



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION IMPACT REPORT  
2024





*The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) is a tremendous resource for the people of Maryland. As the state’s public health, law, and human services university, UMB’s six professional schools and interdisciplinary Graduate School confer the majority of health care, human services, and law professional degrees in Maryland each year. Our role as a public university is most apparent every January as the Maryland General Assembly convenes its legislative session. UMB’s status manifests itself in two ways. On one hand, through the legislative process, UMB receives a considerable amount of state funding. On the other hand, UMB’s faculty experts, administrative leaders — and even our students — provide information and conduct advocacy on key bills, influencing law and public policy.*

*This report captures both aspects of our public role. It begins with an overview of actions by the legislature on UMB’s operating and capital budgets. The second half outlines key bills and shares excerpts of testimony provided by UMB faculty and staff to show how their advocacy framed some of the most important issues considered by the General Assembly.*

## **I. Maryland State Budget Overview**

Projected general fund cash and structural budget shortfalls presented many challenges this past session. The challenges resulted from downward revisions in general fund revenues in September and December 2023 and March 2024, due to higher-than-expected spending for child care scholarships and long-term spending challenges associated with K-12 education spending.

The governor introduced a Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget that reduced general fund spending by \$1.6 billion, including \$674.7 million of reductions that were contingent on legislation. The substantial reduction in general fund spending was due in large part to one-time transfers to the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Fund (\$900 million) and transportation (\$100 million) and higher than typical pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) capital funding.

The General Assembly added \$260 million in funding to support its own legislative priorities. Legislative action on the budget also restored nearly \$10 million of aid for community colleges, \$5.75 million for resiliency activities, \$5 million for pediatric cancer research, and \$1 million for warrant apprehension activities. The General Assembly also authorized the use of a combined \$199 million in FY 2024 and 2025 from the Rainy Day Fund to address shortfalls in entitlement programs and \$275 million to assist individuals and businesses impacted by the reduced operations of the Port of Baltimore. Through final action on Senate Bill 362 (passed), the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA) of 2024, the legislature increased by approximately \$105 million annual funding for the state’s trauma system, raised revenue to address transportation needs (\$233.2 million), and provided additional revenue to the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Fund, which along with spending reductions in the budget bill erased the



projected FY 2027 shortfall in the fund. Final legislative action on the budget leaves an estimated general fund cash balance of \$109.7 million at the end of FY 2025, in addition to \$2.3 billion in the Rainy Day Fund.

***a. Higher Education Budget Overview***

Excluding state general and special funds, current unrestricted and current restricted funding for state public four-year institutions and Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) increased by \$390 million to \$5.5 billion in FY 2025.

Operating funding state support for higher education in the FY 2025 budget totals \$3.1 billion, a decrease of \$16.8 million, or 0.5 percent, compared to FY 2024. Even so, public four-year institutions receive \$9.7 million in additional state funding, which includes general funds and monies from the Higher Education Investment Fund. The overall total for public four-year institutions also includes \$62.2 million budgeted to historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in settlement funding for those HBCUs.

Morgan State University (MSU) receives an increase of \$10.4 million, or 6.6 percent, over FY 2024, of which \$7.6 million is for general salary increases in FY 2025. In addition to its base funding, MSU receives \$26.7 million in HBCU settlement funding, an increase of \$0.4 million, over FY 2024. St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) receives an increase of \$0.1 million in state support over FY 2024. This increase encompasses the annualization of general salary increases.

In FY 2025, under current law, independent institutions were to receive \$133.9 million through the Joseph A. Sellinger Program formula, which was \$7.5 million lower than anticipated due to the Department of Budgeting and Management (DBM) breaking with its past practice of using the enrollment projections prepared by the institutions to calculate the funding per full-time equivalent student (FTES) and instead using the Maryland Higher Education Commission's (MHEC) enrollment projections. In addition, provisions in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA) of 2024 changed the FTES data used to determine the allocation of Sellinger funds among the institutions from total FTES enrollment to only using undergraduate FTES enrollment. Furthermore, the BRFA increased the statutory percentage in the Sellinger formula from 15.5 percent to 16.1 percent. In combination, these changes resulted in \$72.6 million in Sellinger funding, a decrease of \$62.3 million, or 47.0 percent.

State funding for local community colleges increases by \$0.2 million over FY 2024. Funding under the Senator John A. Cade Funding Formula decreases by \$7.7 million, which is more than offset due to funding for community college retirement programs increasing by \$7.9 million. The FY 2025 formula funding reflects a rebasing under the BRFA to 27.2 percent of funding provided to the selected public four-year institutions (rather than 29.0 percent under current



law); this level represents the statutory minimum to be provided. Baltimore City Community College (BCCC), Maryland’s only state-administered community college, has a separate statutory funding formula. Overall, state funding for BCCC increases by \$2.5 million, or 5.4 percent, over FY 2024. BCCC’s declining overall FTES enrollment total has decreased the total amount that would be provided by the calculated formula to \$34.1 million in FY 2025.

#### *b. USM Operating Budget*

Funding specifically for the University System of Maryland (USM) decreases minimally, by \$0.5 million, compared to FY 2024. However, it should be noted that, while the working appropriation does not include the FY 2024 general salary increases that are budgeted centrally in the Statewide Account in the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the impacts of the FY 2024 general salary increases are included in the FY 2025 allowance. The FY 2025 budget also provides USM’s HBCUs — specifically, Bowie State University (BSU), the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), and Coppin State University (CSU) — a total of \$35.5 million in settlement funding, as mandated in Chapters 41 and 42 of 2021. Also included is \$6.6 million for various other mandates.

The General Assembly also added \$8.1 million to fund various programs and initiatives at eight USM institutions. The additional funding noted above is offset by decreased funding attributed to a \$55.0 million adjustment in the turnover rate (to 6 percent) across institutions; \$8.5 million in one-time legislative additions in the FY 2024 budget; \$5.0 million in one-time funding for the Universities at Shady Grove, as mandated in Chapter 623 of 2022, for a workforce development initiative; and \$0.7 million less in BSU’s allocation of HBCU settlement funds.

#### *c. UMB Operating Budget*

The FY 2025 legislative allowance for UMB includes \$332,470 million in general funds and \$20.7 million in Higher Education Investment Funds (HEIF) for a total of \$353,213 million.

#### *d. Direct UMB Initiatives of Interest*

- **\$12.4 million for Cigarette Restitution Fund for research funding** for the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center.
- **\$10 million** as mandated in Chapter 765 of 2019 providing \$5.0 million each to the UMB campus and the University of Maryland, College Park for the MPowering Joint Steering Council and \$2 million to the University of Maryland, Baltimore County to help further its research and economic development activities.



- **\$1.4 million** in general funds to the University of Maryland School of Medicine for the purpose of the Rural Health Equity and Access Longitudinal Elective (R–HEALE) Scholarship Program.
- **\$1 million** in general funds for the purpose of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry to provide funds to support operating costs for a dental emergency clinic.
- **\$1 million** in general funds for the purpose of the University of Maryland School of Dentistry to provide preventative, restorative, urgent, and advanced oral health care to children from limited-income families that are not eligible for Medicaid.
- **\$785,000 for the University of Maryland School of Nursing’s Wellmobile** reflects operating funds for the program.
- **\$500,000** in general funds for the purpose of funding the Erin Levitas Initiative for Sexual Assault Prevention at the University of Maryland Francis Carey School of Law and the University of Maryland School of Social Work.
- **\$150,000** in general funds for the purpose of funding the Center for Infant and Child Loss at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.
- **\$125,000 each to UMB and University of Baltimore (UBalt)** to continue the Legal Education Success Collaborative.

