



Legislative Session Preview

January 9, 2024



Our Mission

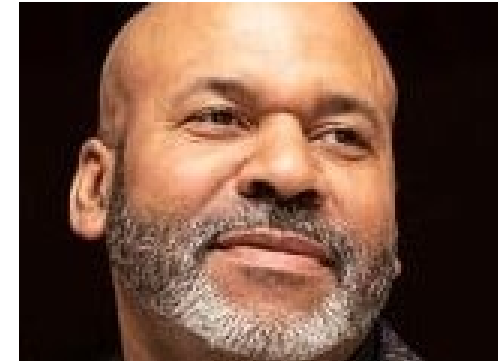
The Arc Maryland works to create a world where children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) have and enjoy equal rights and opportunities.



Meet The Arc Maryland's Governmental Affairs Team

Dorothy Plantz and Tony Zanfordino

*Co-Chairs of The Arc Maryland Governmental
Affairs Committee*



Ande Kolp and Luc Chausse

*Members of The Arc Maryland's Public Policy
Team*



Agenda

- The State of the State: Current Environment
- Senate and House Operating Protocols
- The Arc Maryland's Public Policy Platform
- Session Priorities
- Committee Leadership Changes
- Tips for Effective Advocacy during Session
- Keeping Up The Arc Maryland

The State of the State



The State of Maryland's Economy

The state is facing a projected \$761 million dollar deficit in the budget year that begins July 1, 2024.

This deficit is projected to grow to \$2.7 billion dollars by 2029.

How did we get here?

Source: REVENUE ESTIMATES AND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Robert J. Rehrmann, Executive Secretary, Board of Revenue Estimates

December 14, 2023

The State of Maryland's Economy

Summary of December Changes

	Fiscal Year 2024		Fiscal Year 2025	
	\$ Change From Est	% Growth Rate	\$ Change From Est	% Growth Rate
Personal Income Tax	(\$53.6)	2.3%	(\$26.6)	4.6%
Corporate Income Tax	\$21.1	-2.3%	\$49.3	-1.5%
Sales Tax	(\$143.8)	-1.0%	(\$176.9)	2.5%
Other	\$104.6	-2.1%	(\$8.4)	-10.3%
Total – Ongoing Revenues	(\$71.7)	0.6%	(\$162.6)	1.8%
Notes: dollars in millions; amounts may not sum from rounding.				

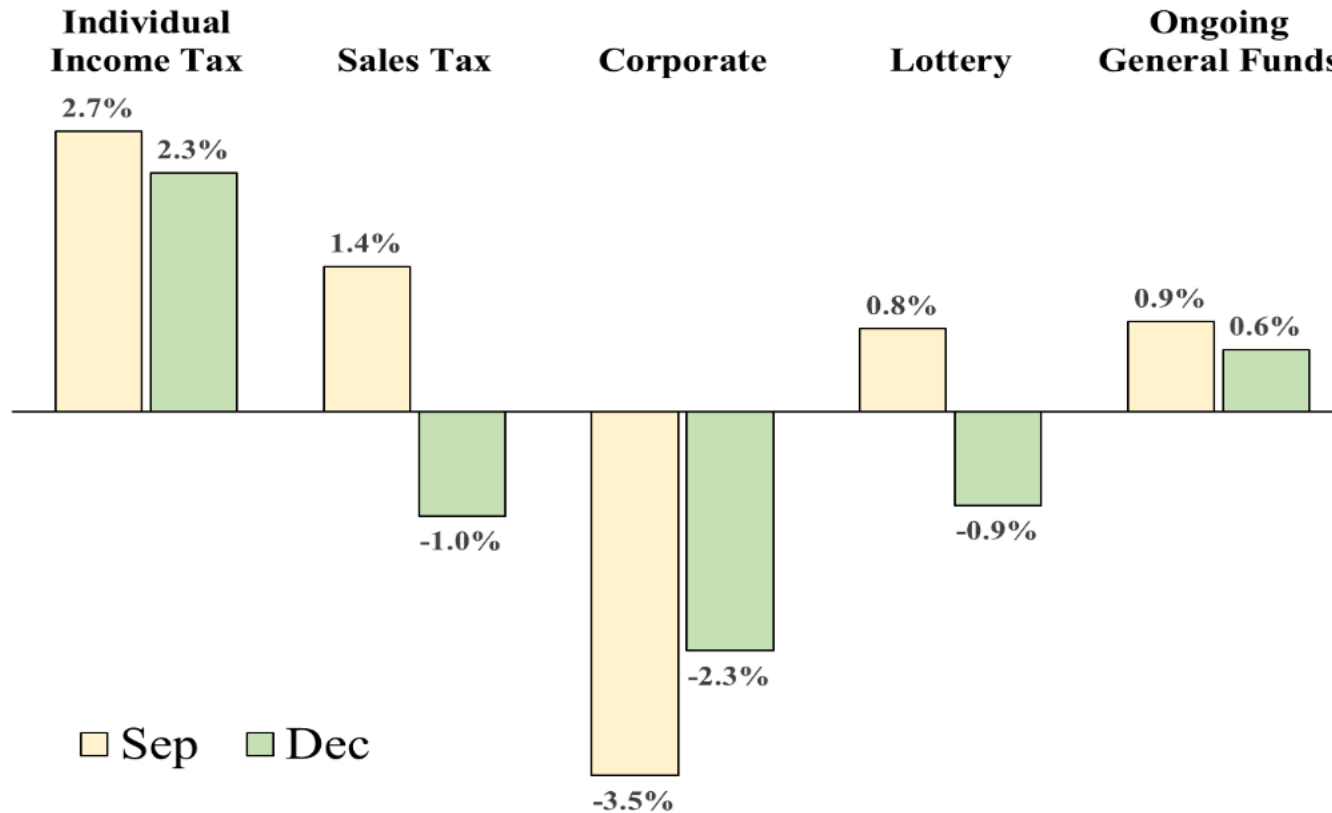
Source: REVENUE ESTIMATES AND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Robert J. Rehrmann, Executive Secretary, Board of Revenue Estimates

December 14, 2023

The State of Maryland's Economy

Fiscal Year 2024 General Fund Growth Rates



Source: REVENUE ESTIMATES AND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Robert J. Rehrmann, Executive Secretary, Board of Revenue Estimates

December 14, 2023

Budget Info

Recommendations from the Spending and Affordability Committee to the General Assembly

“While the State has significant cash reserves and can take one-time actions to mitigate the projected fiscal 2025 cash deficit, planned State spending levels are not sustainable in the long-term without a significant revenue increase, reduction of planned spending, or a combination of the two.”

“In recognition of this outlook and our commitment to fully fund the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future as well as other critical ongoing State priorities, the committee recommends that the State make measurable progress in reducing the structural deficit. To that effect, the fiscal 2025 budget, as introduced and enacted, should reduce the gap between ongoing general fund revenues and ongoing spending by at least 33%, leaving a structural gap of no more than \$508 million.”

Budget Info

Recommendations from the Spending and Affordability Committee to the General Assembly

“With the State facing substantial long-term budget challenges, the committee recommends:

- considering revenue options to ensure resources are available to appropriately fund the State’s priorities. Options should include better aligning program fees with the cost of providing the related service and focusing new investments on activities that will increase economic competitiveness and grow the economy;
- minimizing the enactment of new mandates that are not paid for with a new revenue source; and
- analyzing strategies to increase the efficiency of State operating and capital investments without reducing services.

Dates of Interest

Dates of Interest

Jan 10	First Day of Legislative Session
Jan 11	Legislative Calendar Day
Jan 17	Governor's Draft Budget Due to General Assembly
Jan 22	Budget Review with the DDA (Invite only for The Arc MD's GAC, MCE, and the DD Coalition)
Feb 5	Final Day for Senate Bill Introductions
Feb 9	Final Day for House Bill Introductions
Feb 21	Developmental Disabilities Day at the Legislature

Dates of Interest

Continued

Feb 22	DDA Budget Hearing – House Health & Social Services Sub-Committee
Feb 23	DDA Budget Hearing – Senate Health & Human Services Sub-Committee
Mar 18	Crossover Day
Mar 21	World Down Syndrome Day Celebration
Apr 2	Autism Acceptance Month Celebration
Apr 8	Sine Die
May 14	Maryland Presidential Primary Election

Senate & House Protocols

Senate and House Operating Protocols

Committee Bill Hearings

Bill Hearings in the House and Senate can be attended in-person in Annapolis.

You can also watch committee hearings live on the MGAleg website under the *Meetings* tab.

- Go to the meetings for the day, scroll to the committee and click on the camera icon.



If you missed the live session, just click the camera symbol to watch the video play back.

Providing Testimony In the House

Witness sign-up in the **House** will be opened online through the Maryland General Assembly website **two business days** before the bill hearing, beginning at 8 AM and open until **6 PM**.*

Hearing Date	Witness Sign-Up Date
Monday	Thursday the Week Prior between 8 AM and 6 PM
Tuesday	Friday the Week Prior between 8 AM and 6 PM
Wednesday	Monday between 8 AM and 6 PM
Thursday	Tuesday between 8 AM and 6 PM
Friday	Wednesday between 8 AM and 6 PM

**2024 protocols hot off the press 1/9/24*

House Operations

- Bill Co-sponsors allowed
- Witness Panel sign up is still not allowed through the sign up software, however the sponsor may communicate with committee staff to indicate people that want to testify together, as part of a panel.
- The House Committees **may cap** the maximum number of witnesses that may testify on a bill.
- Bills orders for hearing will be posted on the Maryland General Assembly website calendar the business day before the hearing.
- Masks are optional.
- There will be no receptions or large gatherings in the House Office Building during the 2024 legislative session.
- Space is severely limited due to the reconstruction of the Department of Legislative Services building.

Providing Testimony In the Senate

Witness sign-up in the **Senate** will be opened online through the Maryland General Assembly website **one business day** before the bill hearing, beginning at 8 AM and open until 3 PM

Hearing Date	Witness Sign-Up Date
Monday	Friday the Week Prior between 8 AM and 3 PM
Tuesday	Monday between 8 AM and 3 PM
Wednesday	Tuesday between 8 AM and 3 PM
Thursday	Wednesday between 8 AM and 3 PM
Friday	Thursday between 8 AM and 3 PM

**This is based on last year's protocols and subject to change, as 2024 protocols have not yet been released.*

This time and process may change to match the House protocols.

Providing Testimony

In the Senate and the House, the specific bill order will be posted on the Maryland General Assembly website the day before the hearing. If a bill hearing is scheduled for a Monday, the hearing order will post on Friday. *

Because we never know how long each hearing will take, you will sometimes have to wait a while after the scheduled hearing time for your opportunity to provide testimony.

**This is based on last year's protocols and subject to change, as 2024 Senate protocols have not yet been released.*

The Arc Maryland's Public Policy Platform

I. Adequate Funding for Community Supports

- Ensure full funding of mandates and secure additional funds to create a stable, quality system of community supports funded by the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) that is designed to meet the needs, goals, choices, and outcomes of all individuals with IDD. **Note: in the 2024 session, this is the first time in a decade there is NO mandated increase.**
- Ensure funding, service definitions, billing policies, and funding are sufficient for the attraction and retention of a qualified Direct Support Workforce and to stabilize provider infrastructures.
- Ensure that the finalization of the DDA rate study includes proper consideration of rates that support and align with the stated goals of the DDA, adjust for inflationary increases and mandates over time, and include acuity, transportation, and non-work time factors such as training, record-keeping, and billing.



II. Equitable Access to Services and Supports

- Examine statutes, waiver components, regulations, policies, procedures, and operational guidance and advocate for changes to ensure equity and access for people with IDD.
- Advocate that funding levels and policies ensure access to services and choices of people with complex needs (behavioral and medical) to be supported in communities and settings of a person's choice.
- Maryland is now the most diverse state on the East Coast, however, services and supports have not sufficiently evolved to ensure that people who identify as Hispanic/Latino and other underserved groups have equitable access to communication, information, services, and supports.
- Advocate for the inclusion of underserved populations in all systems of support throughout the state, and a Developmental Disabilities Administration that is responsive to the needs of diverse people with IDD and their families.



III. DDA Waiting List & Autism Waiver Registry

- Advocate for full implementation of the End the Wait Now Act with service funding for those on the Autism registry and eligible for Autism Waiver services. Change the way in which children on the Autism Waiver are evaluated for eligibility to improve timeliness and access to needed services.
- Maryland is the wealthiest state in the nation, yet thousands of children and young adults up to age 21 are not receiving services and supports they need. Research supports that early intervention is the key to the success of a child, and dramatically reduces the likelihood that children will need extensive supports as they age. On the Autism Waiver registry children continue to wait more than 8 years before they are even evaluated to receive services. Some age out of the program before they can access any services due to the excessive wait.

IV. Transitioning Youth

- Ensure families are involved in the transition process and have access to reliable information for a seamless transition to adult life, starting at 14.
- Advocate for meaningful high school opportunities that train, prepare, and educate students for successful transitions to adult life outside of school.
- Fully fund all Transitioning Youth (TY) who exit the school system in the year of their 21st birthday, so they have the supports they need to participate in their community, jobs, and life-long learning and/or higher education to ensure meaningful adult life and opportunities.
- Develop a plan to support high school graduates younger than 21 with IDD to have meaningful support for success post graduation.
- Reform Transition Processes to improve DORS, DDA, and other post-High School service connections. Advocate for programs that support graduates in post-secondary opportunities (university and college supports).



V. Education & Children's Services

- Ensure progress with the Blueprint and that students with IDD have access to inclusive, quality, safe, free, and appropriate public education (primary, secondary, and post-secondary education) where they receive appropriate accommodations to participate in all aspects of early and ongoing education.
- Create and support policy that ensures children with IDD are included in neighborhood childcare, before and after school programs, and camps, regardless of the nature or level of disability.
- Advocate for family-centricity to include training and education opportunities for parents and opportunities for peer to peer/family to family connections for support and resource sharing.
- Advocate for early childhood screening in childcare settings for earlier identification of disabilities and timely intervention.
- Ensure students are safe to learn. End the use of seclusion and restraint, and provide teachers with training on trauma-informed care and positive/supportive behavioral interventions to support students of all abilities. Ensure schools have training on seizure identification and response. Advocate for a pilot for the installation of cameras in self-contained classrooms under specific circumstances, and implement restorative practices in all schools.



VI. Employment

- Increase opportunities for competitive, integrated employment at fair wages for people with all types of intellectual and developmental disabilities and ensure funding is sufficient to provide quality community supports with an “employment first” focus.
- Examine incentive-based funding mechanisms to ensure people with more significant disabilities have equitable access to quality provider supports, avoiding and addressing (if necessary) unintended consequences of funding policy decisions.
- Note: “Employment first” does not mean “employment only”. People who are not yet ready to work or who choose to access community activities or further their education during the should have the supports they need to meaningfully participate in those activities, including transportation and nursing services as applicable.



VII. Access to Housing

- Increase affordable and accessible housing so people with IDD can live in inclusive, safe communities of their choice.
- Eliminate housing discrimination through awareness, policy, and advocacy for enforcement of related laws.
- Advocate for DDA and other state departments to allocate resources to address housing support needs of people with IDD.
- Increase awareness that Medicaid may not be used to subsidize room or board for people supported in DDA Community Living programs and additional assistance is needed, from developers, policymakers, and state and federal funders.



VII. Law Enforcement & Justice

- Support police training efforts that reduce stigma, increase safety, and inspire relationships of acceptance and support for all Marylanders.
- Advocate for enforcement of rights of people with disabilities in the community, and that first responders, law enforcement, and court personnel receive training on disability rights and the ADA.
- Advocate for sufficient funding for training focused on positive interactions between people with IDD and first responders.



IX. Civil Rights

- Close the remaining state institutions and oppose the expansion of State Residential Centers (SRCs) and new admissions to SRCs, including respite care.
- With consideration to the fact that some individuals in society require the assignment of a guardian to ensure a person's health and safety, The Arc shall advocate for the rights of individuals to have alternatives to guardianship fully explored and exhausted, when possible, prior to a guardianship assignment.
- Advance the use of Supported Decision Making as a legal option and alternative to guardianship.
- Advocate for individuals under guardianship to have information on what rights they maintain and what rights guardianship impacts.
- Advocate for reviews of guardianship, for less restrictive alternatives, periodically in our guardianship statutes.
- Protect voting rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and oppose measures that would have discriminatory effects on people with IDD, such as signature and ID requirements to vote.



Session Priorities

Session Priorities

- DDA Funding:
- Funding for annual expected expansions, including transitioning youth, waiting list, and emergencies
- Funding for additional slots in the Autism Waiver to reduce the waiting list by at least 50 percent as per the End the Wait Now Act.
- 3.5% Increase to DDA Waiver funding AND progress with fully funding the “glide path” to 100% rate funding with COLA and other adjustments over time.

Per DDA, current funding levels as of July 1, 2023:
Residential: 87%* Meaningful Day: 97%* Support Services: 100%
TCM: 100%

*these percentages are under contest in the Rate Review Advisory Group (RRAG) See next page

Rates– Inflation

- DDA supports have historically not received adequate inflationary increases (many years at zero)
- Starting in 2014, with passage of minimum wage bill, there were annual increases – though they did not keep pace with the minimum wage
- 2023 session – increase was expedited along with min wage
- 2024 session – first time in a decade that there is no mandated rate increase
- **Requesting 3.5% to keep pace with inflation**

Rates– Rate Setting

- DDA rates have been undergoing new rate-setting process that started in 2015
- Still finishing rates for daytime supports
- The process found that rates were significantly underfunded
- MDH set a “glidepath” to achieve full funding – some rates still 87% of where they should be*
- Goal was to achieve full funding by FY26
- Requesting progress on funding in FY25 budget to meet full funding by FY26

