

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 640

(Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections
Committee)(By Request - Departmental - Budget and
Management)

Government, Labor, and Elections

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions

This departmental bill (1) alters the composition of specified boards, commission, and committees; (2) repeals specified boards and councils; (3) repeals specified reporting requirements by affected bodies; (4) consolidates reporting requirements by specified entities; and (5) makes stylistic changes. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill is largely procedural in nature and otherwise has no direct effect on State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Analysis

Bill Summary: A summary of the bill's changes is listed below, grouped by the affected Article of the Maryland Annotated Code.

Agriculture Article

- Repeals the Renewable Fuels Incentive Board and transfers its duties to Maryland Department of Agriculture.

Correctional Services Article

- Removes the representative from Department of Commerce on the Customer Council.

Criminal Procedure Article

- Repeals the Criminal Justice Information Advisory Board and makes corresponding changes.

Economic Development Article

- Repeals the Partnership for Workforce Quality Advisory Board;
- increases members' terms on the Maryland Life Sciences Advisory Board from two to three years and staggers the terms on July 1, 2026, as specified; and
- for the Maryland Aerospace and Technology Commission: (1) removes representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Federal Bureau of Investigation; (2) adds an additional representative from each of the Maryland aerospace manufacturing community and the aerospace technology industry; and (3) requires that it update its strategic plan at least every five years and annually report on the progress in implementing the strategic plan.

Education Article

- Repeals annual report on “specialized intervention services.” Instead, each local board of education must report to the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) on students requiring support to meet grade 3 literacy. MSDE must then report on those findings and submit them to the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the General Assembly. MSDE may adopt related regulations;
- changes (1) the deadline from December 1 to April 1 by which local departments of social services and local health departments must report on the number of parents given notification and then enrolled in publicly funded prekindergarten and (2) the recipient of the reports to be the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) instead of the General Assembly. Further requires MDH, in collaboration with the Department of Human Services (DHS), to compile the information and submit a summary report to the General Assembly annually by May 1, and makes clarifying changes;

- repeals annual report regarding status and effectiveness of youth suicide prevention school programs; and
- repeals the obsolete requirement that the Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI) Adjustment be updated every three years. The bill also repeals the annual requirement that MSDE submit the proposed GCEI adjustment update to the Governor and the General Assembly.

Election Law Article

- Repeals annual report the Maryland Department of Labor must submit on efforts of one-stop career centers to register voters in the prior year, and efforts to improve efficiency/effectiveness of the process.

Environment Article

- Repeals the Just Transition Employment and Retraining Working Group, the Energy Industry Revitalization Working Group, the Energy Resilience and Efficiency Working Group, and the Solar Photovoltaic Systems Recovery, Reuse, and Recycling Working Group;
- repeals annual report by the Commission on Climate Change on the status of the Oil Contaminated Site Environmental Cleanup Fund; and
- alters the membership of the Hart-Miller-Pleasure Island Citizens Oversight Committee from 11 to 9 specified individuals.

Family Law Article

- Repeals the multidisciplinary alternative response advisory council.

Health – General Article

- Repeals annual report on specified information related to the hepatitis C virus;
- repeals an annual report by the Maryland Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Registry and Referral System Advisory Committee must submit on the implementation of the Registry and Referral System;
- repeals and consolidates information regarding incidents occurring at youth camps that require the use of epinephrine so that it is included in a similar existing annual report;
- removes the Secretary of Agriculture, or designee, as a member of the Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council;
- repeals the annual report on activities of the cancer registry;

- requires the Maryland Health Care Commission to analyze information from similar but different/repealed provision regarding health care disparities (see report card item);
- removes the Secretary of Health from the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities;
- for the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities: (1) adds information regarding the “Health Care Disparities Policy Report Card” to another annual report and repeals a related stand-alone annual report and (2) repeals an annual report on federal and special funding; and
- repeals an annual report on cottage food businesses and related product complaints.

Housing and Community Development Article

- For the Interagency Council on Homelessness: (1) makes the Secretary of Housing and Community Development, or designee, the chair; (2) repeals term limit of the chair, and removes prohibition on serving consecutive terms as chair; and (3) entitles the unhoused member of the council to reimbursement for expenses, and reasonable compensation as determined by a compensation policy administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Human Services Article

- Repeals the Commission on Trauma-Informed Care;
- repeals the Two Generation Family Economic Security Commission as a unit of DHS; and
- alters membership of the Maryland Commission on Caregiving by removing the representative from Maryland Respite Care Coalition and adding an extra member representing organizations representing respite care services.

Natural Resources Article

- Repeals requirement that the Department of Natural Resources publish on its website a list of maintenance projects in every unit of the State park system expected to cost more than \$25,000; and
- repeals annual report regarding eradication of nutria in the State.

State Finance and Procurement Article

- Removes the Secretary of Commerce, or designee, as a member of the Maryland Green Purchasing Committee.

State Government Article

- Alters the annual reporting date for the Governor’s Interagency Council on Homelessness from October 1 to December 15; and
- removes the Secretary of Health, or designee, as a member of the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board.

Transportation Article

- Removes a representative from MSDE from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

Current Law/Background: State law requires State agencies and other statutory entities to report to the General Assembly on specified activities, services, and trends. Chapter 58 of 2015 requires, by December 1 of the year immediately preceding the start of a new term of the General Assembly, that DLS, in consultation with State agencies, review and make recommendations for the introduction of legislation to repeal or modify reporting requirements that may no longer be warranted. Chapters 47 and 48 of 2023 were the most recent Acts enacted to repeal, modify, and consolidate reporting requirements in response to Chapter 58. The next scheduled review will occur during the 2026 legislative interim.

DBM advises that the bill is tied to the Government Modernization Initiative (GMI) team’s effort to coordinate with State departments to create governmental efficiency. GMI was created as a result of Executive Order [01.01.2025.08](#), which, among other things, established the Governor’s Office of Performance Improvement and established GMI. DBM advises that the bill relieves unnecessary reporting burdens on affected State departments and that the bill allows department staff to focus their attention on other activities due to them no longer being required to staff or attend unnecessary meetings.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Association of County Health Officers; Maryland Technology Development Corporation; Department of Commerce; Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy; Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland Department of Agriculture; Department of

Budget and Management; Maryland Department of the Environment; Department of General Services; Department of Human Services; Maryland Department of Labor; Department of Natural Resources; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 20, 2026
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Analysis by: Thomas S. Elder

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510

ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions

BILL NUMBER: HB 640

PREPARED BY: Governor's Legislative Office

PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

 X WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESS

OR

 WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND
SMALL BUSINESSES

PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS