

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

<b>BILL #</b>	<b>BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC</b>	<b>COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS</b>	<b>BILL STATUS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Note: Bills are listed in each subject category numerically by House Bills first (companion Senate Bill # underneath); then Senate Bills numerically.				
	<b>BUDGET – REVENUE – TAXES</b>			
HB 0089	Income Tax – Credit for Individuals Without Motor Vehicles 3 (One Less Car Act of 2024)	W&M – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Lewis	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	See entry under Energy – Environment for details.
HB 0183	Increase the annual budget mandated minimum amount for the Summer SNAP for Children Food Supplement Program from \$200,000 to \$5 Million.	APP – Hearing 1/23 at 2 p.m.; Dept. Human Services (Gov. Request) FIN – Hearing 2/08 at 1 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0213			1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0294	Expanding Major Government Information Technology projects in State Government to include networking and applications; and, increasing cost of projects from equal or exceeding \$1 million to \$5 million unless the secretary determines that the project does not require the oversight given to a major information technology development project. Other criteria include that there is no sufficient alternative within the state’s information technology inventory; and the project will result in a single, comprehensive solution designed to meet a cohesive set of business and technological objectives;	EEE – Hearing 1/18 at 1 p.m.; Request of Dept. Information Technology	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
	<b>CANNABIS LEGALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION</b>			
HB 0217	Prohibiting cannabis use in a motor vehicle with a minor occupant.	JUD – Hearing 1/23 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
	<b>CIVIL RIGHTS – CRIMINAL LAW – LAW ENFORCEMENT</b>			
HB 0008	Providing that an individual who is a permanent legal resident and honorably discharged veteran or current member of the Army National Guard, the	JUD – Hearing 1/23 at 1 p.m.; Del. Fraser-Hidalgo  JPR – Str. Kagan	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0048			1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
	Air National Guard, or a reserve component is eligible to be certified as a police officer.			
HB 0175	State Government agencies may not require an applicant for an occupational license to disclose on the application past criminal convictions, even for crimes of violence, where a period of 3 years has passed since the end of the individual’s term of imprisonment. Includes a Criminal History Review Process to assess the likelihood of rejection.	ECM; Del. Harrison	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0303	Public Safety – Persistent Aerial Surveillance. Prohibiting persistent aerial surveillance by a unit, an agency, or a political subdivision of the State to gather evidence or other information in a criminal investigation, subject to certain exceptions; and defining "persistent aerial surveillance" as the use of aircraft to record video or a concurrent series of images or pictures that when viewed in aggregate depict a person's actions over time.	JUD – Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Delegates Grammer and Young.		
SB 0039	Classifying the theft of a firearm as a felony; and establishing a penalty for theft of a firearm of imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine not exceeding \$1,000 for a first offense, and imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine not exceeding \$2,500 for a second or subsequent offense.	JPR – Str. Ready and all Republican Senators	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0059	Altering the jurisdiction of the juvenile court to establish that the juvenile court has exclusive original jurisdiction over a child who is at least 10 years old alleged to have committed a crime involving the use or possession of a firearm; and altering a certain provision of law authorizing a law enforcement officer to conduct an otherwise lawful	JPR; Str. Folden, et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
	custodial interrogation of a child if the child's parent, guardian, or custodian consents to the custodial interrogation of the child without the child's consultation with an attorney.			
SB 0073	Requiring the Dept. of Juvenile Services to report to the General Assembly each year on the number of assessments completed during the intake process involving children who commit firearm offenses.	JPR; Strs. Watson, Carozza, Muse and West.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0328	Amends Public Safety Exceptions to the Juvenile Interrogation Act of 2022. Adds that where probable cause exists for the law enforcement officer to believe the child committed a crime of violence, as defined in § 14–101 of the criminal law article, or a crime involving a firearm; and the law enforcement officer has made a reasonable effort to give actual notice to the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child that the child will be interrogated.	JPR; Senators Carozza, Watson, West, Klausmeier, and Hershey.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	MFRW Priority - Support
	<b>EDUCATION</b>			
HB 0025	Prohibiting sexually explicit materials in elementary, middle, and secondary public-school libraries and media centers; defining sexually explicit materials as books and auditory and visual material that contain graphic or obscene depictions of sexual activity that are not age appropriate or used as part of the approved instructional materials for instruction on family life and human sexuality.	W&M – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Del. Mangione	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Support
HB 0047	Fairness in Girls’ Sports Act. Requires public high schools and non-public high schools’ interscholastic and intramural junior varsity and varsity athletic	W&M – Hearing 1/31 at 1p.m.; Del. Szlegia + 16 Republican Delegates	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Strongly Support: MFRW PRIORITY

