

Senator Bailey's Sponsored Legislation – 2025 Session

Public Safety

Senate Bill 364 - Criminal Law – Manslaughter by Vehicle or Vessel – Increased Penalties (Jamari's Law)

would increase the maximum penalties for felony manslaughter by vehicle or vessel from 10 years to 20 years for a first offense, and from 15 years to 30 years for a subsequent offense. This bill is named "Jamari's Law" for Jamari Duckett, a Great Mills resident who tragically lost his life in an accident caused by a driver who was drunk and traveling at a high rate of speed. This bill unanimously passed the Senate last year, but did not receive a vote in the House of Delegates prior to the end of the legislative session.

Senate Bill 394 – Criminal Law - Concealment of Death and Disturbing and Dismembering Human

Remains would provide for criminal penalties for individuals who intentionally conceal the death of another person. Under this bill, a person may not, with the intent to conceal the death of another, knowingly and willfully dismember, destroy, remove, or otherwise obliterate by any means any portion of human remains. The bill also prohibits an individual from burying or otherwise disposing of a dead body or failing to contact law enforcement or emergency medical services if either action is done with intent to conceal the death of another.

Supporting Law Enforcement

Senate Bill 30 - Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Public Safety Employee Retirement Income

would increase the tax deduction for retirement income attributable to an individual's employment as a public safety employee from \$15,000 to \$20,000. This bill is intended to match the increase to the tax deduction for military retirement income that passed the General Assembly and became law in 2023.

Senate Bill 690 - Higher Education - Scholarships for Correctional Officers would expand eligibility for the Maryland Police Officers and Probation Agents Scholarship Program to include correctional officers.

Senate Bill 812 - Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System and State Police Retirement System - Line-of-Duty

Catastrophic Injury Disability would provide an enhanced disability allowance to be paid to a police officer who is found to be disabled in the line of duty and unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity equal to 100% of the member's annual compensation at the time their injury occurred. This would match the standard for a person to be considered disabled under Federal law.

Economic Development

Senate Bill 363 - Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation - Oyster

Shucking House Loan Program would expand the ability of the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) to provide loans under the Oyster Shucking House Loan Program.

Senate Bill 544 – Food Establishments - Portable Chemical Toilets would authorize food establishments that are agritourism businesses, Class 4 limited wineries, or Class 8 farm breweries to comply with the requirement in State law to provide a convenient lavatory using a portable chemical toilet.

Consumer Protection

Senate Bill 551 - Private Passenger Motor Vehicle Insurance - Collisions With Wild Animals - Prohibited Actions by Insurers would prohibit an insurer from increasing a premium, adding a surcharge, or

removing, altering, or refusing to consider a discount based on accidents or losses caused by a collision with a free-roaming wild animal and for which the insured was not at fault for the loss.

Natural Resources

Senate Bill 23 - Natural Resources - State Boat Act – Auctioneers would exempt licensed auctioneers from having to obtain a dealer’s license in order to auction a boat in Maryland. This would match the current exemption in law for auctioneers who auction vehicles and would make it easier for Marylanders to find professionals willing to auction their boats.

Senate Bill 76 - Tidal Fish Licenses - Oyster Authorizations - Administrative Penalties would protect the due process rights of commercial watermen by limiting the length of time that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) may suspend their authorization to catch oysters unless the license holder has been convicted of violating the State’s natural resources law.

Senate Bill 87 - Fisheries - Striped Bass or Rockfish - Juvenile Survey would expand the scope of the annual young-of-the-year juvenile survey of rockfish by requiring this survey to be conducted in the central region of the Maryland waters of the Chesapeake Bay in addition to sampling sites in the northern and southern regions of the Maryland waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

Senate Bill 100 - Natural Resources - Pursuing Wounded Deer After Legal Hunting Hours – Authorization would permit a hunter who wounds a deer during legal hunting hours to pursue and kill the deer after legal hunting hours. This would allow hunters, following regulations enacted by DNR, to ensure that a deer that they wound is dispatched humanely, rather than being left to die from its injuries or attacked by predatory animals such as coyotes.

Senate Bill 186 - Commercial Blue and Flathead Catfish Finfish Trotline License - Prohibited Regulations would allow the use of trotlines to catch blue and flathead catfish south of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, which is prohibited under current regulations. This would provide commercial harvesters a larger area to remove these invasive fish from Maryland’s waterways, reducing the damage that they can cause to our State’s native fish species. I am happy to report that, since the introduction of this legislation, DNR has announced a pilot program to begin the process of opening up these waters to trotlines for catching catfish.

Senate Bill 335 - Natural Resources - Canada Geese - Bag Limits would require the bag limit for all Canada geese to be uniform across the State during the 30-day migratory Atlantic population Canada goose hunting season.

In addition to these bills, **Senate Bill 53 - Natural Resources - Commercial Crab Harvest - Start Time** and **Senate Bill 128 - Hunter Safety Education - Issuance of Identification Number** were withdrawn after DNR committed to implementing administrative changes to make progress on the issues these bills were introduced to address.

Tax Relief for Seniors

Senate Bill 155 - Income Tax - Credit for Long-Term Care Premiums (Long-Term Care Relief Act of 2025) revises the existing income tax credit for long-term care premiums to provide additional relief to those seniors who have the greatest need.