*e. Other Operating Funding Items of Interest to UMB*

***Research and Economic Development***

- **Maintained \$20.5 million for the Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund:** Provides funding through the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to support stem cell research and development grants for Maryland’s research universities and private sector research corporations.
- **Maintained \$8.5 million for the E-Nnovation Initiative:** Provides matching funds to nonprofit institutions of higher education for the creation of research endowments. Funds must be spent to advance basic and applied research in scientific and technical fields of study.
- **\$6.8 million for the Maryland Innovation Initiative:** Provides funding through the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to promote and accelerate the rate of commercializing research conducted at five Maryland research universities (Johns Hopkins; Morgan State; University of Maryland, College Park; UMB; and University



- of Maryland, Baltimore County) on commercialization proposals, strategies, and funding sources, including with federal laboratories located in Maryland, and facilitate technology transfer from university labs to startup companies.
- **\$5 million** for the Biotechnology Investment Incentive Tax Credit.
  - **\$5 million** in new funding for the creation of the Maryland Equitech Growth Fund, which will use multiple investment vehicles including direct investments, grants, and loans leveraged with private capital to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship and to meet the goals of promoting equitable economic development in Maryland’s advanced technology sectors.
  - Reinstated **\$5 million** to continue supporting the Pediatric Cancer Fund, which will be used to provide research, prevention, and treatment services for pediatric cancer.

### *Community Health Care*

- **\$15 million** to support the implementation of the ENOUGH Act, a first-in-the-nation state-level effort to end concentrated child poverty and build safe and thriving communities. This is a direct investment from the state to support communities in Maryland that have experienced multi-generational poverty and its consequences. This program will prioritize evidence-based investments in communities, and these place-based efforts themselves are backed by data.
- **\$15 million** in FY 2024 and FY 2025 to establish the Pathways to Health Equity Program and the Health Equity Resource Community (HERC) Reserve Fund with goals to reduce health disparities, improve health outcomes, improve access to primary care, and reduce health care costs and hospital admissions and readmissions.

### *Community Development*

- **\$25 million** in new grant funding for Higher Education Security Enhancement administered by MHEC.
- **\$125 million** for State Revitalization Programs to support local housing, community and economic development, and other revitalization projects.
  - Community Legacy: \$8 million capital
  - Maryland Facade Improvement Program: \$5 million capital
  - Strategic Demolition Fund–Statewide: \$10 million capital
  - Strategic Demolition Fund–Project C.O.R.E.: \$50 million capital for the historic acceleration of eliminating vacant properties in Baltimore



- Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative: \$20 million capital, \$2 million operating
- Seed Community Development Anchor Institution Program: \$10 million capital
- **\$12 million** for continued support of the Downtown Partnership of Baltimore to help strengthen Downtown Baltimore as a destination of choice for residents, employers, investors, and visitors.
- **\$750,000** for the Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise Zone Program.

#### *Workforce Professions Programs*

- **\$19.1 million in funding for the Nurse Support Program II** to fund initiatives to expand the number of bedside nurses in the state. The program is funded from increases in hospital patient revenue rates as determined by the Health Services Cost Review Commission.
- **Maintained \$1.1 million in funding for the Graduate and Professional Scholarship Program** to provide financial assistance to full-time and part-time students in the fields of medicine, dentistry, law, pharmacy, nursing, social work, and veterinary medicine.
- **\$1.2 million in funding for Workforce Shortage Student Assistance Grants** to aid students studying in the following workforce shortage fields: (1) schoolteachers (Sharon Christa McAuliffe Memorial Teacher Scholarship); (2) social workers (Ruth M. Kirk Public Social Work Scholarship); (3) nurses; (4) child care providers (Hattie N. Harrison Memorial Scholarship); (5) developmental disabilities, mental health, child welfare, and juvenile justice (Ida G. and L. Leonard Ruben Scholarships); (6) physical and occupational therapists and assistants; and (7) public servants (William Donald Schaefer Scholarship and Parren J. Mitchell Public Service Scholarship).

#### *f. UMB Capital Funding*

- **\$26.730 million for a new School of Social Work building:** To begin construction of a building for a new School of Social Work.
- **\$1.638 million to School of Dentistry** for construction to outfit a Dental Ambulatory Surgery Center at the School of Dentistry.
- **\$3 million for the Institute for Health Computing** for planning and design for the Institute for Health Computing at the North Bethesda Metro location.



***g. Other Capital Funding Items of Interest to UMB***

- **\$20 million** for the University of Maryland Shore Regional Health–New Easton Regional Medical Center to design, construct, and capital equip the University of Maryland Shore Regional Hospital.
- **\$2.25 million** to the University of Maryland Medical System for the Capital Region Medical Center–Ella Medical Office Building.

***h. Committee Narrative and Budget Amendments***

At times, the budget committees wish to express legislative intent or request USM to perform certain studies or reports on particular issues during the interim. This is usually written as “committee narrative” in the chairmen’s report of the budget committees’ action. Committee narrative does not have the effect of law. However, both budget committees must agree on the wording. USM and the affected institutions will respond to committee narrative on the following issues:

***Committee Narrative***

**M00F02.01 Office of Population Health Improvement**

Registered Nurse (RN) Degree Apprenticeship Program Study: The budget committees direct the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), in consultation with the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL), the State Board of Nursing, and other stakeholders, to study the feasibility of developing and implementing an RN degree apprenticeship program in Maryland. Relevant stakeholders may include representatives from community colleges and four-year universities; the Maryland Nurses Association; the Maryland Association of County Health Officers; the Maryland Organization of Nurse Leaders; the Maryland Nursing Workforce Center at the University of Maryland, Baltimore campus; among others. MDH, in consultation with MDL and other stakeholders, should submit a report with findings and recommendations by June 30, 2025. The report should include:

- a review of existing models of nurse apprenticeship programs in other jurisdictions, including programs in other states and countries;
- recommendations on the framework for RN and licensed practical nurse degree apprenticeship programs, including addressing implementation questions such as how an apprenticeship model may provide the full range of supervised clinical education





experiences and meet national and state standards to ensure the portability of nursing licensure;

- recommendations for sustainable funding models; and
- a framework for postgraduate transition to practice programs that may benefit from dual recognition as an industry-recognized apprenticeship program by the U.S. Department of Labor and a Practice Transition Accreditation Program by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Information Request Report on nurse degree apprenticeships Author MDH, in consultation with MDL Due Date June 30, 2025.

*Report on Calculation of Graduate Credit-Hour Full-time Equivalent Student (FTES): The credit hour FTES enrollment at Maryland's selected public four-year institutions is used in the calculation of the Cade, Sellinger, and Baltimore City Community College funding formulas. Calculating annual undergraduate credit hour FTES is a straightforward calculation that divides the total number of undergraduate credits produced by 30 (representing a full-year credit load). However, the method for determining graduate credit hour FTES can vary from simply dividing the total number of graduate credit hours produced by 24 (for a full-year credit load) or by disaggregating graduate credit hours by course level, degree level, and novel research requirements to better reflect the intensity of higher-level doctoral coursework and novel research productivity compared to master's-level coursework. Given the variation in calculating graduate credit hour FTES, the committees request that the University System of Maryland (USM), Morgan State University (MSU), and St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) convene a workgroup to develop a uniform methodology for calculating graduate credit hour FTES to be used by the public four-year institutions when calculating their total FTES. A report should be submitted jointly by USM, MSU, and SMCM by Sept. 16, 2024, and include the agreed-upon methodology that all institutions will use in calculating their graduate credit hour FTES. Joint Chairmen's Report—Operating Budget, April 2024 212*

*R75T0001 Information Request Report on calculation of graduate FTES Author USM MSU SMCM Due Date Sept. 16, 2024 Report on Allocation of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Settlement Funds: The budget committees are concerned about the methodology used to allocate the HBCU settlement funds. Chapter 41 of 2021 requires that the allocation of funds be based on each institution's percentage share of students enrolled during the immediately preceding academic year, compared to the total number of students enrolled at all HBCUs. The fiscal 2023 allocation of funds were based on the estimated fiscal 2022 full-time equivalent student (FTES) enrollment at the HBCUs. However, for fiscal 2025, the fall 2023 headcount enrollment was used to determine the allocation, which does not include spring enrollment. The budget committees request that Bowie State University (BSU), the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), Coppin State University (CSU), and Morgan State University (MSU) convene a workgroup to develop an agreed-upon definition of students enrolled during the immediately preceding academic year. Information Request Report on allocation of HBCU*