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

<b>BILL #</b>	<b>BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC</b>	<b>COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS</b>	<b>BILL STATUS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
	teams or sports to be expressly designated on biological sex. (I) A boys’ male, or men’s team or sport; (II) A girls’, female, or women’s team or sport; or (III) a coeducational or mixed team or sport. Also provides protections against retaliation for reporting violations.			Read detailed information on differences in strength, power and speed between males and females in the new MFRW brochure: “Boys Competing in Girls’ Sports – Is it Fair?”
HB 0065	Public Schools – Medical and Psychological Treatment in School–Based Health Centers and Public Schools – Parental Notice. A school health practitioner, health care practitioner, or certified school psychologist employed by or under a contract with a school–based health center, local school system, or local health department to provide school health services at a public school shall 30 provide to a student’s parent or guardian information about any consultation, diagnosis, or treatment provided to the student	HGO & W&M; Del. Miller	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Support.
HB 0200  SB 161	Community Schools: Requires that each county board of education with fewer than 40 community schools and that receives funding from the Concentration of Poverty School Grant Program for the personnel grant and the per pupil grant to expend no more than 10% of the funds distributed by the State and those counties with 40 or more community schools receive 50% of state funding for these grants. Also provides that the per pupil grant portion of the Program prioritize funding for areas of greatest need according to the needs assessment plan; etc.	APP – Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Del. Wilkins.  B&T – Hearing 1/24 at 1 p.m.; Str. A. Washington.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Note: There are 358 Community Schools in MD in 2023. Counties with 40 or more are: Baltimore City & Prince George’s. Counties with 10 to 39 are: Montgomery, Baltimore County and Anne Arundel County. Counties with No community schools are: Garrett, Carroll, Howard, Queen Anne, and Calvert. The remaining Counties have 1 – 9. The formula doesn’t seem to treat small counties with high concentrations of poverty

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
				equally with large population counties
HB 0204  SB 0165	Mental Health Training for Coaches. Requires the State Department of Education and the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop guidelines for their respective institutions to train coaches to recognize indicators of mental illness and behavioral distress in students who participate in their athletic programs.	APP – Hearing 1/23 at 2 p.m.; Del. Attar, et al  EEE - Hearing 1/17 at 3 p.m.; Str. Hettleman et al	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0206	Parents and Guardians Notice and Required Counseling. Makes it unlawful for a parent or guardian of a student in a public school, after receiving notice under § 7–304.2 of the education article of the child’s violent and disruptive behavior on school premises or during school–related activities, to fail to seek and participate in counseling with that child.	W&M – Hearing 1/31 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0005	Require the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, and St. Mary’s College of Maryland to develop an admission policy that requires the university and, if applicable, the constituent institutions of the university, to admit as freshmen applicants who graduate from a public or nonpublic high school in the state in the top 10% of the applicant’s high school class.	EEE – Hearing 1/24 at 1 p.m.; Str. Augustine.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0112	Require county boards of education to develop and adopt a policy that prohibits students from using a cellular phone during instructional time except if a teacher specifically instructs them to do so for educational purposes. County boards with an existing policy on the student use of cellular	EEE – Hearing 1/17 at 3 p.m.; Str. Salling.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
	phones during school hours do not need to develop and adopt a new policy;			
	<b>ELECTIONS - VOTING</b>			
HB 0014	Election Law Revisions to require the Clerks of the Circuit Courts to report the names and addresses of persons convicted of a felony who are currently serving a court ordered sentence; and for the State Board to arrange with the Federal District Court to receive the information on those currently serving a term of imprisonment for a federal felony.	W&M – Hearing 1/25 at 1 p.m.; W&M Chair at request of State Bd. of Elections.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	HB 14 - Testimony is for sponsors only.
SB 0271	Also requires the public official in charge of the use of a building to grant a request of local Bd of Elections to use building for Early Voting.	EEE – Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m. – Chair at request of State Board of Elections	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0040	Replace the requirement for a post-election hand audit of a percentage of the votes cast in an election with a Post Election Risk Limiting Audit. A risk limiting audit uses statistical methods to ensure a large, predetermined minimum chance of requiring a full manual count of voter-verifiable paper records in an audited contest if a full manual count of the voter-verifiable paper records would find a different outcome than the outcome determined by the electronic count. Also changes the requirement for an automated software audit of electronic images of all ballots cast to an option.	W&M – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Del. Kaiser	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	A similar bill passed the House last year and remained in the Senate Committee.  The statistical methods are computer programmed applications and the issue is can they be manipulated to one Party's or candidate's advantage?
HB 0080	Prohibit an individual from simultaneously being a candidate for more than one public office or office of a political party; and prohibiting individuals from simultaneously being a candidate for, or holding, a party office and an elected public office except for being a candidate for, and elected Delegate to a National Party Presidential Nominating Convention.	W&M – Hearing 1/17 At 1 p.m.; Del. Boyce	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
HB 0081	Constitutional Amendment – Require ALL COUNTIES to adopt Charter Home Rule form of government by 2030. County Commissions appoint members of the Charter Board. Provide for elected County Executive and County Council elected from Districts. Alters method for adopting Charter for approval by County Commissioners. Does not require public hearings or voter approval.	ENT – Hearing 2/06 at 1 p.m.; Del. Bouchat	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Note: This is a major change in how Counties adopt Charter form of Government.
HB 0132	Repealing prohibition on applicants and holders of video lottery operation licenses and persons who own an interest in video lottery facility operations in the State from directly or indirectly making contributions to the campaign finance entity of a candidate for any nonfederal public office in the State or any other campaign finance entity organized in support of a candidate for any nonfederal public office in the State.	W&M – Hearing 1/17 at 1p.m. – Del. Cardin	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0142	Establish a voter’s identity by requiring them to give their month and date of birth or to provide a voter registration card, a MD Driver’s License, or a government-issued ID card with photograph.	W&M – Hearing 1/25 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Long.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	MFRW Priority – Require Voter ID to vote. Support. See also HB 0192.
HB 0164	Requiring State Board of Elections or a local board of elections to provide a candidate with a list of registered voters who have requested an absentee ballot for an upcoming election; and include the email address and telephone number of each voter on the list, if the information is available.	W&M – Hearing 1/25 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Support
HB 0192	Establish a voter's identity by requiring the voter to present a valid government-issued photo identification or a valid nongovernment-issued photo identification, and a current bill, statement, or check that states the voter's name and address	W&M – Hearing 1/25 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	MFRW Priority – Require Voter ID to vote. Support. See another option in HB 0142.

