

Senator Bailey's Co-Sponsored Legislation – 2024 Session

Senate Republican Public Safety Package

Senate Bill 28 - Violent Firearms Offender Act of 2024 would increase the maximum penalty for committing crimes with an illegal firearm from 3 years to 5 years in prison. It also repeals an exception to Maryland's crime of violence statute for drug dealers who use a firearm in the commission of a felony. Finally, the bill creates new penalties for someone who sells or gives someone a gun knowing that it will be used to commit a crime.

Senate Bill 39 - Gun Theft Felony Act of 2024 would classify the theft of a firearm as a felony, carrying a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison and/or a \$1,000 fine for a first offense and 10 years in prison and/or a \$2,500 fine for subsequent offenses.

Senate Bill 44 - Safe Communities Act of 2024 would change Maryland's system of diminution credits as it pertains to those who commit crimes of violence. Under the bill, individuals convicted of first- and second-degree murder would be ineligible to receive diminution credits that can reduce their prison sentence. Those convicted of other crimes of violence would have their diminution credits capped to no more than a 10% reduction in their total sentence. This bill also prohibits bail for an individual charged with a crime of violence if the individual has pending charges for a previous crime of violence.

Senate Bill 52 - Juvenile Justice Restoration Act of 2024 would amend laws that have limited the ability of the State to hold juvenile offenders accountable. In particular, the legislation will require that juveniles younger than 13 who use firearms in the commission of a crime will come under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court system. The bill also provides that, upon the child's third arrest for a crime is not considered a crime of violence or a crime committed with a firearm, the child will come under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court system.

Senate Bill 396 - Drug-Free Roadways Act of 2024 would allow a law enforcement officer to initiate a stop or a search of a vehicle based on the smell of cannabis, as was permitted before the passage of legislation last year.

Protecting Students

Senate Bill 381 - Fairness in Girls' Sports Act would require that an interscholastic or intramural athletic team or sport designated for girls, females, or women may not include students of the male sex.

Senate Bill 438 - Family Law - Fundamental Parental Rights would affirm that a parent has the fundamental right to direct the upbringing, education, care, and welfare of their children and restrict the State's ability to infringe on that right.

Senate Bill 552 - Operating Budget - Funding - Scholarships for Nonpublic School Students would make funding for the BOOST scholarship program for private schools permanent.

Senate Bill 819 - Public Schools - School Resource Officers - Firearms Required would require all school resource officers to be armed while present on school premises.

Senate Bill 1145 - Public and Nonpublic Schools - Child Sex Offenders - Prohibition on In-Person Attendance would prohibit children convicted or found delinquent of felony rape or sexual offenses from in-person attendance at a public school or nonpublic school that receives State funds.

Addressing the Cost of Living

Senate Bill 748 - Economic Prosperity Act of 2024 would reform State income tax brackets and provide Marylanders with over \$3 billion annually in much-needed tax relief.

Senate Bill 841 - Transportation Equity, Fairness, and Privacy Act of 2024 would repeal the annual automatic gas tax increase tied to inflation and require public transit to receive more of their funding through fares. The bill would also prohibit the State from imposing a tax based on how many miles a vehicle has traveled.

Election Integrity

Senate Bill 772 - Elections - In-Person Voting - Proof of Identity would require voters to provide identification in order to vote in Maryland elections.