



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • marylandpublicschools.org

**TO:** Members of the Maryland State Board of Education

**FROM:** Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.

**DATE:** February 27, 2018

**SUBJECT:** State Legislative Update

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**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this item is to provide a legislative overview and status of issues related to education that are currently before the 2018 General Assembly. Please find attached a synopsis of several pieces of significant legislation that have been introduced since the opening of the 2018 legislative session.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Patrick A. Fleming, Director of Education Policy and Government Relations will update the members of the State Board of Education on the status of significant legislation that has been introduced during the 2018 legislative session.

**ACTION:**

No action is anticipated, for discussion only.

**Maryland State Board of Education**  
**Legislative Synopsis**  
**As of February 13, 2018**

**House**

[HB 10 \(Walker\) State Lottery – Unclaimed Prizes – Public Prekindergarten Programs](#)

The bill would disperse unclaimed prize money to County Boards of Education to supplement existing funding for pre-kindergarten programs. The funding shall be distributed on a pro-rated basis determined by the total lottery sales made in each County.

Hearing Date – 01/17/2018

[HB 23 \(Long\) – Baltimore County – Public Schools – Active Assailant Event Training Drills](#)

The bill would require active assailant event training for all school personnel annually, and each school will need to conduct active assailant event drill three times each school year.

Hearing Date – 02/01/2018

[HB 30 \(Angel\) – Domestic Violence – Education and Definition of Abuse](#)

The bill adds “domestic violence” to the list of subjects the Board is to encourage LEAs to incorporate into their health education curriculum. Also, the bill adds “harassment” and “malicious destruction of property” to the definition of abuse and creates definitions for each.

Hearing Date – 01/18/2018

[HB 57 \(Angel\) – Large Family Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers – Green Product Cleaning Supplies – Regulations](#)

The bill would require the Board of Education to adopt regulations which would require “to the extent practicable and economically feasible” Large Family Child Care Home facilities to use green cleaning products.

Hearing Date – 01/23/2018

[HB 68 \(Angel\) - Income Tax Credits – Employer Child Care Center and Employer – Provided Child Care Services](#)

The bill would allow self-employed, and non-self-employed individuals to claim a credit against state income tax for the cost of establishing and maintaining a child care facility for its employees. MSDE would be required to issue credit certificates to individuals for qualified expenses related to the child care facility.

Hearing Date – 01/17/2018

[HB 74 \(Grammer\) - Education - Career Exploration and Development Activities - Coffee \(Java Act\)](#)

This is a local Baltimore County bill that would prevent the Executive Branch from regulating or preventing the sale of coffee that is sold in conjunction with a career exploration or development program in a public high school.

Hearing Date – 02/01/2018

[HB 76 \(Grammer\) - Baltimore County Board of Education - Education Transparency Act](#)

This bill would require the Baltimore County Boards of Education to conduct all meeting open to the public, require the taking of minutes, require all action to be taken by voice vote, require action items to be posted on the county website within 12 hours of action, and to including a full description of the action taken and a video recording of the meeting. Closed meetings would be allowed only when the item to be discussed in closed session complied with the Open Meetings Act (§3-305 of the General Provisions Article).

Hearing Date – 02/01/2018

[HB 87 \(Ebersole\) - Baltimore County Board of Education - Nonstudent Members – Compensation](#)

This bill would increase the compensation that nonstudent members of the Baltimore County Board of Education receive from \$100 annually, to \$7,500 annually.

Hearing Date – 02/01/2018

[HB 103 \(Atterbeary\) - Education - County Boards of Education - Removal of County Superintendents](#)

This bill would allow Local School Boards to remove Local Superintendents for: immorality; misconduct in office; insubordination; incompetency; or, willful neglect of duty. Currently, only the State Superintendent may remove a Local Superintendent for these reasons. The County Board will need to follow the existing appeal process as the State Superintendent. The Local Superintendent that is removed will be compensated consistent with terms of their contract or for the remainder of their term.

Hearing Date – 02/01/2018

[HB 154 \(Ebersole\) - State Board of Education - Membership - Teachers and Parent](#)

This bill would increase the State School board from 11 to 14 members. Two of the new members would be individuals who are certified teachers, who is elected amongst all teacher of the State. One will be a parent of a student, who is suggested by the Maryland PTA.

Crossfile – SB 739

Hearing Date – 02/01/2018

[HB 156 \(Mautz\) - Talbot County Board of Education – Start Date of Term for Members](#)

This bill moves the beginning of the term of the Talbot County Board of Education from January 1, to December 1, after the election.