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
	as proof of identity; requiring a voter to vote a provisional ballot if the voter is unable to provide proof of identity; and prohibiting a person from knowingly and willfully voting or attempting to vote under a false form of identification.			
HB 0202	Absentee Ballot Signature Requirements to include verification of signature on absentee ballot return envelopes.	W&M – Hearing 1/25 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Long	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Support.
HB 0257 SB 0099	To authorize unaffiliated voters to request to affiliate with a political party at an early voting center during a primary election and vote a provisional ballot for the voter’s preferred political party.	W&M – Hearing 2/06 at 1 p.m.; Del. Qi. EEE- Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Str. Kagen	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader 1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0347 SB 0140	Establishing requirements for filling of a vacancy in the office of Senator or Delegate in the General Assembly by a central committee of a political party under the Maryland Constitution relating to applications, public notice, public meetings, and voting. Requiring a member of the central committee who applies to fill the vacancy to recuse themselves from voting to fill the vacancy.	W&M; Delegates Palakovich-Carr and Griffith. EEE – Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Str. Lam	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader 1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0016	“Draft committee” means an entity organized to encourage a potential candidate to run for office but is not authorized by the potential candidate. “Exploratory Committee” means an entity established by a potential candidate for a public office to determine the potential candidate’s viability for that public office. “Exploratory Committee” does not include a political committee. Provisions that apply to a political committee also apply to a draft committee or an exploratory committee.	EEE – Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Str. Kagan	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	



