 -690,724	 0.00

<u>Effect</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Amount Change</u>	<u>Position Change</u>
Special Fund	3,265,724	2,575,000	-690,724	
Total Funds	3,265,724	2,575,000	-690,724	

Amendment No. _____

Sections

Budget Amendments

Add the following section:

Section 36 Uniform Crime Report

SECTION 36. 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.

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.

Sections

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

Amendment No. _____