

Legislative Session Update

Briefing for the AAIWG

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March 25, 2025

Governor | Wes Moore **Lt. Governor** | Aruna Miller **Secretary** | Russell J. Strickland

Upcoming Dates of Importance

Budget Passage Date

- March 31

Sine Die

- April 7



HB 76 / SB 396 - Public Safety Officer - Performance of Duties - Death Benefits

- **Sponsor:**

- House: Lehman et al Senate: McKay, Benson, & M. Jackson

- **Status:**

- House: Passed House Senate: Passed Senate

- **Summary:**

- Adds 9-1-1 Specialist to the definition of public safety officer
- Adds a presumption of death benefits if a public safety officer has died by suicide and the individual had been diagnosed by a mental health professional with PTSD or related stress/trauma disorders as a result of the nature and performance of the individual's duties
- Original bill included disability benefits for PTSD or related acute stress disorders, which was removed in both House & Senate Committees

HB 694 - Public Schools - Individuals with Disabilities - Main Entrance Accessibility and Emergency Planning

- **Sponsor:** Kaufman et al
- **Status:** Passed House; assigned to EEE
- **Summary:**
 - Specifies that school safety evaluations and solutions identified for safety concerns must include consideration of individuals with disabilities
 - Requires counties to report instances where a public school facilities became inaccessible for a student with a disability in a manner that could impede evacuation or an emergency response

HB 782 - Study on Detecting Deadly Weapons in Public Middle & High Schools

- **Sponsor:** Atterbeary et al
- **Status:** Passed House; assigned to EEE
- **Summary:**
 - Requires Maryland Center for School Safety to study how best to detect deadly weapons in public middle and high schools and how best to rapidly report the detection of weapons to a law enforcement agency
 - Study requires evaluation of “widely accepted” methods and feasibility of using those methods to fill gaps in school safety
 - Software used for school safety and how it can best be integrated effectively
 - Interim report due Dec 1, 2025; final due Dec 1, 2026

HB 1083 - Plan to Implement Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Requirements

- **Sponsor**

- Senate: Augustine
- House: Woods et al

- **Status:**

- Senate: Passed Senate
- House: Passed House

- **Summary**

- Requires the Behavioral Health Advisory Council and Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment to provide recommendations to implement recommendations from a CMMS letter related to early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment requirements for children

HB 1146 / SB 900 - Integration of 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Network and Outcome Evaluations

- **Sponsor**

- Senate: Augustine
- House: White Holland et al

- **Status:**

- Senate: Passed Senate
- House: Passed House

- **Summary**

- Updates current 988 statute to require an evaluation of outcomes of services in each jurisdiction or region
- Includes call volume, answer rate, resolution data (including whether mobile crisis was dispatched and related response data), involvement of law enforcement, and hospital diversion

SB 81/HB445 - Criminal Law - Interference with a Public Safety Answering Point - Penalties

- **Sponsor**

- Senate: Kagan House: Hill

- **Status:**

- Senate: Passed Senate House: Passed House

- **Summary**

- Makes intent to disrupt a PSAP a felony punishable by \$25,000 fine, 5 years in jail, or both

Not Likely to Pass

- HB 141 - Task Force on Loneliness and Isolation
- HB 612 - Lifesaver Schools Program Establishment
- HB 713 - Public Safety - Distribution of Literature to Purchasers of Firearms and Ammunition
- HB 934 - Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention - Resources, Tools & Educational Materials
- HB 1049 - Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program
- HB 1050 - Family Law - Protective Orders - Surrender of Firearms
- HB 1308 - Crimes of Violence - Medical Facilities and Places of Worship - Sacred Places Act
- HB 1313 - Student Behavior - Parent and Guardian Notice and Required Counseling
- SB 644 - Public Schools- SROs - Firearms Required
- SB 1041 - Property Tax - Charter Counties - Application of County Tax Limitation on Public Safety Budget

The Maryland Department of Emergency Management

*Proactively reducing disaster risks and
reliably managing consequences through
collaborative work with Maryland's
communities and partners.*

Thank You!

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