Crossfile – SB 171

Hearing Date – 02/01/2018

[HB 193 \(Dept. of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation\) – High School Diploma by Examination –Eligibility Requirements – Exemption](#)

The bill expands eligibility requirements to participate in the GED program to include students that participate in the GED Option Program, administered by MSDE.

Crossfile – SB 43

Hearing Date – 02/13/2018

[HB 197 \(Luedtke\) – Education – State Reimbursement for County Board Payments for Exams for Eligible Students](#)

The bill would require MSDE to reimburse Local School Boards for the cost of Advanced Placement, industry certification for a career and technology education program, or an International Baccalaureate exam, up to \$300 for students who are eligible for the Maryland Children’s Health Program.

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 221 \(Bromwell\) – Local Government – School Construction – Permits](#)

The bill would require Counties and Municipalities to expedite the school construction permit process.

Hearing Date – 02/06/2018

[HB 226 \(Ebersole\) – Public Schools – Sprinkler Systems – Required](#)

The bill would require all public schools to have a sprinkler system. This would require existing schools without a sprinkler system to retrofit the building.

Crossfile – SB 483

Hearing Date – 02/06/2018

[HB 228 \(Rey\) – Child Care Centers – Definition of Child Care](#)

The bill would exempt or exclude certain programs from the State’s licensing requirement by changing the definition of what “child care” means. If the proposed bill passed, some programs already licensed may choose to surrender their license. MSDE would then no longer have regulatory authority to conduct criminal background checks or child protective services clearance.

Hearing Date – 02/06/2018

[HB 251 \(Kelly\) – Education – Family Life and Human Sexuality Curriculum – Boundaries and Consent](#)

The bill would require LEAs to provide age-appropriate instruction of the meaning of “consent” and respect for personal boundaries as part of the Family Life and Human Sexuality curriculum starting in the 2018-2019 school year.

Crossfile – SB 402

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 281 \(A. Miller\) – Education – Computer Science – Curriculum and Professional Development \(Securing the Future: Computer Science Education for All\)](#)

The bill would require LEAs to offer computer science courses by the 2021-2022 school year. The courses shall be of high quality and meet or exceed the curriculum standards established by the State Board. The bill also establishes the Maryland Center for Computing Education at UMBC. The Center shall establish a plan to create a long-term pipeline of computer science teachers and to fund, mentor and provide internships for teachers. Finally, the bill provides \$1,000,000 each year in FY 2020 and 2021.

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 285 \(Luedtke\) – Department of Transportation – Pedestrian and Bicycle Access to Public Schools](#)

The bill would require the Maryland Dept. of Transportation to conduct a study examining pedestrian and bicycle access to public schools throughout the State.

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 313 \(Mautz\) – Education – Commemoration – Terrorist Attacks of Sept. 11, 2001](#)

The bill would add the Terrorist Attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 to the days public schools shall devote part of the day to commemorating.

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 315 \(Hixson\) – State Dept. of Education – Breakfast and Lunch Programs – Funding \(Maryland Cares for Kids Act\)](#)

The bill would make the State responsible for paying the students cost of their reduced breakfast and lunch, eliminating the reduced program and putting all eligible students into the free program.

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 350 \(Administration\) – Achieving Computer Science Collaborations for Employing Students Statewide \(ACCESS\) Act of 2018](#)

The bill would require the State Board of Education to develop and adopt standards for Computer Science Education for kindergarten through grade 12 by November 30, 2018. In the 2020-2021 school year every High School shall offer at least one computer science course. Starting in 2022-2023 every Middle School shall offer computer science education and Elementary School shall offer computational thinking curriculum. The bill also establishes the Maryland Center for Computing Education, within the University System of Maryland. The Center will provide professional development in computer science education to teachers, administrators, and other professionals and increase the gender, racial, disability status, socioeconomic, and geographic diversity of students pursuing computer science careers.

Crossfile – SB 300

Hearing Date – 02/15/2018

[HB 351 \(Administration\) – Protect Our Students Act of 2018](#)

The bill would increase the combined total score of the academic indicators from 60% to 85% for the educational accountability program. Additionally, the bill would require at least one question regarding educators' receipt of critical instructional feedback and access to or credit for completion of a well-rounded curriculum of on-track progress at key transition points within elementary and secondary education.

Crossfile – SB 301

Hearing Date – 03/01/2018

[HB 355 \(Administration\) – Accountability in Education Act of 2018](#)

The bill establishes the Investigator General of the Education Monitoring Unit, which shall; investigate and determine whether the Civil Rights of teachers, students and parents are being upheld in compliance with Federal, State and Local laws and regulations; analyze and report on matters including child abuse, neglect, safety, grading, graduation requirements, assessments, educational facilities, procurement, equitable use of resources among public schools, and budgets; report all instances of fraud, abuse, and waste relating to public funds and property; report employee violations of applicable laws, regulations, policies, or ethical standards of conduct; establish its goals and priorities based on periodic assessment of existing and emerging risks relating to public elementary secondary education in the State, and; employ staff and engage attorneys, advisors, and consultants in accordance with the State budget.

Crossfile – SB 302

Hearing Date – 03/01/2018

[HB 366 \(Vogt\) – Education – PARCC Testing – Children with Disabilities \(Ben's Rule\)](#)

The bill would allow parents or guardians of children with a disability who is nonverbal may refuse to allow the child to participate in PARCC assessment.

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 378 \(Vogt\) – State Dept. of Education – Social Security Numbers of Students](#)

The bill would prevent MSDE from collecting, holding, or storing the Social Security Number of any current, former or prospective student.

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 393 \(Walker\) – Elementary School Students – Daily Physical Activity \(Student Health and Fitness Act\)](#)

The bill would require LEAs to provide a daily program of physical activity totaling 150 minutes each week.

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 427 \(Young\) – Public Schools – Student Sunscreen Use – Policy](#)

The bill would prevent LEAs from developing policies preventing students from using sunscreen. It also would require schools to develop policies for how and when school personnel can assist students with applying sunscreen.

Crossfile – SB 217

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 430 \(Jones\) – Education – Child Care Subsidies – Mandatory Funding Levels](#)

The bill would require the Governor to appropriate enough funds to raise the child care reimbursement rate to the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2020, 45<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2021, and 60<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2022.

Crossfile – SB 379

Hearing Date – 02/13/2018

[HB 503 \(Wilkins\) – State Dept. of Education – Translation Grant Program – Established](#)

The bill creates a grant program for LEAs that have significant requests to translate educational materials into a student's or parent's native language.

Hearing Date – 02/15/2018

[HB 544 \(Robinson\) - Public and Nonpublic Schools - Classwork and Assessment Involving Live and Dead Animals - Student Choice Policy](#)

The bill would require the State Board by September 1, 2018 to develop and implement a student choice policy for students who choose not to participate in or observe classwork or an assessment that includes dissection, vivisection, incubation, infliction of harm, capture, or destruction of an animal.

Crossfile – SB 369

Hearing Date – 02/15/2018

[HB 547 \(Barron\) – Education – Head Start Program – Annual Appropriation](#)

The bill requires the Governor to appropriate at least \$3,000,000 for the Head Start Program annually.

Crossfile – SB 373

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[HB 553 \(Chang\) – County Boards of Education – Length of School Year – Adjustments](#)

The bill would allow Local School Boards to extend the school year up to five days without approval from the State Board of Education.

Hearing Date – 02/15/2018

[HB 557 \(M. Washington\) – Primary and Secondary Education – Education Trust Fund – Use of Fund](#)

The bill would require the Governor to appropriate the Education Trust Fund to the LEAs based off the percent of Direct Education Aide that a LEA receives. The Education Trust Fund revenue may not be used to supplement the funds required by formula funds, it is meant to be in addition to the required funding.

Hearing Date – N/A

[HB 568 \(Kaiser\) – Education – Student Data Governance](#)

The bill would require the MSDE to: develop and update practices for LEAs to manage and maintain data privacy and security for student data and personally identifiable information; develop best practices for professional development on data governance policies and procedures, and; develop strategies to coordinate and assist LEA staff to implement best practices. MSDE is also required to provide a report about the implementation of the bill to the General Assembly on July 1, 2019 and July 1, 2020.

Hearing Date – 02/22/2018

[HB 617 \(Ebersole\) – Education – Assessments – Administration by Public School Employees](#)

The bill would allow a Principal to select a school employee to administer an assessment.

Hearing Date – 02/15/2017

[HB 622 \(Patterson\) – Public and Nonpublic Schools – Student Sickle Cell Disease Management Programs](#)

This bill requires MSDE and the Maryland Department of Health, along with stakeholders, to develop guidelines for local school system employees to use in the management of student’s sickle cell disease during the school day and while attending school-sponsored activities.