**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

<b>BILL #</b>	<b>BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC</b>	<b>COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS</b>	<b>BILL STATUS</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
SB 0029	Requiring that a special election be held to fill a vacancy in the office of or resolve a tie for election as Delegate or Senator in the General Assembly unless the vacancy occurs during the year in which the General Assembly is elected; requiring that a special election to fill a vacancy or resolve a tie be conducted by mail; requiring the State Board of Elections and the local board of elections to each pay 50% of the cost of postage-paid envelopes for a special election;	EEE – Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Str. Kagan	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0099	To require a petitioner for a recount to select from the following the method for conducting a recount; (1) rescanning ballots using same tabulating equipment as used in the election; (2) rescanning ballots using alternate equipment if available; or (3) conducting a manual recount method. Require a local board of elections to preserve and store certain voter-verifiable paper records	EEE – Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Str. Kagan	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0372	Amend the Maryland Constitution to require a candidate for Governor in a primary election to designate a candidate for Lieutenant Governor within 21 days after the primary election; requiring a candidate seeking a nomination for Governor by any method other than a primary election to designate a candidate for Lieutenant Governor at the time of filing a declaration of intent to seek nomination. To be submitted to voters at the general election in November 2024.	EEE – Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Strs. Feldman and Kagan.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
	<b>ENERGY – ENVIRONMENT - ECONOMY</b>			
HB 0001	Paint Stewardship Assessment Program. Fee to be added to the purchase price of exterior and interior architectural paint (containers of 5 gallons or less)	ENT and ECM; Del. Boyce, et al.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Appears to be aimed at individual buyers and not to builders or developers.

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
SB 0325	to cover the collection, recycling of post-consumer paint.	EEE; Strs. Brooks & West	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0089	The One Less Car Act. To help reduce greenhouse gases & climate change provide a \$1,000 refundable tax credit to an qualified taxpayer who is at least 18 years old with less than \$75,000 income who does not own or lease a vehicle or be listed on an auto insurance policy for at least 6 months a year during tax years 2024-28. Does not prohibit another person in the household from owning or leasing a motor vehicle.	W&M – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Del. R. Lewis	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0150	The MVA shall establish a fee of \$14, collected once every 2 years, on each motor vehicle registered in the state that is: granted a waiver from mandatory inspections; or is not subject to mandatory inspections; or is exempted from mandatory inspections under § 23–206.1 9 or § 23–206.2 of this subtitle; or, is powered by a compression ignition engine and has a manufacturer’s gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less. Revenues collected from this fee shall be deposited into the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund and used to provide incentives to expand electric vehicle ownership; and expand electric vehicle infrastructure.	ENT – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Del. Fraser-Hidalgo	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0233	Authorizes the Critical Area Commission to adopt regulations governing the transfer of development rights, fee in lieu payments, the assessment of and adaption to climate change relevant to the critical area, enhancing resilience in the critical area, and environmental justice and equity initiatives with	ENT – Hearing 2/07 at 2:30 p.m.; Chair of Critical Area Commission	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
SB 0306		EEE – Hearing 1/31 at	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
	special emphasis on underserved and overburdened communities’ public access to the water, shoreline; and ability to add a dwelling of 900 square feet or less to existing dwelling, etc.	2 p.m.; Chair of Critical Area Commission.		
SB 0268	Critical Area Commission - Enforcement. Authorizes the Commission Chair to refer to the Attorney General to bring charges against a local project without allowing 30 days’ notice for local government to act. Changes Administrative penalties to “penalties”. Expands from applying to “approved project plans” to “an order, a permit, a plan, a local program, this subtitle, or regulations adopted, approved, or issued under this subtitle.”	EEE – Hearing 1/31 at 2 p.m.; Request of Chair of Critical Area Comsn.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Overrides local government authority for decisions and enforcement of the local critical areas program.
SB 0299	Coast Smart Council. Expand authority to develop eligibility criteria, standards, and procedures for <b>category exemptions</b> from the application of the coast smart requirements for proposed capital projects that have been designed to include adaptation and resiliency features to prevent or mitigate damage to the maximum extent practicable. the council may recommend regulations for adoption by the secretary of natural resources to carry out the provisions of this subtitle. Currently the Council establishes procedures for evaluating Coast Smart waiver applications of capital <b>projects</b> .	EEE – Hearing 1/31 at 2 p.m.; Request of the Sec. of Natural Resources	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	The Coast Smart Council is appointed by the Governor.  Exemptions are from the anticipated need to prepare for, respond to, and recover from extreme weather events, sea level rise inundation, coastal flooding, storm surges, and shoreline erosion; and (ii) The need to prevent danger to life and property and to avoid environmental, socio-economic, and economic harm.
	<b>HEALTH RELATED</b>			
HB 0076	Health Occupations – Pharmacist Administered Vaccines. Authorizes a pharmacist who has special training to administer vaccines <b>approved by the</b>	HGO – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Del. Lopez.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Oppose. Does NOT require a parent’s knowledge or approval.
SB 0018	<b>CDC or is authorized by the FDA</b> to children 5 years	FIN; Strs. Augustine & Lam	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	An “adult caregiver” could be a day care provider or a neighbor or