*settlement funds Author BSU UMES CSU MSU Due Date Sept. 1, 2024 Report on Student Cohort Data: The budget committees request that the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, and St. Mary's College of Maryland submit a report providing institution-level data on in-state students for each fiscal year cohort from 2019 to 2024. Each institution shall report on the number of in-state applications by high school, the number admitted by high school, and the number enrolled by high school; demographic data on in-state students enrolled at the institutions including race/ethnicity and gender; and a summary of recruitment practices. Information Request Report on student cohort data Author USM MSU SMCM.*

## **II. Key Bills of 2024**

This section of the *2024 Legislative Session Impact Report* focuses on bills of particular interest to UMB and its faculty experts. For a look at all of the major bills affecting higher education in general, we recommend the excellent [USM 2024 Legislative Session Report](#) [PDF] prepared by our colleagues at the Office of Government Relations of the University System of Maryland.

### ***a. Research Funding and Economic Development***

#### **Public Health - Maryland Pediatric Cancer Fund and Commission (HB 51/SB 13)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This bill (1) establishes the Pediatric Cancer Research Commission to oversee the award of competitive grants from the Maryland Pediatric Cancer Fund; (2) limits the authorized uses of the fund to providing grants to eligible applicants to conduct pediatric cancer research only (repealing the authorization that funds may be used to provide grants for pediatric cancer prevention and treatment); (3) authorizes a specified promotional account to allocate funds to a state-based childhood cancer organization; and (4) authorizes the specified promotional account to be used to educate the state scientific community about the opportunities for childhood cancer research through the fund (in addition to promoting donations to the fund under current law).

***“It is imperative that the funds appropriated through Maryland’s Pediatric Cancer Fund Act be allocated to impactful pediatric cancer research, including development of new targeted drugs for children with AML [acute myeloid leukemia] and other devastating cancers that kill our children.”***

Written and Oral Testimony in Support

By Curt I. Civin, MD, Director, Center for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, University of Maryland School of Medicine



### **Higher Education - MPowering Joint Steering Council - Funding (HB 334/SB 376)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This bill requires the governor to include general funds in the annual state budget for the *MPowering* Joint Steering Council to use exclusively on the University of Maryland Institute for Health Computing (UM-IHC) in the following amounts: \$1.5 million in FY 2026; \$3.0 million in FY 2027; \$4.5 million in FY 2028; and \$6.0 million in FY 2029 and each fiscal year thereafter. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

*“The University of Maryland Institute for Health Computing will seek to leverage advances in artificial intelligence and computing to create a learning health care system that evaluates both de-identified and secure digitized medical health data to diagnose, prevent, and treat diseases in patients across the state of Maryland.*

*“This grew out of a 2021 MOU [memorandum of understanding] between USM, Montgomery College, and Montgomery County to facilitate collaboration among industry and the academic partners on cutting-edge research and allow students from across Maryland opportunities to gain work experience and conduct translational research with Montgomery County’s industry leaders.*

*“As part of the MOU, there was a focus on creating a proposed center of excellence that will provide the opportunity for co-location, collaboration, and synergy among industry, academia, federal, and nonprofit research organizations within Montgomery County — this is that center!”*

Written and Oral Testimony in Support

By Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, President, University of Maryland, Baltimore

### **Economic Development - Entrepreneurial Innovation Programs - Establishment (Pava LaPere Legacy of Innovation Act of 2024) (HB 582/SB 473)**

UMB Position: Support

Status: Passed

The Pava LePere Innovation Acceleration Grant Program aims to foster growth in the entrepreneurial innovation ecosystem by providing \$50,000 grants to startups affiliated with certain postsecondary institutions. The Baltimore Innovation Initiative Pilot Program aims to provide incentives for and grow technology startup companies founded by students at eligible universities, in collaboration with those universities.



### **Seed Community Development Anchor Institution Fund - Alterations (HB 891/SB 418)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This bill expands the purpose and eligible use of the Seed Community Development Anchor Institution Fund in the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to include providing grants and loans to anchor institutions for community projects in sustainable communities in the state. The bill also expands the definition of “anchor institution” to include departments, foundations, and other entities of institutions of higher education and hospital institutions in the state. Finally, the bill repeals the requirement that required matching funds be from a private source. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

*“The University of Maryland, Baltimore [UMB] offers this letter in support of HB891. We have successfully worked with partners on SEED grant applications previously and found this to be an impactful program that benefits UMB, the city, and our community.*”

*“Modifying the matching component to allow for additional sources of match in HB891 demonstrates Maryland’s commitment to support these critical projects while encouraging investment in the state and Baltimore City. The additional modification would allow the UMB Foundation to be a qualified applicant, which would further enable our ability to leverage funding and support revitalization. The proposed modifications would enable UMB to pursue worthwhile projects in Baltimore City that would not be feasible with the current regulations.”*

Written Testimony in Support

By James L. Hughes, MBA, Chief Enterprise and Economic Development Officer and Senior Vice President, University of Maryland, Baltimore

### **Emergency Services - Funding (HB/1439SB1092)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This bill (1) alters the purpose, funding sources, and reimbursement methodologies of the Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund (MTPSF); (2) increases the annual vehicle registration surcharge for the Maryland Emergency Medical System Operations Fund (MEMSOF) and MTPSF, and allocates a portion of the higher surcharge elsewhere — to the state primary adult resource center (PARC, known as the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center); (3) increases the maximum fines for specified drunk- and drugged-driving offenses, with at least 20 percent of the fines collected going to MTPSF; and (4) requires the governor to include \$16.5 million in the annual budget bill for the Senator William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Fund beginning in FY 2026. Special fund revenues increase by \$104.8 million annually beginning in FY 2025 due to the higher surcharge, with as much as \$45.6 million for



MEMSOF, at least \$41.0 million for Shock Trauma, and \$18.2 million for MTPSF. Special fund expenditures increase by \$3.4 million in FY 2025 and \$4.9 million annually thereafter, reflecting a combination of higher costs for the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF), earmarked grants provided through MTPSF, and a mandated appropriation paid from MEMSOF. Minimal decrease in general fund revenues, with a minimal further increase in MTPSF revenues beginning in FY 2025 (not quantified but discussed below); minimal increase in general fund expenditures in FY 2025 only. This bill establishes mandated distributions beginning in FY 2025 and a mandated appropriation beginning in FY 2026.

*b. Administration Policy*

**Institutions of Higher Education - Admissions Standards - Prohibition on Consideration of Legacy Preference or Donor Preference (HB 4/SB 543)**

USM Position: Monitor

Final Status: Passed

This bill prohibits an institution of higher education that receives state funds from considering a “legacy preference” or a “donor preference” as an eligible criterion for admission standards at the institution. Such preferences are given to an applicant due to having a familial relationship to either an alum of the institution (legacy) or a person who provides financial support to the institution (donor). However, an institution may ask applicants to provide information about familial relationships to alums of the institution for the purpose of collecting data. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

**State Personnel - Collective Bargaining - Supervisory Employees (HB 260/SB 192)**

UMB Position: Monitor

Final Status: Passed

This bill repeals the statutory exclusion from collective bargaining for most supervisory state employees in executive branch agencies, excluding higher education institutions, thereby establishing collective bargaining rights for those employees. Eligible supervisory employees must be defined by regulations, adopted by the Secretary of Budget and Management, and are subject to the Maryland Public Employee Relations Act. Generally, supervisory employees must have a separate bargaining unit. Additionally, the bill excludes managerial or confidential employees of the Office of the Public Defender (OPD) from collective bargaining.