Crossfile – SB 161

Hearing Date – 02/15/2018

[HB 643 \(Jones\) – State Department of Education – Employment Categories and Practices](#)

The bill alters the employment categories of “professional assistants” within MSDE. Most special appointment positions within MSDE, except those who perform a significant policy role or provide direct support to a member of the executive service, would be reclassified to positions in the executive, management, professional, or skilled service under the State Personnel Management System (SPMS), by January 1, 2019.

Hearing Date – 02/13/2018

[HB 677 \(Pena-Melnyk\) – Public Information Act – Required Denials – Physical Addresses, E-Mail Addresses, and Telephone Numbers](#)

The bill would require the denial of physical addresses, email addresses and phone numbers when requested as part of a Public Information Act request.

Crossfile – SB 477

Hearing Date - 02/21/2018



[HB 679 \(Pena-Melnyk\) – Public Schools – School Year – Completion Date](#)

The bill would establish that the third Friday in June is the last day of the school year.

Hearing Date – 02/22/2018

[HB 723 \(Ebersole\) – Education – Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers \(PARCC\) Assessment – Administration](#)

The bill would require MSDE as part of the renewal of the contract for administration of the PARCC assessment to require each segment of the assessment be administered within 40-minute time periods.

Hearing Date – 02/22/2018

[HB 823 \(Luedtke\) – Education – Public School Teachers – Preparation](#)

The bill would require LEAs to participate in the Teacher Academy of Maryland (TAM) Program and MSDE to develop a digital recruitment platform to encourage individuals to enter the teaching profession. Additionally, the Maryland Longitudinal Data Center is required to create a dashboard to track and monitor the TAM program.

Hearing Date – 02/22/2018

[HB 910 \(Luedtke\) – Education – Students With Reading Difficulties – Screenings and Interventions](#)

The bill requires LEAs to ensure that certain students are screened to identify if the student is at risk for reading difficulties beginning in the 2019-2020 school year. MSDE will need to work with LEAs to identify the appropriate screening tools to identify students.

Crossfile – SB 548

Hearing Date – 02/22/2018

[HB 921 \(Walker\) – State Board of Education – Financial Literacy Curriculum – Graduation Requirement](#)

The bill would require the State Board to develop curriculum content for a semester-long course in financial literacy, which is a graduation requirement. LEAs would be required to implement the curriculum content.

Hearing Date – 03/02/2018

[HB 940 \(Patterson\) – High School Credit for College Courses Act of 2018](#)

The bill would require LEAs to award high school elective credit to a high school student if the student successfully completes any college course from an institution of postsecondary education, unless MSDE has determined that the college course does not meet a specific high school graduation requirement.

Crossfile – SB 479

Hearing Date – 03/01/2018

[HB 968 \(B. Barnes\) – Maryland School Overcrowding Reduction Act of 2018](#)

The bill alternative financing of school buildings. First, the bill would extend to Counties the ability to hold title of property used for school purposes. Currently a private entity and a local school board have this ability. The bill would also allow a County or private entity to "lease" the property to the school district if the County or private entity "operates and maintains the property." Second, the bill would remove the regulatory authority of the Board of Public works to promulgate regulations for alternatively financed projects and instead places requirements in statute. Finally, a new incentive program would be created to encourage lower cost school facility construction costs.

Crossfile – SB 92

Hearing Date – 02/15/2018

[HB 999 \(Haynes\) – Baltimore City – Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners – Title Change](#)

The bill would change the title of the Baltimore City Chief Executive Officer to Superintendent.

Hearing Date – 02/23/2018

[HB 1098 \(Korman\) – Career and Technology Education and Workforce Investment Act](#)

The bill creates a grant program to provide capital funds to equip school facilities used to provide Career and Technology Education program (CTE) and will be administered by the Interagency Committee on School Construction.

Crossfile – SB 515

Hearing Date – N/A

[HB 1154 \(Gutierrez\) – Teachers and Teacher Preparation Bilingual Certification and Instruction](#)

The bill would require the State Board and the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board to create a certification program for bilingual teachers by July 1, 2019.