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
	or older but under 18. Pharmacist is to advise the <b>child patient and adult caregiver</b> accompanying the child of the importance of well-child visits with a pediatric primary care provider and refers the patient to a pediatric primary care provider when appropriate.			other person. Could that include unaccompanied minor illegal immigrant children? If an adverse event happened afterward or unaware parent or emergency room might act incorrectly without this knowledge.
HB 0276	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to submit to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention any data regarding abortion requested by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, unless submitting the data would violate federal or State law.	HGO; Del. Grammer	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
	<b>LIFE ISSUES</b>			
HB 0403	End of Life Options Act. To allow a physician to prescribe medications to end the life of an individual who is diagnosed with a terminal illness with likely less than 6 months to live who requests aid in dying. A health care professional may refuse to participate or to participate in the aid in dying process without penalty.	JUD - Hearing 2/09 at 1 p.m. (not confirmed). Delegate Hill + 26 Democrat Delegates	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	Oppose. Very slippery slope. In Canada and other states reports of denying chemotherapy as “not appropriate” and offering a prescription to end one’s life has happened. In Canada one can make a request without terminal illness including being too poor.
	<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT- DEVELOPMENT/ZONING</b>			
HB 0003  SB 0356	Land use – Require local governments to institute an expedited review processes for development of affordable housing defined as residential development where at least 50% of the dwelling units are reserved for individuals whose household income is less than or equal to 80% of the area median income. Could include: expedited planning review or zoning changes; or shorten the length of application processing time; prioritize an	ENT- Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Del. Stewart  EEE – Hearing 2/01 at 1 p.m.; Str. Muse	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
	application ahead of others; provide a consolidated application process for all project permits regardless of the issuing agency; accept a self-certified proposed plan from a qualified architect or engineer certifying that the proposed plan complies with applicable codes and standards; etc.			
HB 0007	Establish a Housing Innovation Pilot Program and Housing Innovation Fund to provide loans for local housing authorities to develop mixed-income, cross-subsidized housing. A county and a local housing authority could acquire existing private sector housing or develop new housing in which: (i) at least 20% of the units are set aside for households with a gross annual income of not more than 50% of the area median income for a household of like size; and (ii) at least 40% of the units are set aside for households with a gross annual income of not more than 60% of the area median income for a household of like size. The affordable set-asides must remain restricted for at least 99 years and the project must remain in public ownership.	ENT - Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m.; Del. Stewart	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
HB 0017  SB 0274	Require Charter Counties Comprehensive Plans to include “Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Provisions.” Defined as to take meaningful actions to (i) overcome patterns of segregation; and (ii) foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to housing & opportunity based on protected characteristics. It includes to take meaningful actions that, taken together: (i) address significant disparities in housing needs and access to opportunity; (ii) replace segregated living	ENT – Hearing 2/06 at 1 p.m. By Request of Dept. of Planning  EEE – Hearing 1/25 at 1 p.m.; Request of Dept. of Planning	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader  1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	

**MARYLAND FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN – 2024 WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – 1-21-2024**

BILL #	BILL DESCRIPTION BY TOPIC	COMMITTEE/HEARING AND SPONSORS	BILL STATUS	COMMENTS
	patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns. ii) transform racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity; and (iv) foster and maintain compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws.			
	<b>SECOND AMENDMENT – FIREARMS RELATED</b>			
SB 0039	Classifying the theft of a firearm as a felony; and establishing a penalty for theft of a firearm of imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine not exceeding \$1,000 for a first offense, and imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine not exceeding \$2,500 for a second or subsequent offense.	JPR; Str. Ready & all Republican Senators	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	
	<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
HB 0161	Driver’s Licenses and Identification Cards. Adds new categories of individuals eligible for Free MVA Identification cards. These include: individuals released from correctional facility in the prior 60 days; homeless individuals; youths under Juvenile Services programs or individuals between 15 and 20 years of age under a Dept. of Human Service programs; or under a Dept. of Health program. The individuals must provide documentation acceptable to the MVA.	ENT – Hearing 1/30 at 1 p.m. Chairman ENT at Request of MDOT.	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	CONCERN: Are MVA ID cards the same for citizens & non-citizens? Will undocumented immigrants be eligible to receive MVA ID cards? MVA ID cards are accepted by the Board of Elections to register to vote.
SB 0131	Amend categories of the Consolidated Transportation Program. Increase the weighting metric for equitable access to transportation for a project located in a minority, rural, or underserved community by 45% to address critical equity challenges and ensure equitable distribution of projects throughout the state.	B&T – Hearing 1/18 at 1 p.m.; Str. Ellis	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader	