



## 2025 Legislative Recap: What to Know From This Year's General Assembly Session

Last Monday, the Maryland General Assembly adjourned its annual 90-day legislative session in Annapolis. This year's session saw thousands of bills introduced and the adoption of a \$67 billion structurally balanced budget. Some of the notable legislation now headed to the Governor's desk for signature or veto includes:

- **House Bill 102:** The legislature again **delayed the implementation of the statewide paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) program**, which had been set to begin in July. Implementation of the law has been delayed for 18 months (*i.e.*, until January 1, 2027).
- **House Bill 352:** A **3% tax on certain information technology and software/data services**. It remains to be seen exactly what technology interactions will be subject to the tax, and Gallagher will be closely following the implementation and interpretation of this measure and the impact it may have on business operations. Certain cloud computing, cellular operations, and cyber work have already been exempted from the law's scope.
- **Senate Bill 357** and **House Bill 424:** The General Assembly **broadened the authority of the state Prescription Drug Affordability Board** to work towards reduced costs on certain drugs for those on private insurance plans. The Board previously only had authority related to the State's health care plans.
- The General Assembly passed **several new energy policies**—the Next Generation Energy Act (**Senate Bill 937**), the Renewable Energy Certainty Act (**Senate Bill 931**), and the Energy Resource Adequacy and Planning Act (**Senate Bill 909**)—aimed at bringing down consumer costs. Among the measures in this trio of bills are programs to keep natural gas fees down, fast track new renewable energy production projects, and end renewable energy subsidies for trash incineration. The legislation will also provide utility customers with roughly \$80 worth of rebates spread out over the year.
- **House Bill 504:** Implementation of the **Blueprint for Maryland's Future**, the State's education plan, was also delayed in certain respects, including a three year pause in the expansion of collaboration time for teachers.
- The **Expungement Reform Act of 2025** (**Senate Bill 432**) expands the list of misdemeanor convictions that a person may expunge under certain circumstances.

- **House Bill 176**: The **Davis Martinez Public Employee Safety and Health Act** adds new layers of oversight and protection for state and local government workers.
- **Senate Bill 764**: To end on a refreshing note, the legislature voted to **designate the Orange Crush as the official state cocktail**—a drink that pairs perfectly with spring weather to come!

At a ceremony on Tuesday, the Governor already signed into law several legislative measures related to employment and economic development, including the **Registered Apprenticeship Investments for a Stronger Economy (RAISE) Act (Senate Bill 431)**, which creates the “Maryland Pay Per Apprentice Program Fund” to “help employers and sponsors offset costs, including recruitment, education, training, and accommodations for disabilities or materials, associated with hiring newly registered apprentices.”

The next round of bills will be signed at an April 22 ceremony.

## What's Next?

If you have questions about the legislative developments above and how they might apply to your organization, please reach out to:

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\*View all of our Monday Minute issues [here](#).

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