Funding “Brick” Component Crosswalk

Brick Component	Cost Categories
Employment Related Expenses (ERE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insurance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FICA, FUTA, , Unemployment, Workers Compensation Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuition Reimbursement, Retirement Programs, Profit Sharing Paid Time Off (i.e., Vacation/Holiday/Other pay)
Program Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplies Supervision of services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wages/Salaries for essential staff not directly providing a service Even if these staff are interacting with clients (e.g., nurse case management) Estimate share of time spent providing service for mixed roles (house Director, etc.)
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training hours for Direct Support Professional (DSP) Funding to support replacement staff while DSP is being trained Requirements listed in the waiver programs and regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioral Support, Employment certification, Regulations (e.g., medication technician) “Person specific” training
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs incurred by transportation staff, transportation time, or other transportation-related costs, Driver wages/salaries Share of DSP time commuting on the clock Vehicle costs, Vehicle maintenance, and insurance Other transportation costs (tickets, rentals, etc.)
Facility Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs for running a facility where services are offered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rent (for service facility), Mortgage (for service facility), Maintenance (for service facility), Insurance (for service facility), Taxes (for service facility), Utilities (for service facility)
General and Administrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costs irrespective to line of business, common to most businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Rent, Office utilities, Office Supplies Management and Executive Salaries General Insurance Current DDA Policy = 12% of total costs

Session Priorities

- Safety

911 Registry or Next Gen 911 Compliance

Silver Alert/Purple Alert efforts

Restraint and Seclusion law implementation

Provisions in End of Life Options Act to protect people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, should the Act Pass.
(Senator Waldstreicher)

Session Priorities

- Special Education Support for Families

Legal/Consultant Access Fund to assist families with low income to access support during IEP meetings or, when things go wrong, due process.

We do not support bills that require parents to receive counseling for the behavior of their children. In consultation with the EAC, we have concerns that a Parent and Guardian Accountability Act would have disproportionate impacts on parents of students with IDD. This is not to say we do not support requirements to support parents to know and understand their students' behavior in school. Greater transparency is needed so we may be partners with schools.

Session Priorities

- Special Education Support for Families

Legal/Consultant Access Fund to assist families with low income to access support during IEP meetings or, when things go wrong, due process.

Ensuring students with disabilities with intolerance to dental work, or with lack of access to dental care are not withheld from accessing school. (HB167)

Additional Session Priorities

- Protection of Voting Rights and Access

Bills which require certain documents for proof of identity, curtail absentee voting, and require signatures may infringe on a disabled voter's ability to exercise their voting rights.

Additional Efforts

- Funding and Access to Nursing Services and Supports
- Equal Access to School Buildings for Students with Physical Disabilities- no separate doors.
- Modifications to history curriculum in school to include disability history.
- Universal curb cut enforcement to promote physical accessibility.
- Language Access improvements so people who speak a language other than English have access to state services and applications with an examination of rates needed to increase access to DDA services and supports.

Senate Leadership

Senate Leadership

Senate President

Bill Ferguson

District 46, Baltimore City



Senate Leadership

Finance Committee (FIN)

NEW - Committee Chair

Senator Pamela Beidle

District 32, Anne Arundel County



NEW – Committee Vice-Chair

Senator Katherine Klausmeier

District 8, Baltimore County



Senate Leadership

Executive Nominations Committee (EXN)

NEW - Committee Chair

Senator Antonio Hayes

District 40, Baltimore City



NEW – Committee Vice-Chair

Senator Clarence Lam

District 12, Howard & Anne Arundel Counties



Senate Leadership

Rules Committee (SRU)

NEW - Committee Chair

Senator Shelly Hettleman

District 11, Baltimore County



NEW – Committee Vice-Chair

Senator C. Anthony Muse

District 26, Prince George's County



Senate Leadership

Budget and Taxation Committee (B&T)

Committee Chair

Senator Guy Guzzone

District 13, Howard County



Committee Vice-Chair

Senator Jim Rosapepe

District 21, Prince George's & Anne Arundel Counties



Senate Leadership

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee (EEE)

Committee Chair

Senator Brian Feldman

District 15, Montgomery County



Committee Vice-Chair

Senator Cheryl Kagan

District 17, Montgomery County



Senate Leadership

Judicial Proceedings Committee (JPR)

Committee Chair

Senator William C. Smith, Jr.

District 20, Montgomery County



Committee Vice-Chair

Senator Jeff Waldstreicher

District 18, Montgomery County



Budget Subcommittee Leadership and Members

Senate Health and Human Services Subcommittee of the
Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittee Chair

Senator Cory V McCray.

District 45, Baltimore City

Committee Members

Shelly Hettleman, *District 11, Baltimore County*

J.B. Jennings, *District 7, Baltimore and Harford Counties*

Craig J Zucker, *District 14, Montgomery County*



House Leadership

House Leadership

House Speaker

Adrienne A. Jones

District 10, Baltimore County



House Leadership

Appropriations Committee (APP)

NEW - Committee Chair

Delegate Ben Barnes

District 21, Prince George's & Anne Arundel Counties



Committee Vice-Chair

Delegate Mark Chang

District 32, Anne Arundel County



House Leadership

Environment & Transportation Committee (E&T)

NEW - Committee Chair

Delegate Marc Korman

District 16, Montgomery County



NEW - Committee Vice-Chair

Delegate Regina T. Boyce

District 43A, Baltimore City



House Leadership

Health & Government Operations Committee (HGO)

Committee Chair

Delegate Joseline Peña-Melnyk

District 21, Anne Arundel & Prince George's Counties



NEW - *Committee Vice-Chair*

Delegate Bonnie Cullison

District 19, Montgomery County



House Leadership

Judiciary Committee (JUD)

Committee Chair

Delegate Luke Clippinger

District 46, Baltimore City



NEW - *Committee Vice-Chair*

Delegate J. Sandy Bartlett

District 32, Anne Arundel County



House Leadership

Ways & Means Committee (W&M)

Committee Chair

Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary

District 13, Howard County



NEW - *Committee Vice-Chair*

Delegate Jheanelle K. Wilkins

District 20, Montgomery County



House Leadership

Economic Matters Committee (EMC)

Committee Chair

Delegate C.T. Wilson

District 28, Charles County



Committee Vice-Chair

Delegate Brian Crosby

District 29B, St. Mary's County



House Leadership

Rules & Executive Nominations Committee (HRU)

Committee Chair

Delegate Anne Healey

District 22, Prince George's County



Committee Vice-Chair

Delegate Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.

District 23, Prince George's County



Budget Subcommittee Leadership

House Health and Social Services Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee

Subcommittee Chair

Delegate Emily Shetty

District 18, Baltimore County



Subcommittee Vice Chair

Delegate Dana Jones

District 30A, Anne Arundel County



House Budget Subcommittee Additional Members

House Health and Social Services Subcommittee of the
Appropriations Committee

Committee Members:

Gabriel Acevero, *District 39, Montgomery County*

Jim Hinebaugh, *District 1A, Garrett and Allegany Counties*

Aletheia McCaskill, *District 44B, Baltimore County*



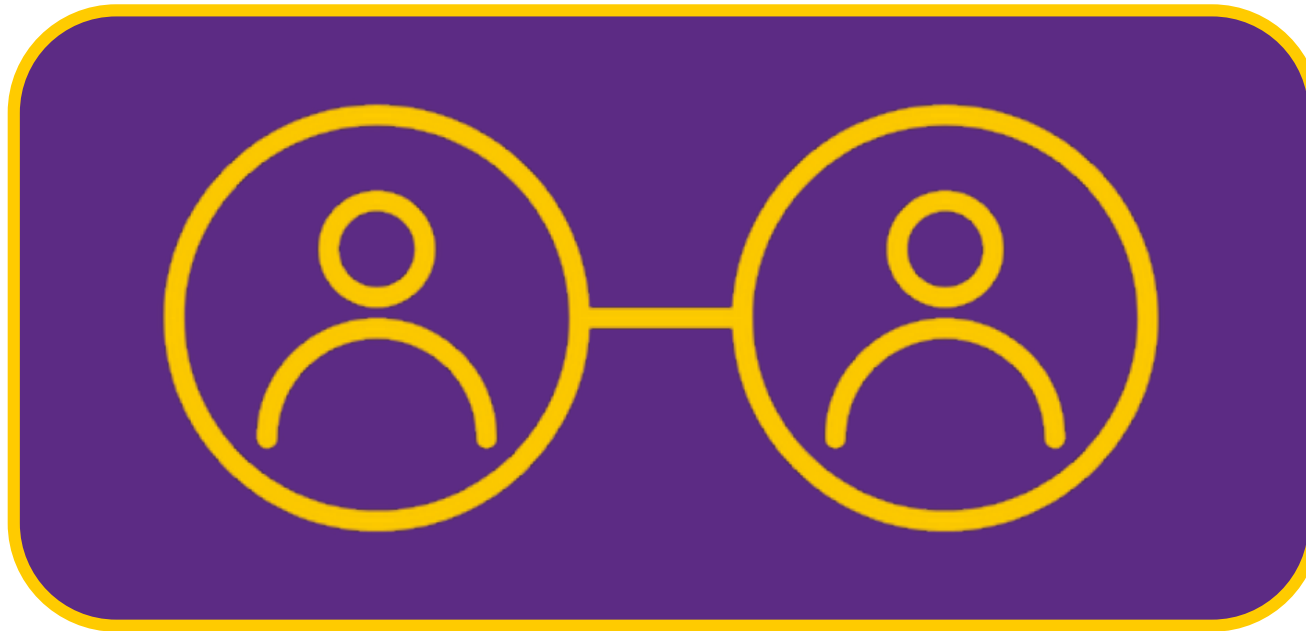
Speaking with Your Representatives

Storytelling for Effective Testimonials

- Storytelling is a powerful tool for advocacy!
- Stories have the power to persuade and move people to action.
- Stories are up to 22 times more memorable than facts alone and help make the case for why a policymaker should stand behind your cause.
- Don't forget – Policymakers want to hear your story!

Personalize Your Message

- Bulk emails that are cut and pasted do not work as effectively as a personal story. The best way to have your message make an impact with legislators is when it is a personal story that ties into the legislation you are discussing.



Put Things into Context for Legislators



- Many legislators are part-time; they have other jobs and responsibilities so you cannot assume they will understand the issues or your needs unless you explain them fully.

Focus on Your Representatives Who Are Members of Committees Hearing the Issue



- Bills are often reviewed in depth by specific groups of legislators in Maryland's House and Senate known as Committees. If one of your representatives is part of a committee that is hearing about a bill that you are interested in, you should reach out to them in particular.

You Can Always Call the Representative's Office

- Sometimes things can get buried in emails. If you have something critical to say, it can be beneficial to call your legislator's office. Respectful reminders are helpful to everyone.

Be Concise



- Practice what you want to say and try to say the most important things in the first minute, with supporting information in your second and third minutes with your legislator.

Connect on a Human Level



- Try your best to be honest in answering how the legislation would affect you or a loved one, for better or worse. Not everyone can understand what you have gone through, but sharing it with others can only help.
- Remember people don't always remember exactly what someone says, but they always remember how the person made them feel.

Where to Go from Here

The Annapolis Insider

- Each edition of the Insider includes updates on key legislation and action alerts to contact representatives, sign up info for testimony, and hearing schedules for the next two weeks for all upcoming bills on our Bill Tracker.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Monday, March 14th at 2:00 PM In House, HGO

- [HB1379](#): Hospitals, Related Institutions, and Hospice Facilities - COVID-19 and Other Catastrophic Health Emergencies - Visitation

Tuesday, March 15th at 1:00 PM In Senate, B&T

- [SB0919](#): Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund - Established

Tuesday, March 15th at 1:00 PM In Senate, EHEA

- [SB0920](#): Early Childhood Development - Child Care Scholarship Program - Alterations

Tuesday, March 15th at 1:30 PM In House, HGO

- [HB1403](#): Maryland Department of Health - Waiver Programs - Waitlist Reduction (End the Wait Act)

Wednesday, March 23rd at 1:00 PM In House, W&M

- [SB0093](#): Tax Credits - Employment of Individuals With Disabilities

The Arc Maryland's Bill Tracker

- The Annapolis Insider also contains a weekly version of The Arc Maryland's Bill Tracker.
- Every piece of legislation The Arc Maryland tracks during session is added to the Bill Tracker, and is updated daily.

Bill Positions by Topic							
Community Living & Working							
SB0010		Workers' Compensation - COVID-19 Occupational Disease Presumption	Senator Jackson	In Senate Hearing 3/8 at 1 PM FIN	Oppose	Establishing that first responders, public safety employees, and health care workers are presumed to have an occupational disease that is compensable under workers' compensation law after a positive test or diagnosis for COVID-19; and applying the Act retroactively.	it is not possible contraction from able to travel, n Worker's comp likely to have h.
SB0023	HB0141	Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses	Senator Carter	Passed in Senate (32-15); In House First Reading HRU	Support	Requiring that equity be considered when State transportation plans, reports, and goals are developed; altering the membership of the advisory committee on State transportation goals; establishing the Commission on Transportation Equity to assist in developing policies and performance measures to ensure the State transportation system is equitable; requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct transit equity analyses and consult with certain communities before announcing or proposing service changes; etc.	BEGINNING WITH PERFORMANCE, THE DEPARTMENT INDICATORS SHALL BE EVALUATED FOR 1. RACIAL AND ETHNIC 2. IMPACTS ON PEOPLE
HB0141	SB0023	Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses	Delegate Ruth	Passed in House (98-32); Passed in Senate (32-15); Returned Passed	Support	See above	See above
SB0028	HB0080	Home- and Community-Based Services Waiver - Participation and Applications	Senator Kelley et al.	Passed in Senate with Amendments (45-0); Passed in House (132-0); Returned Passed	Support	Altering the required contents of the home- and community-based services waiver submitted by the Maryland Department of Health to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and requiring the Department to send an application to a certain number of individuals each month, if the Department maintains a waiting list or registry for the waiver.	changes Comm contact a certain needed service
HB0080	SB0028	Home- and Community-Based Services Waiver - Participation and Applications	Delegate Cullison	Passed in House (133-0); In Senate First Reading SRU	Support	See above	See above