Hearing Date – 02/23/2018

[HB 1210 \(Hill\) – Education – Public Schools and Youth Sports Programs – Physical Sports](#)

The bill would change the term "concussion" to "head injury" and enhance the program that MSDE is required to develop to address awareness of head injuries. Additionally, it would prohibit the Board and youth sport associations to sanction "physical sports" which is defined as: tackle football; soccer in which head butting is allowed; ice hockey, field hockey and lacrosse, in which checking is allowed; tackle rugby, and; any other sport with a high risk of head injury.

Hearing Date – 03/02/2018

[HB 1234 \(Clippinger\) – Career Youth Apprenticeship and Apprenticeship in State Employment Opportunity Act](#)

The bill would require the State Board to require LEAs to award high school graduation credit for participation in apprenticeship programs and create apprenticeship program in needed job classifications within the State of Maryland workforce.

Crossfile – SB 614

Hearing Date – 03/08/2018

[HB 1415 \(Speaker\) – Education Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education](#)

The bill comes out of work that has been accomplished by the Kirwin Commission. There are a number of initiatives covered under in this bill including: a teaching outreach program designed to encourage top performing students to become a teacher; implement an initiative to address early literacy; continues the funding of the pre-k expansion grant; continues the funding of the Public Schools Opportunities Enhancement Grant program; support and funding to provide extended academic programs; provide funding to the “teaching fellows of Maryland” program; provide funding to expand CTE; extend the term of the Kirwin Commission; and, modify a RFP to look at the IEP process to learn how look at how “top-performing” school systems address education for students with disabilities.

Hearing Date – N/A

## Senate

### [SB 29 \(Kagan\) – State Government – Websites – Language Access](#)

The bill would require state agencies, including MSDE, to provide access to versions of their website in languages spoken by 0.5% of the State population as identified by the census if the translation can be translated free of charge.

Hearing Date – 01/24/2018

### [SB 31 \(Bates\) – State Retirement and Pensions System – State Employees and Teachers – Benefits](#)

The bill would modify the State Employees and Teachers State Retirement and Pension Plan for current and new employees to create a defined benefit plan, reduced from current amounts, and a defined contribution savings plan. The State's contribution to these plans would be lower than the current amount.

Hearing Date- 01/25/2018

### [SB 43 \(Dept. of Labor, Licensing and Regulation\) – High School Diploma by Examination – Eligibility Requirements – Exemption](#)

The bill expands eligibility requirements to participate in the GED program to include students that participate in the GED Option Program, administered by MSDE. Voted Favorable by Finance Committee – 01/29/2018

Crossfile – HB 193

Hearing Date – 01/16/2018

### [SB 44 \(Young\) – Vehicle Laws – School Buses – Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance Requirements](#)

The bill requires the owner of a school bus to ensure that the vehicle is inspected, repaired and maintained in accordance with federal safety regulations, prohibits the operation of the vehicle unless it has been inspected, and enables the MVA to suspend the registration of a non-compliant vehicle.

Hearing Date – 01/17/2018

### [SB 58 \(Dept. of Health\) – State Board for Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals – Revisions](#)

The bill removes a provision granting immunity from liability for participating in activities of the State Board of Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals, requires, except under certain circumstances, that an applicant successfully complete an approved training program, and removes a provision that requires the publication of approved training programs on the Boards website.

Hearing Date – 01/18/2018

[SB 92 \(Rosapepe\) – Maryland School Overcrowding Reduction Act of 2018](#)

SB 92 pertains to alternative financing of school buildings. First, the bill would extend to Counties the ability to hold title of property used for school purposes. Currently a private entity and a local school board have this ability. The bill would also allow a County or private entity to "lease" the property to the school district if the County or private entity "operates and maintains the property." Second, the bill would remove the regulatory authority of the Board of Public works to promulgate regulations for alternatively financed projects and instead places requirements in statute. Finally, a new incentive program would be created to encourage lower cost school facility construction costs.

Crossfile – HB 968

Hearing Date – 01/31/2018

[SB 103 \(Benson\) – Task Force to Study the Impact of Student Cell Phone Use in the Classroom](#)

The bill would create a task force to study the impact of student cell phone use in the classroom on student learning teacher instruction, benefits associated with cell phone use in the classroom, and any other related matters determined by the task force. MSDE would be required to provide staff.

Hearing Date – 01/17/2017

[SB 131 \(Zirkin\) - Child Abuse and Neglect - Training](#)

This bill will require health practitioners, police officers, educators, and human service workers to be periodically trained in compliance with §5-704 of the Family Law Article and on identifying abused and neglected children.

Hearing Date – 01/23/2018

[SB 132 \(Zirkin\) - Crimes - Child Abuse and Neglect - Failure to Report](#)

This bill would subject a person who knowingly does not report child abuse or neglect as under §5-704 of the Family Law Article will be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a penalty of \$1,000, six month in jail, or both.

Hearing Date – 01/23/2018

[SB 161 \(Nathan-Pulliam\) - Public and Nonpublic Schools - Student Sickle Cell Disease Management Programs](#)

This bill requires MSDE and the Maryland Department of Health, along with stakeholders, to develop guidelines for local school system employees to use in the management of student's sickle cell disease during the school day and while attending school-sponsored activities.

Hearing Date – 01/24/2018

[SB 164 \(Nathan-Pulliam\) - Education - Student Use of Backpacks - Assessment and Reduction of Health Effects](#)

This bill would require Local School Boards to provide all school personnel, parents, and students with information about potential impact of heavy backpacks and measures that can be taken to prevent those impacts. It also requires the Boards to allow Chiropractors to conduct scoliosis exams, as often as the Board deems necessary.

Hearing Date – 01/24/2018

[SB 171 \(Eckardt\) - Talbot County Board of Education - Start Date of Term for Members](#)

This bill moves the beginning of the term of the Talbot County Board of Education from January 1, to December 1, after the election.

Hearing Date – 01/24/2018

[SB 205 \(Rosapepe\) – High School Credit Clarification Act of 2018](#)

The bill would require LEAs to award High School Credit to a middle school student for a course, where a high school student would receive credit, or MSDE has approved for the award of High School Credit under §7-1002 of the Education Article, which pertains to virtual learning.

Hearing Date – 01/31/2018

[SB 217 \(Young\) – Public Schools – Student Sunscreen Use – Policy](#)

The bill would prevent LEAs from developing policies preventing students from using sunscreen. It also would require schools to develop policies for how and when school personnel can assist students with applying sunscreen.

Crossfile – HB 427

Hearing Date – 02/08/2018

[SB 236 \(Robinson\) – State Board of Education – Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship Curriculum – Development and Implementation](#)

The bill would require the State Board to develop curriculum for a semester-long High School elective course in financial literacy and entrepreneurship. LEAs would not be required to implement the financial literacy and entrepreneurship course, as the bill is permissive in its requirement for LEAs.

Hearing Date – 01/31/2018

[SB 300 \(Administration\) – Achieving Computer Science Collaborations for Employing Students Statewide \(ACCESS\) Act of 2018](#)

The bill would require the State Board of Education to develop and adopt standards for Computer Science Education for kindergarten through grade 12 by November 30, 2018. In the 2020-2021 school year every High School shall offer at least one computer science course. Starting in 2022-2023 every Middle School shall offer computer science education and Elementary School shall offer computational thinking curriculum. The bill also establishes the Maryland Center for Computing Education, within the University System of Maryland. The Center will provide professional development in computer science education to teachers, administrators, and other professionals and increase the gender, racial, disability status, socioeconomic, and geographic diversity of students pursuing computer science careers.

Crossfile – HB 350

Hearing Date – 02/07/2018

[SB 301 \(Administration\) – Protect Our Students Act of 2018](#)

The bill would increase the combined total score of the academic indicators from 60% to 85% for the educational accountability program. Additionally, the bill would require at least one question regarding educators' receipt of critical instructional feedback and access to or credit for completion of a well-rounded curriculum of on-track progress at key transition points within elementary and secondary education.

Crossfile – HB 351

Hearing Date – 02/07/2018

[SB 302 \(Administration\) – Accountability in Education Act of 2018](#)

The bill establishes the Investigator General of the Education Monitoring Unit, which shall; investigate and determine whether the Civil Rights of teachers, students and parents are being upheld in compliance with Federal, State and Local laws and regulations; analyze and report on matters including child abuse, neglect, safety, grading, graduation requirements, assessments, educational facilities, procurement, equitable use of resources among public schools, and budgets; report all instances of fraud, abuse, and waste relating to public funds and property; report employee violations of applicable laws, regulations, policies, or ethical standards of conduct; establish its goals and priorities based on periodic assessment of existing and emerging risks relating to public elementary secondary education in the State, and; employ staff and engage attorneys, advisors, and consultants in accordance with the State budget.