### **State Contracts - Prohibited Provisions (HB 289/SB 375)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This bill prohibits state contracts from including specified provisions that generally restrict the power and rights of the state. If a contract includes a prohibited provision, the provision is void and the contract remains enforceable as if it did not contain the provision. A state contract that includes a prohibited provision is governed by and must be construed in accordance with state law, regardless of any term or condition to the contrary within the contract. The bill applies prospectively only and may not be applied to or interpreted to have any effect on or application to contracts executed before its effective date (or to renewals or extensions of such contracts).

*“The University System of Maryland has noticed an increase in vendors who refuse to make changes to their form agreements. These agreements often include impermissibly broad indemnification clauses, binding dispute resolution clauses, and terms specifying the governing law or jurisdiction of another state or country. The problematic terms appear in contracts of all sizes, for both goods and services. Maryland state agencies, including USM and its institutions, are not permitted to accept the governing law of jurisdictions other than Maryland [and, when negotiating with federal agencies, U.S. federal law].*

*“Though procurement and legal staff attempt to negotiate these terms and offer creative solutions such as addenda and side letters, negotiations are often protracted, and they regularly fail. In the case of click-through agreements, it is often difficult to identify a vendor representative willing to engage in discussions at all. When contract negotiations are unsuccessful, University academic and administrative priorities suffer.”*

Oral Testimony in Support

By Arthur “Skip” Rose, JD, Counsel, University of Maryland, Baltimore

### **Higher Education - Cost-of-Living Adjustment - Non-State-Supported Employees (HB 341)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Held in Committee

This bill requires the state to provide 100 percent of a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) wage increase to non-state-supported employees of Bowie State University (BSU), Coppin State University (CSU), the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), the University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC), and Morgan State University (MSU) when a COLA is given to state employees. By Dec. 1, 2028, each of the five institutions must submit a report to the General Assembly on whether the COLA enhanced employee hiring and retention at each institution. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.



*“We want to recruit the best. Leveraging state money is how we do that. For example, in basic research, scientists generate ~60 percent of their salary from non-state sources, so only 40 percent of their salary comes from state sources. In clinical sciences, close to 90 percent of their salary comes from outside sources, so only 10 percent comes from state sources. It is an effective model. That is why UMB researchers did the first heart transplant from a pig and why our Center for Vaccine Development did the first vaccine trial for COVID. Both examples were funded for decades with this model.*

*“But imagine the following: You are one of those scientists funded by grants. You work elbow to elbow with others paid entirely on state funds. They get a COLA, and you, because you are entrepreneurial, do not get that COLA. We ask you to remedy this differential treatment to support HB341.”*

Oral Testimony in Support

By Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, President, University of Maryland, Baltimore

**State Personnel - Collective Bargaining - Faculty, Part-Time Faculty, Postdoctoral Associates, and Graduate Assistants (HB 493/SB 823)**

UMB Position: Oppose

Final Status: Held in Committee

This bill authorizes collective bargaining rights for faculty, part-time faculty, postdoctoral associates, and graduate assistants at the University System of Maryland (USM), Morgan State University (MSU), and St. Mary’s College of Maryland (SMCM). The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

*“Since 2012, we have established standing meetings with our graduate assistants and sometimes meet with them monthly, or as often as they desire depending on the issue we need to work through. The president leads these meetings; I also attend, as does our CFO and the dean of the Graduate School. Our graduate assistants have direct and unencumbered access to UMB’s leadership through our meet-and-confer process, and it has served all of us extremely well for the past 12 years. I worry that superimposing a collective bargaining process on a well-functioning meet-and-confer process will erode the mutual trust, respect, and strong connection we have established with our graduate assistants over these past 12 years.*

*“Likewise, we have invested a tremendous amount of time and effort strengthening our relationship with the faculty and enhancing shared governance at UMB. The president or I meet with our Faculty Senate every month to provide updates, get input to inform decisions, and partner with them on initiatives to improve our university. Here, too, I worry about what*



*will become of our highly effective and productive shared governance model should a one-size-fits-all collective bargaining model be imposed on us at UMB.”*

Written and Oral Testimony in Opposition

By Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MSL, MPA, Provost and Executive Vice President, University of Maryland, Baltimore

**Public Institutions of Higher Education - Student Withdrawal Policy - Reimbursement of Tuition and Fees (Cameron Carden Act of 2024) (HB 539/SB 567)**

USM Position: Support with Amendment

Status: Passed

Effective July 1, 2024, this legislation requires each public institution of higher education to adopt a policy that authorizes a student to withdraw for “extenuating circumstances” (which specifically includes illness, injury, hospitalization, and mental health and wellness). The policy must include a provision to refund tuition and fees paid by the student for the semester in which a student withdraws if the extenuating circumstances inhibit the student’s ability to acquire an education at the public institution of higher education, as defined in the policy.

Currently, all USM campuses have policies to allow students experiencing extraordinary circumstances to withdraw from the institution. The decision for any member of the campus community to withdraw from an institution is not one that should be taken lightly. First, the well-being of the student is the priority. Proper medical assessment by a licensed physician, diagnosis, and a plan of treatment can help the student ease their struggle. That work, on the part of the student and their health provider, outweighs everything else. Generally, campus staff and faculty work closely with students experiencing challenges with physical and mental health to help them complete their studies or return to campus after a hiatus.

The bill also requires a provision for “reimbursement” of tuition and fees. USM clarified language regarding the return of funds to a student that could cause confusion about the process required. Students are allowed by the federal government a certain amount of money based on credits attempted, credits earned, and amount borrowed to date. The rules around these processes cannot be altered by campuses and are subject to federal audit.

**Public Higher Education - Communities of Interest - Targeted Recruitment and Outreach Efforts (HB 678)**

USM Position: Support

Status: Passed





House Bill 678 requires each public four-year institution of higher education (excluding the University of Maryland Global Campus) to conduct targeted recruitment and outreach efforts each year.

To that end, the institutions that comprise the USM, Morgan State University, and St. Mary's College of Maryland must each separately adopt and update annually a written policy that identifies communities of interest in the state as well as the institution's targeted recruitment and outreach efforts for the community of interest — all with the goal of promoting diversity and inclusion at each institution by attracting and graduating a diverse student body committed to service. House Bill 678 is consistent with the *USM Strategic Plan, Vision 2030: From Excellence to Preeminence*.

### **Public Information Act - Denials - Confidential Information (HB 712)**

USM Position: Oppose

Final Status: Withdrawn by Sponsor

House Bill 712 prohibited a custodian of a public record from denying inspection of the part of a public record that contains information regarding a trade secret or specified confidential information unless the disclosure of the information is likely to result in substantial competitive harm to the person from which the information was obtained. The bill would have had a net negative impact on all of the entrepreneurial efforts and initiatives in which USM institutions have engaged over the past 10 years. Not only would there be fewer research and development partnerships, but it also actually would have given a competitive advantage to other research institutions with whom we regularly compete for research funding and opportunities because they are not covered by the Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) whether within Maryland or not. Moreover, Maryland would have weaker protections for trade secrets than the federal government. If HB 712 had been enacted into law, the MPIA would weaken protections for trade secrets. By requiring Maryland universities and agencies to prove that disclosure is “likely to result in substantial competitive harm,” the law would leave trade secrets vulnerable.