The Arc Maryland's Bill Tracker

- Each piece of legislation in the bill tracker contains:
 - Links to the Bill Text and the Crossfiled Bill (if applicable)
 - Bill Title
 - Bill Sponsor(s)
 - Current Status of the Bill (first readings, hearings, committees, votes, amendments, etc.)
 - The Arc Maryland's Position
 - Category of the Bill (Community Living & Working, Education & Childcare, etc.)
 - A Description of the Bill
 - Any additional notes from The Arc Maryland Team

Bill	Crossfiled Bill	Title	Sponsor	Status	Position	Description	Notes
HB0136	SB0299	Education - Public and Nonpublic Schools - Seizure Action Plans (Brynleigh's Act)	Delegates Kerr & Johnson	Passed In House with Amendments (135-0); Passed in Senate with Amendments (46-0); Conference Committee Report Adopted; Passed Enrolled	Support	Requiring a county board of education and authorizing a nonpublic school, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, to require at least two school personnel at the school to be trained in certain seizure recognition and response methods; requiring a public school, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, to provide training every 2 years to school personnel with direct contact and supervision of students on certain seizure recognition and response methods; providing immunity from civil liability under certain circumstances; etc.	Background: Requires schools to develop Seizure disorders and also requires schools to identify an identification, response, and treatment of seizures. Why this is needed: There are approximately 7.9 This amounts to a ratio of roughly 913 students for Education, information, and training on seizure re prepared and can recognize and respond appropri experiencing a seizure, thus creating a safer envi public schools. Parents, as critical partners in edu collaboration with school personnel to create a se seizure condition. 12 states have already passed seizure safe legis neighbor states Virginia and New Jersey.

The Arc Maryland's Bill Tracker

- The bill tracker also has information on each committee, including details and links to contact committee chairs and vice chairs, as well as other leadership.

House Committees				House Leadership	
Abbreviation	Committee Name	Committee Chair	Committee Vice Chair	Title	Representative
APP	Appropriations	Ben Barnes	Mark S. Chang	Speaker of the House	Adrienne A. Jones
EMC	Economic Matters	C.T. Wilson	Brian M. Crosby	Speaker Pro Tem	Sheree Sample-Hughes
E&T	Environment and Transportation	Marc Korman	Regina T. Boyce	Majority Leader	David Moon
HGO	Health and Government Operations	Joseline Pena-Menlyk	Bonnie Cullison	Majority Whip	Jazz Lewis
HRU	Rules and Executive Nominations	Anne Healey	Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.	Minority Leader	Jason C. Buckell
JUD	Judiciary	Luke Clippinger	J. Sandy Bartlett	Minority Whip	Jesse T. Pippy
W&M	Ways and Means	Vanessa E. Atterbeary	Jheanelle Wilkins		
Senate Committees				Senate Leadership	
Abbreviation	Committee Name	Committee Chair	Committee Vice Chair	Title	Senator
B&T	Budget and Taxation	Guy Guzzone	Jim Rosapepe	President of the Senate	Bill Ferguson
EEE	Education, Energy, and the Environment	Brian Feldman	Cheryl C Kagan	President Pro Tem	Malcolm Augustine
EXN	Executive Nominations	Antonio Hayes	Clarence Lam	Majority Leader	Nancy J. King
FIN	Finance	Pamela Beidle	Katherine Klausmeier	Majority Whip	Joanne C. Benson
JPR	Judicial Proceedings	William C. Smith, Jr.	Jeff Waldstreicher	Minority Leader	Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.
SRU	Rules	Shelly Hettelman	C. Anthony Muse	Minority Whip	Justin Ready

Start Working On Your Story

- Prep your story and testimonials for the upcoming session!
 - Who Are You? A parent? A person with disabilities? A staff member?
 - Where do you live? Work? Play? Attend School?
 - What do you need/want?
 - Why should the legislators care?
 - End with contact information and provide a picture if you can.

Other Ways to Get Involved

- Join Your Local Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC)
 - Contact your local chapter of The Arc to see how to join!
- Join The Arc Maryland's Governmental Affairs Committee*
 - Must subscribe to The Arc's Core Values.
 - Must be a member of a Local Chapter of The Arc OR an advocacy partner of the state chapter – The Arc Maryland.

Join Your Local Chapter on Thursday for Calendar Day!



**Legislative
Calendar Day** 
The Arc.
Maryland

January 11, 2024



Sign up so we know you are coming!

Attend DD Day at the Legislature

- On Wednesday, February 21st, join us in Annapolis for Developmental Disabilities Day at the Legislature.
 - DD Day is Maryland's largest day of advocacy for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities!
- Learn about the latest and greatest advocacy initiatives supporting Marylanders with IDD.
- Registration Opening Soon!



***Developmental
Disabilities Day
At The Legislature***

Thank You!

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