



2025 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FINAL REPORT

PASSED

HB 297/SB 5 Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – State-based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program – Sunset Repeal

Sponsors: Delegate Ken Kerr and 16 co-sponsors; Senators Clarence Lam, Brian Feldman, Antonio Hayes
Lead Group: Maryland Health Care Coalition for All! Coalition

This legislation extends the very successful Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidy Program past 2025 so that it can keep helping young Marylanders enroll in and maintain their health insurance. Renames it as the State-Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Program and authorizes the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to establish and implement the program.

HB 334/SB 156 Workgroup on Universal Newborn Nurse Home Visiting Services – Establishment

Sponsors: Delegate Ken Kerr and 31 co-sponsors; Senator Karen Lewis Young
Lead Group: Frederick County

The amended bill establishes the Workgroup on Universal Newborn Nurse Home Visiting Services, which will collect data and costs, compare data for evidence-based models, and identify service gaps and workforce needs. Requires the Workgroup to issue a report with findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2025.

HB 424/SB 357 Prescription Drug Affordability Board – Authority and Stakeholder Council Membership (Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for All Marylanders Now Act)

Sponsors: Delegate Bonnie Cullison, Delegate Jennifer White Holland and 15 co-sponsors; Senator Dawn Gile, Senator Brian Feldman, Senator Katie Fry Hester
Lead Group: Maryland Health Care Coalition for All! Coalition

This bill extends the authority of Maryland's Prescription Drug Affordability Board to establish a process for setting upper payment limits for purchases and payor reimbursements of prescription drug products.

HB 930/SB 848 Public Health Abortion Grant Program – Establishment

Sponsors: Delegate Lesley Lopez and 83 co-sponsors; Senator Guy Guzzone
Lead Group: Women's Law Center of Maryland

This bill establishes the Public Health Abortion Grant Program to provide grants to improve access to abortion care clinical services for individuals in the state. It addresses the emerging crisis facing Maryland abortion providers who are serving an increase in uninsured and underinsured people by creating the Public Health Abortion Grant Program Fund. The funding will come from \$25 million in unspent insurance premiums, accumulated over the last 10 years, for abortion coverage.

HB 933/SB 679 Nursing Homes – Cost Reports

Sponsors: Delegate Ashanti Martinez and 17 co-sponsors; Senator Jim Rosapepe
Lead Group: 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East

This legislation ensures that revenue received from the Maryland Medicaid program is spent on direct care and the women-led workforce that provides it. It requires the Maryland Department of Health to review the cost reports and other data submitted by each nursing home that participates in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and submit the findings annually between October 2025 and October 2029.

NOT PASSED

HB 629/SB 549 Civil Actions – Immunity – Disclosure of Allegations of Sexually Assaultive Behavior (Stop Silencing Survivors Act)

Sponsors: Delegate Sandy Bartlett and 11 co-sponsors; Senator Sara Love and 6 co-sponsors

Lead Group: Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA)

This bill would have provided additional protections from retaliatory litigation for sexual assault survivors. It would have established an immunity from liability for a person who discloses information about allegations of sexually assaultive behavior if the person acts in good faith.

HB 647/SB 702 Correctional Services – Restrictive Housing

Sponsors: Delegate N. Scott Phillips and 5 co-sponsors; Senator Sara Love and 3 co-sponsors

Lead Group: Interfaith Action for Human Rights

This bill would have limited the use of solitary confinement in Maryland prisons from approximately 22 hours to 17 hours in a 24-hour period and only for egregious offenses. It would also have excluded certain people, including women who are pregnant, who are postpartum, or who have recently suffered a miscarriage.

HB 1050 Family Law – Protective Orders – Surrender of Firearms SB 943 Family and Law Enforcement Protection Act

Sponsors: Delegate Sandy Bartlett and 3 co-sponsors; Senator Shelly Hettleman and 7 co-sponsors

Lead Group: Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence

This bill originally aimed to close gaps in the current protective order law by ensuring firearms are relinquished or removed from abusers and notifying victims if their abuser attempts to acquire firearms while under a protective order. The bill was changed to create a Task Force to Study the Use of Firearms in Domestic Violence Situations.

HB 1198/SB 632 Correctional Services – Comprehensive Rehabilitative Prerelease Services – Female Incarcerated Individuals (The Monica Cooper Prerelease Act)

Sponsors: Delegate Charlotte Crutchfield and 60 co-sponsors; Senator Mary Washington

Lead Group: Maryland Justice Project

This bill would have required the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to implement comprehensive rehabilitative services to women classified in the prerelease status in the Life Skills and Reentry Center for Women (aka the Women's Pre-release Facility).

HB 1368/SB 314 Certificates of Birth, Licenses, and Identification Cards – Sex Designation (Birth Certificate Modernization Act)

Sponsors: Delegate Ashanti Martinez and 7 co-sponsors; Senators Clarence Lam and Jeff Waldstreicher

Lead Group: Trans Maryland

This bill would have updated the process for changing one's personal name or sex designation on their own birth certificate or their child's birth certificate to align with other identification processes. It would also have altered the options for indicating an individual's sex designation on a license, identification card, and moped operator's permit.

Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW)
102 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 100, Towson, MD 21204
Tel: 443-519-1005 • Email: mdlegagenda4women@yahoo.com
Website: mdlegagendaforwomen.org