### **Maryland Higher Education Commission - Academic Program Approval and Institutional Mission Statements - Requirements (HB 1244/SB 1022)**

USM Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This bill establishes a new process for academic program approval and institutional mission statements based on identifying state and regional workforce needs. To that end, the bill requires a comprehensive analysis of statewide workforce needs by designated agencies, integrates these needs into the State Plan for Higher Education, and establishes new review processes for



academic programs to ensure alignment with workforce demands. The bill also incentivizes collaboration between institutions for program development and enhances the evaluation of mission statements to maintain distinctiveness among public higher education institutions. In addition, the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) must review existing programs, as specified, and establish a council and procedures guide related to the review process. Further, the bill establishes separate processes for the approval of graduate programs and requires MHEC to establish a separate process for online programs. Specified institutions have a two-year lead to propose an emerging workforce need program at the graduate level. Finally, the bill establishes the Proposed Programs Collaborative Grant Fund. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

### **Information Technology - Artificial Intelligence - Policies and Procedures (Artificial Intelligence Governance Act of 2024) (HB 1271/SB 818)**

USM Position: Support with Amendments

Final Status: Passed

Senate Bill 818 expands the responsibilities of the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) to conduct data inventories, while adopting policies and procedures concerning the development, procurement, deployment, use, and ongoing assessment of systems that employ “rights-impacting” or “safety-impacting” artificial intelligence (AI) by a unit of state government. In the bill, “rights-impacting AI” means AI whose output serves as a basis for decision or action that has a legal, material, or similarly significant effect on an individual’s or community right, opportunities, and access to critical resources or services. “Safety-impacting AI” means AI that has the potential to meaningfully impact the safety of individuals and communities.

The bill requires units of state government to conduct data inventories, inventories of systems that use high-risk AI, and impact assessments of systems that use high-risk AI. The Office of the Attorney General, the comptroller, the treasurer, and certain public institutions of higher education are exempt from many provisions of the bill. However, the bill requires those entities to establish policies and procedures related to systems that employ high-risk AI. These policies and procedures must be functionally compatible with the policies and procedures adopted by DoIT.

The exemption for certain public senior higher education institutions applies only to AI used solely for a research or academic purpose. DoIT must make the policies and procedures available online, and they must govern the procurement, deployment, use, and ongoing assessment of systems that employ rights-impacting or safety-impacting AI for an operations-related purpose by a unit of state government in partnership with a public higher education institution.



## **Higher Education - Disciplinary Records - Use in Admissions and Disciplinary Proceedings (SB 61)**

USM Position: Support with Amendment  
Status: Held in Committee

Senate Bill 61 would have allowed institutions to make inquiries into and consider a student's disciplinary record for discipline related to academic dishonesty. However, the bill did not allow inquiries into the record for purposes of making decisions about access to campus residency or offering supporting counseling or services. It is extremely rare when a discipline record would impact a decision about residency, but when it happens, professionals have deemed the situation to carry serious risk either for the student or other students or staff.

USM recommended amending the bill so that "a student's criminal history OR DISCIPLINARY RECORD" can be considered for decisions about access to campus residency or for offering supportive counseling. USM institutions do not disqualify an applicant just because of the existence of a disciplinary record, so USM supported the intent of this bill. Admissions personnel recognize that these records from a student's past can bear the traces of bias and could unfairly disadvantage students.

## **State Procurement - Maryland Correctional Enterprises – Waiver (SB 194)**

UMB/USM Position: Support  
Status: Passed

Senate Bill 194 authorizes the Pricing and Selection Committee for Preferred Providers to grant a waiver, under specified conditions, to a state or state-aided or -controlled entity from the statutory requirement to purchase supplies or services first from Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE). It also requires MCE to report annually on the length of time between each order and delivery of supplies and services. USM is required to determine whether an item, such as furniture, offered by MCE is comparable to products offered by private vendors. As with other state agencies required to use MCE for purchases, public institutions of higher education are sometimes forced to pay higher prices or adjust delivery expectations due to the current restrictive waiver policy. The ability of the institution to procure in a more effective and efficient manner could be a savings to students and the state.

### *c. Community Development*

## **Community Schools - Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program and Fund - Establishment (HB 428/SB 370)**

UMB Position: Support  
Final Status: Passed



This bill establishes the Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program and related fund to provide rental assistance to eligible student households at community schools. The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) must administer the program in consultation with the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). The governor may include an appropriation of \$10.0 million in the annual budget bill for the program. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

***“The University of Maryland School of Social Work’s Center for Restorative Change and the Positive Schools Center [initiatives at the university] strongly support SB 370, which will establish a rental assistance program for eligible community school families to receive funding to support the cost of rental and utility payments, rental and utility arrears, and late fees associated with rental and utility payments from a designated funds for up to 12 months.”***

Written Testimony in Support

By Aneuri Castro, LMSW, and Asya Louis, LMSW, University of Maryland School of Social Work

#### **Tax Assistance for Low-Income Marylanders - Funding (HB 451/SB 676)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This departmental bill reinstates, beginning in FY 2025, a previously mandated annual distribution from the state’s Unclaimed Property Fund to the Tax Clinics for Low-Income Marylanders Fund (TCLIM) at an increased amount of \$500,000 (compared to \$250,000, as mandated under previous law). Also, beginning in FY 2026, the bill (1) increases the amount of the annual mandated appropriation for the Creating Assets, Savings, and Hope (CASH) Campaign of Maryland from \$500,000 to \$800,000 and (2) requires that at least \$150,000 be used to provide grants to external entities for providing tax assistance through on-demand or mobile tax clinics that serve senior populations, rural communities, or under-resourced communities. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

***“During the 2021 Legislative Session, a special fund was created to provide supplemental grant funding for Maryland Carey Law, Baltimore Law, and the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service [MVLS] to operate tax clinics for low-income state residents. While tax clinics already existed at all three entities, they were funded by the IRS, and the grants allowed us to assist Marylanders with their Maryland tax issues in only limited circumstances. The passage of SB 312 and HB 346 in 2023, which received overwhelming support from the legislature, enabled the clinics to establish resources and outreach efforts to provide support for state-related tax issues for Marylanders. Maryland Carey Law has provided substantial assistance to Marylanders through its Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic.***



***“Reinvestment will be an important recognition of the profound benefit to Maryland of the work we are doing. The increased funding will allow us to continue our good work for the citizens of Maryland and will ensure stability and longevity for our programs.”***

Written and Oral Testimony in Support

By Renée McDonald Hutchins, JD, Dean, University of Maryland Carey School of Law, and Beverly Winstead, JD, Director, Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, University of Maryland Carey School of Law

**Community Development Administration - Live Near Your School Program - Extension (HB 534/SB 90)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

Senate Bill 90 authorizes the governor, for FY 2026 through 2030, to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$200,000 for the Live Near Your School (LNYS) program. The bill also extends the termination date of Chapter 247 of 2021, which established LNYS and a related homebuyer assistance program, from Sept. 30, 2024, to Sept. 30, 2030. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

***“On behalf of the University of Maryland, Baltimore [UMB], I would like to express my strong support for SB 90: Community Development Administration, Live Near Your School Program, Funding and Extension. UMB’s Live Near Your Work program is a homebuying assistance benefit for University employees that offers money toward the down payment and closing costs of homes in select West Baltimore neighborhoods, including the purchase of a home requiring major renovations.***

***“Currently, the program offers UMB employees assistance with down payments and closing costs on newly purchased homes in designated areas. UMB contributes \$16,000 per eligible participant as a commitment to its surrounding communities, while the city of Baltimore will offer a matching grant of up to \$2,500 for those who are eligible.”***

Written Testimony in Support

By Dawn Rhodes, DBA, Chief Business and Finance Officer and Senior Vice President, University of Maryland, Baltimore



**Governor’s Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households (ENOUGH) Grant Program (ENOUGH Act of 2024) (HB 694/SB 482)**

USM Position: Support

Status: Passed

This legislation codifies the Governor’s Office for Children (GOC). GOC was established by an executive order in 2005 to provide a coordinated, comprehensive interagency approach to the development of a continuum of care that is family- and child-oriented and emphasizes prevention, early intervention, and community-based services for all children and families, with special attention to at-risk populations. The bill requires the Special Secretary of GOC to establish an Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households (ENOUGH) Grant Program. The bill also establishes an ENOUGH Grant Fund. The purpose of ENOUGH grants is to increase community health and safety, provide access to high-quality education, connect residents to quality jobs, enable family-sustaining income, provide access to affordable housing, provide high-quality support for child welfare, connect individuals to state programs, and leverage federal, local, and private funding for eligible neighborhoods. Each year, GOC must identify eligible neighborhoods for the ENOUGH Grant Program and approve a lead partner for each neighborhood.

***d. Research Policy***

**Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances (HB 548/SB 1009)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This bill establishes the Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances. The Maryland Cannabis Administration (MCA) must provide staff for the task force, and the governor must designate the chair of the task force. Members of the task force may not receive compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the standard state travel regulations. The task force must report its findings and recommendations to the governor and the General Assembly by July 31, 2025. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024, and terminates Dec. 31, 2026.

***“Natural psychedelic substances have been used for millennia and rose to wide prominence in the middle of the last century. Although associated with the counterculture, much research was performed on the agents, especially at institutions in Maryland. Several psychedelic substances are already FDA approved, showing they can be safely used. The natural psychedelic substances named in this bill have all shown to be beneficial in the treatment of a wide range of mental health conditions, including PTSD, depression, substance use disorder [including smoking], and also for the treatment of chronic pain.”***



Written and Oral Testimony in Support

By Andrew Coop, PhD, Professor, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy

### **Testing Facilities That Use Animals - Licensing and Regulation (SB 761)**

UMB Position: Monitor

Final Status: Held in Committee

This bill requires each “testing facility” in the state to be licensed by the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) to use animals in research, education, or testing. Among other things, the bill (1) establishes the position of State Inspector of Animal Welfare (State Inspector) to inspect testing facilities; (2) prohibits the use of certain dogs or cats for research or testing purposes; (3) prohibits the use of traditional animal test methods under certain circumstances, except as specified; (4) establishes penalties for violations; (5) requires specified reporting; and (6) establishes the Animals in Research Fund, primarily funded by licensing fees that must be set to cover MDA’s implementation costs.

#### ***e. Regulation of the Professions***

### **Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact (HB 34/SB 204)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Held in Committee

This bill enters Maryland into the Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact. The bill establishes (1) specified procedures and requirements for a social worker to practice under a “multistate license” in a member state; (2) the composition, powers, and responsibilities of the Social Work Licensure Compact Commission; and (3) requirements related to the oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement of the compact. The bill is contingent on similar legislation being enacted in six other states.

***“If HB 34 passes, Maryland could join the Social Work Licensure Interstate Compact and social workers would be eligible to apply for inclusion into a compact with other participating states. Currently, social workers must seek a separate license in each state/territory in which they wish to practice. An interstate compact is an important strategy for workforce development enabling social workers to practice in other compact member states without the need for multiple licenses.”***

Written Testimony in Support

By Judy L. Postmus, PhD, ACSW, Dean, University of Maryland School of Social Work



### **Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Administration of Vaccines (HB 76/SB 18)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This emergency bill repeals language that temporarily authorized a licensed pharmacist to administer certain vaccinations, under specified circumstances, to an individual age 3 to 17. Instead, the bill permanently authorizes a licensed pharmacist, under the same specified circumstances, to (1) administer specified vaccinations to an individual as young as 7 years old and (2) order and administer a vaccination for influenza, COVID-19, or in response to a public health emergency to an individual who is at least 3 years old. The bill also clarifies the circumstances under which a licensed pharmacist may administer certain vaccinations to adults.

*“Since the approval of pharmacist-provided influenza vaccinations during the 2006 legislative session, pharmacists have had the ability to contribute to the public health of the citizens of Maryland by providing additional locations where individuals are able to obtain vaccines. Maryland pharmacists were instrumental in administration of vaccines during H1N1, and pharmacists administered more than 270 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines nationally through September 2022.” [Grabenstein J. Essential services: quantifying the contributions of America’s pharmacists in COVID-19 clinical interventions. J Am Pharm Assoc (2003). 2022 November-December; 62(6): 1929–1945.e1. Published online 2022 Aug 18. doi:10.1016/j.japh.2022.08.010]*

Written Testimony in Support

By Sarah L.J. Michel, PhD, Dean, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy

### **Health Occupations Boards – Reciprocal Licensure and Certification (HB 146/SB 221)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This departmental bill authorizes any health occupations board (that does not otherwise have statutory authority to do so) to adopt regulations establishing reciprocity for individuals who are licensed or certified in another state that also offers similar reciprocity to individuals licensed or certified by the board. Applicants for reciprocity must meet specified standards. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

*“HB 146 provides an easy option for our licensing boards to address specific needs and workforce shortages in our state. If the Board of Social Work Examiners was permitted to implement a process with other states where they would agree to accept each other’s licenses, it would allow social workers to practice across state lines. If HB 146 passes, then each state that decided to establish reciprocity would determine the licensing criteria they would require.*





***“With the flexibility that HB 146 proposes, Maryland could better address workforce shortages, increase options when responding to a health care crisis, improve coordination and access to care [especially in areas that are underserved, geographically isolated, or lack specialty care]; improve continuity of care when clients travel or relocate; improve employment opportunities for interstate practice; and enhance interstate teletherapy.”***

Written Testimony in Support

By Judy L. Postmus, PhD, ACSW, Dean, University of Maryland School of Social Work

### **Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications and Training (HB 405/SB 365)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Held in Committee

This bill specifies certain requirements regarding the qualifications and training of custody evaluators. In specified child custody or visitation proceedings that involve allegations of abuse, expert evidence from professionals related to the abuse may only be admitted if the professional meets certain requirements. The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.

***“We support these high standards which recognize the complexity of these court decisions and their impact on children and families. HB 405 identifies professionals, including social workers along with psychiatrists, psychologists, and counselors, to serve in this role for the courts when making these critical decisions. We can attest to the rigor of social work academic classes with multiple assignments and exams and two year-long field practicums that result in graduates with valuable practice experience and skills that are of service to the courts. Social workers currently testify in various proceedings across the state, providing a valuable resource for our courts and Maryland’s children and families.”***

Written Testimony in Support

By Judy L. Postmus, PhD, ACSW, Dean, University of Maryland School of Social Work

### **Physician Assistants - Revisions (Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024) (HB 806/SB 167)**

UMB Position: Support

Final Status: Passed

This bill requires a physician assistant (PA) to have a “collaboration agreement” rather than a delegation agreement and authorizes a PA who has provided notice of an executed collaboration agreement to the Maryland Board of Physicians (MBP) to practice medical acts that are authorized under a license issued by MBP and the PA’s collaboration agreement (rather than medical acts delegated by a supervising physician under an approved delegation agreement). A PA may perform additional duties within a PA’s scope of practice, as specified, and may



perform specified advanced duties with authorization from MBP. By Jan. 1, 2025, MBP (with representatives of the Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants, the Physician Assistant Education Association, and PA education programs in the state) must review and update the list of advanced duties for PAs. The bill also alters the education and examination requirements for licensure, alters the membership for the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee, and makes other conforming changes.

***“The University of Maryland, Baltimore is the state’s health and law graduate campus, producing the majority of health professionals for the state. Since 2014, UMB has been actively engaged in educating PAs, and I can speak personally to the quality of their education and clinical experience.*”**

***“Our graduates have been working alongside physicians, nurses, and other health professionals across medical specialties providing high-quality, compassionate care to patients throughout Maryland. Despite completing an accelerated, rigorous curriculum focused on the medical model and team-based approach, graduates seeking employment in Maryland are encountering delays in their ability to practice. These graduates, who are Maryland residents and now trained PAs, have found fewer administrative barriers in surrounding states and are seeking employment there. Meanwhile, patient access to care, particularly in primary care, women’s health, behavioral health, underserved, and rural communities, continues to suffer from unprecedented health care shortages in Maryland. The proposed legislation focuses on removal of these administrative barriers, which prolong the time for employment of well-trained, patient-centric PAs who can assist in improving patient access to care.”***

Written Testimony in Support

By Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, President, University of Maryland Baltimore



Testimony and briefings during the 2024 Session of the Maryland General Assembly of interest to the University of Maryland, Baltimore community.