Crossfile – HB 355

Hearing Date – 02/07/2018

[SB 326 \(Ferguson\) – Education – Public School Opportunities Enhancement Program – Administration Resources](#)

The bill would require MSDE to hire a person to administer the program and allow a portion of the appropriation to be used to fund the position.

Hearing Date – 02/07/2018

[SB 369 \(Young\) – Public and Nonpublic Schools – Classwork and Assessment Involving Live and Dead Animals – Student Choice Policy](#)

The bill would require the State Board by September 1, 2018 to develop and implement a student choice policy for students who choose not to participate in or observe classwork or an assessment that includes dissection, vivisection, incubation, infliction of harm, capture, or destruction of an animal.

Crossfile – HB 544

Hearing Date – 02/07/2018

[SB 373 \(Currie\) – Education – Head Start Program – Annual Appropriation](#)

The bill requires the Governor to appropriate at least \$3,000,000 for the Head Start Program annually.

Crossfile – HB 547

Hearing Date – 02/07/2018

[SB 379 \(King\) – Education – Child Care Subsidies – Mandatory Funding Levels](#)

The bill would require the Governor to appropriate enough funds to raise the child care reimbursement rate to the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2020, 45<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2021, and 60<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2022.

Crossfile – HB 430

Hearing Date – 02/14/2018

[SB 402 \(Zucker\) – Education – Family Life and Human Sexuality Curriculum – Boundaries and Consent](#)

The bill would require LEAs to provide age-appropriate instruction of the meaning of “consent” and respect for personal boundaries as part of the Family Life and Human Sexuality curriculum starting in the 2018-2019 school year.

Crossfile – HB 251

Hearing Date – 02/14/2018

[SB 438 \(Ramirez\) – State Dept. of Education – Nonprofit Youth Development Program – Established](#)

The bill creates the Nonprofit Youth Development Program to provide grants to nonprofit organizations that target at-risk youth. MSDE and the People for Change Coalition, Inc. will develop and administer the program together. Also provides for an annual appropriation of \$1,000,000.

Hearing Date – 02/14/2018

[SB 477 \(Kagan\) – Public Information Act – Required Denials – Physical Addresses, E-Mail Addresses, and Telephone Numbers](#)

The bill would require the denial of physical addresses, email addresses and phone numbers when requested as part of a Public Information Act request.

Crossfile – HB 677

Hearing Date – 02/14/2018

[SB 479 \(Rosapepe\) – High School Credit for College Courses Act of 2018](#)

The bill would require LEAs to award high school elective credit to a high school student if the student successfully completes any college course from an institution of postsecondary education, unless MSDE has determined that the college course does not meet a specific high school graduation requirement.

Crossfile – HB940

Hearing Date – 02/14/2018

[SB 515 \(Currie\) – Career and Technology Education and Workforce Investment Act](#)



The bill creates a grant program to provide capital funds to equip school facilities used to provide Career and Technology Education program (CTE) and will be administered by the Interagency Committee on School Construction.

Crossfile – HB 1098

Hearing Date – 02/21/2018

[SB 548 \(Conway\) – Education – Students With Reading Difficulties – Screenings and Interventions](#)

The bill requires LEAs to ensure that certain students are screened to identify if the student is at risk for reading difficulties beginning in the 2019-2020 school year. MSDE will need to work with LEAs to identify the appropriate screening tools to identify students.

Crossfile – HB 910

Hearing Date – 02/21/2018

[SB 618 \(Klausmeier\) – Career Youth and Public Sector Apprenticeship Act](#)

The bill would require the State Board to require LEAs to award high school graduation credit for participation in apprenticeship programs and create apprenticeship program in needed job classifications within the State of Maryland workforce.

Crossfile – HB 1234

Hearing Date – 02/28/2018

[SB 678 \(Benson\) – State Department of Education – Employment Categories and Practices](#)

The bill alters the employment categories of “professional assistants” within MSDE. Most special appointment positions within MSDE, except those who perform a significant policy role or provide direct support to a member of the executive service, would be reclassified to positions in the executive, management, professional, or skilled service under the State Personnel Management System (SPMS), by January 1, 2019.

Hearing Date – 02/20/2018

[SB 739 \(Madaleno\) – State Board of Education – Membership – Teachers and Parent](#)

This bill would increase the State School board from 11 to 14 members. Two of the new members would be individuals who are certified teachers, who is elected amongst all teacher of the State. One will be a parent of a student, who is suggested by the Maryland PTA.

Crossfile – HB 154

Hearing Date – 02/28/2018