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Committee/<br/>Meetings</b>   | <b>Subject</b>   | <b>Individual</b>   |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|---|
| 1/17        | Budget and Taxation              | SB 90 Community Development Administration - Live Near Your School Program - Extension   | ❖ Dawn Rhodes, DBA, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)-Support   |
| 1/23        | Health and Government Operations | HB 289 State Contracts - Prohibited Provisions   | ❖ Arthur “Skip” Rose, JD, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)-Support   |
| 1/24        | Budget and Taxation              | SB 375 State Contracts - Prohibited Provisions   | ❖ Arthur Rose, UMB-Support  |
| 1/24        | Budget and Taxation              | SB 376 Higher Education - MPowering Joint Steering Council - Funding   | ❖ Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, President, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)-Support<br>❖ Mark Gladwin, MD, Dean, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Support |
| 1/25        | Ways and Means                   | HB 86 Public and Nonpublic Schools - Auto-Injectable Epinephrine and Bronchodilators - Use, Availability, Training, and Policies | ❖ Mary Beth Bollinger, DO, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Support  |
| 1/30        | Finance                          | SB 221 Health Occupations Boards - Reciprocal Licensure and Certification  | ❖ Judy Postmus, PhD, MSW, Dean, University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW)-Support  |
| 1/30        | Finance                          | SB 220 Public Health - Public Health Services and Protections - Revisions  | ❖ Blair Inniss, JD, MA, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Support   |
| 1/31        | Budget and Taxation              | SB 430 Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund - Establishment  | ❖ Kyla Liggett-Creel, PhD, MSW, University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW)-Support  |



| <b>Date</b> | <b>Committee/<br/>Meetings</b>   | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Individual</b>   |
|-------------|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 1/31        | Budget and Taxation              | SB 370 Community Schools - Rental Assistance for Community School Families Program and Fund - Establishment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Kathleen Hoke, JD, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Support</li> <li>❖ Aneuri Castro, LMSW, University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW)-Support</li> <li>❖ Asya Louis, LMSW, University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW)-Support</li> </ul> |
| 1/31        | Health and Government Operations | HB 42 Public Health - Public Health Services and Protections - Revisions                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Blair Inniss, UMCSOL-Support</li> </ul>  |
| 2/1         | Health and Government Operations | HB 76 Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Administration of Vaccines   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Sarah Michel, PhD, Dean, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (UMSOP)-Support</li> <li>❖ Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD, BCACP, FAPhA, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (UMSOP)-Support</li> </ul>   |
| 2/1         | Health and Government Operations | HB 34 Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Judy Postmus, UMSSW-Support</li> </ul>   |
| 2/1         | Health and Government Operations | HB 146 Health Occupations Boards - Reciprocal Licensure and Certification                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Judy Postmus, UMSSW-Support</li> </ul>   |
| 2/6         | Finance                          | SB 13 Public Health - Maryland Pediatric Cancer Fund and Commission   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Curt Civin, MD, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Support</li> </ul>   |
| 2/6         | Appropriations                   | HB 334 Higher Education - MPowering Joint Steering Council - Funding  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Bruce Jarrell, UMB-Support</li> <li>❖ Mark Gladwin, UMSOM-Support</li> </ul>   |



| <b>Date</b> | <b>Committee/<br/>Meetings</b>   | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Individual</b>   |
|-------------|--|---|---|
| 2/7         | Appropriations<br>Health and Social<br>Services<br>Subcommittee        | HB 350 Operating Budget -<br>MDH Prevention and Health<br>Promotion Administration<br>Cigarette Restitution Fund                          | ❖ Taofeek Owonikoko, MD,<br>PhD, University of Maryland<br>School of Medicine<br>(UMSOM)-Support<br>❖ Kevin Cullen, MD, University<br>of Maryland School of<br>Medicine (UMSOM)-Support |
| 2/7         | Health and<br>Government<br>Operations                                 | HB 51 Public Health -<br>Maryland Pediatric Cancer<br>Fund and Commission   | ❖ Curt Civin, UMSOM-Support   |
| 2/8         | Budget and<br>Taxation Health<br>and Human<br>Services<br>Subcommittee | SB 360 Operating Budget -<br>MDH Prevention and Health<br>Promotion Administration<br>Cigarette Restitution Fund                          | ❖ Taofeek Owonikoko,<br>UMSOM-Support<br>❖ Kevin Cullen, UMSOM-<br>Support  |
| 2/8         | Finance  | SB 244 Public Health -<br>Clean Indoor Air Act -<br>Revisions   | ❖ Kathleen Hoke, UMCSOL-<br>Support<br>❖ Christopher Daffin, UMCSOL-<br>Support   |
| 2/8         | Education,<br>Energy, and<br>Environment                               | SB 418 Seed Community<br>Development Anchor<br>Institution Fund - Alterations   | ❖ James L. Hughes, MBA,<br>University of Maryland,<br>Baltimore (UMB)-Support   |
| 2/8         | Ways and Means   | HB 451 Tax Assistance for<br>Low-Income Marylanders -<br>Funding  | ❖ Renée McDonald Hutchins, JD,<br>University of Maryland Carey<br>School of Law (UMCSOL)-<br>Support  |
| 2/8         | Judicial<br>Proceedings  | SB 365 Family Law - Child<br>Custody Evaluators -<br>Qualifications and Training  | ❖ Judy Postmus, UMSSW-<br>Support   |
| 2/13        | Appropriations   | HB 341 Higher Education -<br>Cost-of-Living Adjustment -<br>Non-State-Supported<br>Employees  | ❖ Bruce Jarrell, UMB-Support  |
| 2/13        | Appropriations   | HB 493 State Personnel -<br>Collective Bargaining -<br>Faculty, Part-Time Faculty,<br>Postdoctoral Associates, and<br>Graduate Assistants | ❖ Roger Ward, EdD, JD, MSL,<br>MPA, University of Maryland,<br>Baltimore (UMB)-Oppose   |
| 2/13        | Finance  | SB 204 Interstate Social<br>Work Licensure Compact  | ❖ Judy Postmus, UMSSW-<br>Support   |



| <b>Date</b> | <b>Committee/<br/>Meetings</b>         | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Individual</b>   |
|-------------|--|---|---|
| 2/13        | Finance                                | SB 18 Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Administration of Vaccines                                       | ❖ Sarah Michel, UMSOP-Support<br>❖ Cherokee Layson-Wolf, UMSOP-Support  |
| 2/13        | Health and Government Operations       | HB 712 Public Information Act - Denials - Confidential Information  | ❖ Alex Hortis, JD, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)-Oppose   |
| 2/13        | Appropriations                         | HB 367 Community Colleges - Contraception - Access Requirements   | ❖ Jordan Jekel, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Support   |
| 2/14        | Budget and Taxation                    | SB 676 Tax Assistance for Low-Income Marylanders - Funding  | ❖ Beverly Winstead, JD, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Support   |
| 2/14        | Budget and Taxation                    | SB 784 Comprehensive Community Safety Funding Act   | ❖ Thomas Scalea, MD, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Support  |
| 2/14        | Health and Government Operations       | HB 673 Real Property - Contract Liens - Medical Debt  | ❖ Michael Heffron, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Support with Amendment<br>❖ Alex Sadzewicz, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Support with Amendment<br>❖ Brian Choi, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Support with Amendment |
| 2/14        | Education, Energy, and the Environment | SB 527 Community Colleges - Contraception - Access Requirements   | ❖ Kathleen Hoke, UMCSOL-Support   |
| 2/15        | Judiciary                              | HB 405 Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications and Training                                | ❖ Judy Postmus, UMSSW-Support   |
| 2/15        | Environment and Transportation         | HB 639 Vehicle Laws - Protective Headgear Requirement - Exception (In Remembrance of Gary "Pappy" Boward) | ❖ Kathleen Hoke, UMCSOL-Support   |



| <b>Date</b> | <b>Committee/<br/>Meetings</b>   | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Individual</b>  |
|-------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 2/16        | Judicial Proceedings             | SB 630 Real Property - Contract Liens - Medical Debt  | ❖ Michael Heffron, UMCSOL-Support with Amendment<br>❖ Alex Sadzewicz, UMCSOL-Support with Amendment<br>❖ Brian Choi, UMCSOL-Support with Amendment |
| 2/20        | Economic Matters                 | HB 1033 Business Regulation - Electronic Smoking Devices Manufacturers – Certifications   | ❖ Annie Kleykamp, PhD, MA, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Oppose  |
| 2/20        | Economic Matters                 | HB 238 Public Health - Clean Indoor Air Act - Revisions   | ❖ Kathleen Hoke, UMCSOL-Support  |
| 2/20        | Health and Government Operations | HB 806 Physician Assistants - Revisions (Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024)   | ❖ Bruce Jarrell, UMB-Support   |
| 2/20        | Finance                          | SB 167 Physician Assistants - Revisions (Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024)   | ❖ Bruce Jarrell, UMB-Support   |
| 2/20        | Economic Matters                 | HB 1033 Business Regulation - Electronic Smoking Devices Manufacturers - Certifications   | ❖ Kathleen Hoke, UMCSOL-Support  |
| 2/20        | Economic Matters                 | HB 1180 Cigarettes, Other Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices - Revisions (Tobacco Retail Modernization Act of 2024) | ❖ Kathleen Hoke, UMCSOL-Support  |
| 2/21        | Health and Government Operations | HB 548 Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances  | ❖ John Clifton, Student, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Support   |



| <b>Date</b> | <b>Committee/<br/>Meetings</b> | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Individual</b>   |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|---|
| 2/22        | Ways and Means                 | HB 1029 Gaming – Problem Gambling – Prevalence Study and Fund Revenue   | ❖ Mary Drexler, MSW, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Support<br>❖ Kenneth Wolfson, CPRS, RPS, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Support |
| 2/23        | Finance                        | SB 186 Prince George’s County - Alcoholic Beverages - Cigar Lounge License  | ❖ Blair Innis, UMCSOL-Oppose  |
| 2/23        | Environment and Transportation | HB 891 Seed Community Development Anchor Institution Fund - Alterations   | ❖ James Hughes, UMB-Support   |
| 2/28        | Economic Matters               | HB 1285 Workers’ Compensation - Rehabilitation Practitioners - Licensed Social Workers  | ❖ Judy Postmus, UMSSW-Support   |
| 2/28        | Budget and Taxation            | SB 603 Internet Gaming - Authorization and Implementation   | ❖ Amanda Peskin, Student, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Oppose  |
| 2/29        | Finance                        | SB 723 Baby Food - Toxic Heavy Metals - Testing and Labeling  | ❖ Karin Russ, JD, MS, RN, University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON)-Support  |
| 2/29        | Judicial Proceedings           | SB 481 Renters’ Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024  | ❖ Jordan Jekel, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Support   |
| 3/1         | Environment and Transportation | HB 1165 Stream and Watershed Restoration - Stream Restoration Contractor Licensing and Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Restoration and Funding (Whole Watershed Act) | ❖ Michael Heffron, UMCSOL-Support with Amendment<br>❖ Alex Sadzewicz, UMCSOL-Support with Amendment   |





| <b>Date</b> | <b>Committee/<br/>Meetings</b>         | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Individual</b>   |
|-------------|--|---|---|
| 3/1         | Environment and Transportation         | HB 1101 Standing - Environmental and Natural Resources Protection Proceedings (Clean Water Justice Act of 2024)                   | ❖ Michael Heffron, UMCSOL- Support with Amendment<br>❖ Alex Sadzewicz, UMCSOL- Support with Amendment   |
| 3/5         | Finance                                | SB 931 Workers' Compensation - Rehabilitation Practitioners - Licensed Social Workers   | ❖ Judy Postmus, UMSSW- Support  |
| 3/5         | Education, Energy, and the Environment | SB 96 Environment - Impact of Environmental Permits and State Agency Actions  | ❖ Gabriella Werner, Student, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)- Support with Amendments<br>❖ Jamie Hoare, Student, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)- Support with Amendments |
| 3/6         | Education, Energy, and the Environment | SB 917 Public Schools - Restorative Practices Schools - Establishment   | ❖ Nancy Schertzing, MS, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)- Support  |
| 3/6         | Appropriations                         | HB 815 Economic Development - Maryland Financial Empowerment Center Network Pilot Program - Establishment                         | ❖ Judy Postmus, UMSSW- Support  |
| 3/7         | Finance                                | SB 399 Cannabis - Advertising - Prohibited Locations  | ❖ Kathleen Hoke, UMCSOL- Oppose<br>❖ Mathew Swinburne, JD, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)- Oppose  |
| 3/7         | Finance                                | SB 1056 Cigarettes, Other Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices - Revisions (Tobacco Retail Modernization Act of 2024) | ❖ Kathleen Hoke, UMCSOL- Support  |



| <b>Date</b> | <b>Committee/<br/>Meetings</b>                  | <b>Subject</b>   | <b>Individual</b>  |
|-------------|---|--|--|
| 3/7         | Finance   | SB 823 State Personnel - Collective Bargaining - Faculty, Part-Time Faculty, Postdoctoral Associates, and Graduate Assistants      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Roger Ward, UMB-Oppose</li> <li>❖ Joshua Abzug, MD, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Oppose</li> <li>❖ Gregory B. Carey, PhD, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)-Oppose</li> <li>❖ Oksana P. Mishler, RDH, MS, DHSc, University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD)-Oppose</li> </ul> |
| 3/7         | Finance   | SB 987 Business Regulation - Electronic Smoking Devices Manufacturers - Certifications   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Kathleen Hoke, UMCSOL-Support</li> </ul>  |
| 3/7         | Education, Energy, and Environment              | SB 818 Information Technology - Artificial Intelligence - Policies and Procedures (Artificial Intelligence Governance Act of 2024) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Ben Yelin, JD, University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMCSOL)-Support with Amendments</li> </ul>   |
| 3/8         | Finance   | SB 1006 Hospitals - Medical Debt Collection - Sale of Patient Debt   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Michael Heffron, UMCSOL-Support</li> <li>❖ Alex Sadzewicz, UMCSOL-Support</li> </ul>  |
| 3/11        | Appropriations Capital Budget Subcommittee      | HB 351 Capital Budget - University of Maryland, Baltimore  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Bruce Jarrell, UMB-Support</li> <li>❖ Luke Mowbray, MS, University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)-Support</li> </ul>  |
| 3/12        | Budget and Taxation Capital Budget Subcommittee | SB 361 Capital Budget - University of Maryland, Baltimore  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Bruce Jarrell, UMB-Support</li> <li>❖ Luke Mowbray, UMB-Support</li> </ul>  |
| 3/12        | Budget and Taxation                             | SB 1142 Tax Clinics for Low-Income Marylanders - Funding   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Renée McDonald Hutchins, UMCSOL-Support</li> </ul>  |
| 3/14        | Finance   | SB 1009 Task Force on Responsible Use of Natural Psychedelic Substances  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Andrew Coop, PhD, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy (UMSOP)-Support</li> </ul>  |



| <b>Date</b> | <b>Committee/<br/>Meetings</b> | <b>Subject</b>  | <b>Individual</b>   |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|---|
| 3/28        | Finance                        | HB 1388 Labor and Employment - Noncompete and Conflict of Interest Clauses - Veterinary and Health Care Professionals | ❖ William F. Regine, MD, FACR, FASTRO, FACRO, University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM)- Oppose |



## UMB OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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### *Special Thanks*

*We wish to acknowledge the following student interns for their work during the 2024 Legislative Session:*

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*Sara Miller*

*School of Pharmacy*  
*Min Suh*  
*Shannon Weathers*