

Maryland Procurement Law ALERT

General Assembly Special Edition

March 19, 2025

It's that time again at the General Assembly, when bills approved by House of Delegates crossover to the Senate for consideration and, likewise, bills approved by the Senate crossover to the House of Delegates for consideration. Here is a list of procurement bills that remain generally viable after crossover.

HB 73 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0073T.pdf</u>) SB 194 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0194T.pdf</u>)

State Finance and Procurement – State Leasing of Real Property

Increasing the noncompetitive threshold for State leases of real property from less than 2,500 square feet to up to 5,000 square feet; altering the time frame during which the State is required to advertise the need for rental of building space from at least 30 days to 20 days before proposals for lease are due; requiring the advertisement to be in certain newspapers providing notice to at least the people of the affected locality; and requiring the notice to be posted on the Department's website and eMaryland Marketplace.

Sponsors: Chair, HGO Committee / Chair, B&T Committee (By Request of Department of Geneal Services

Committees: HGO / B&T

<u>HB 73 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (131-1) (2/27/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (2/28/25) <u>SB 194 Status</u>: Senate – Third Reading Passed (46-0) (2/26/25) / House – Hearing 3/18/25 at 1:00 pm HB 284 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0284T.pdf</u>) SB 196 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0196T.pdf</u>)

Procurement – Electronic Transactions – Clarification of Fees Due

Specifying that fees collected for electronic transactions for procurements are those due to the State and not any fees due to a third party.

Sponsors: Chair, HGO Committee / Chair, B&T (By Request of Department of Transportation)

Committees: HGO / B&T

<u>HB 284 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (135-0) (2/20/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (2/21/25) <u>SB 196 Status</u>: Senate – Third Reading Passed (45-0) (2/20/25) / House – Hearing 3/18/25 at 1:00 pm

HB 300 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0300T.pdf</u>) SB 127 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0127T.pdf</u>)

State Government – Grants and Contracts – Reimbursement of Indirect Costs

Altering the rate at which nonprofit organizations receiving State-funded grants or contracts may be reimbursed for indirect costs to match the rate established under relevant federal guidelines; and requiring the Department of Budget and Management to examine the salaries of senior staff, the organization's administrative expenses, and conduct a certain cost comparison of certain grant or contract recipients and report its findings to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly by December 1, 2028.

Sponsors: Delegates Kerr, Bagnall, Bhandari, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Lopez, Martinez, Pena-Melnyk, Rosenberg, Taveras, White Holland, Woods, and Woorman / Senator Kagan

Committees: HGO / B&T

<u>HB 300 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (123-11) (2/20/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (2/21/25) <u>SB 127 Status</u>: Senate – Third Reading Passed (44-0) (3/17/25) / House – Referred HGO (3/17/25)

HB 304 (https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0304T.pdf)

State Procurement – Transparency and Procedures

Requiring a unit of State government to provide a certain debriefing of a contract award to certain persons on request; altering the required contents of a certain change order; altering the time within which a procurement officer shall make a decision after receiving a certain protest; specifying that certain decisions or failure to reach a decision may be considered a denial in a certain protest; altering the time within which a written notice of a claim relating to a certain procurement contract shall be made; etc.

Sponsors: Delegates Kerr, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Chisholm, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Pena-Melnyk, Reilly, Rosenberg, Ross, Szeliga, Taveras, Woods, and Woorman

Committees: HGO / B&T

<u>HB 304 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (140-0) (3/14/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (3/17/25)

HB 500 (https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0500T.pdf) SB 426 (https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0426F.pdf)

Procurement Reform Act of 2005

Authorizing the Secretary of General Services to delegate certain powers and duties to the Chief Procurement Officer; altering the authority of the Department of General Services to engage in or control procurement of certain equipment and services; altering the authority of the Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transportation Authority to engage in procurement for certain supplies and services for transportation related activities; etc.

Sponsors: The Speaker and Delegates Allen, Amprey, Bhandari, Boafo, Cardin, Edelson, Fennell, Foley, Hornberger, Jackson, D. Jones, Kerr, J. Long, Phillips, Ruff, Simpson, Stein, Taveras, Taylor, Toles, Turner, White Holland, Wilkins, Williams, Wims, Woods, Woorman, Wu, Alston, Bagnall, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Lopez, Martinez, Pena-Melnyk, Rosenberg, and Ross / The President and Senators Augustine, Charles, Ellis, Gile, Hettleman, Kagan, Lam, M. Washington, Watson, and West

(By Request of Administration)

Authorizing the Secretary of General Services to delegate certain powers and duties to the Chief Procurement Officer; altering the authority of the Department of General Services to engage in or control procurement of certain equipment and services; altering the authority of the Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transportation Authority to engage in procurement for certain supplies and services for transportation related activities; etc. Committees: HGO / B&T

<u>HB 500 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (125-12) (3/17/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (3/17/25) SB 426 Status: Senate – Hearing 2/5/25 at 3:00 pm / House – No Actions

HB 507 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0507T.pdf</u>) SB 453 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0453T.pdf</u>)

State Contracts – Prohibited Provisions

Clarifying a prohibition on including in State contracts provisions pertaining to limitations of liability for damage to real or tangible personal property; and clarifying a prohibition on including in State contracts provisions limiting the recovery of costs related to the use of replacement contractors under certain circumstances.

Committees: HGO / B&T

Sponsors: Delegate Kerr / Senator King

<u>HB 507 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (135-0) 3/6/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (3/7/25) <u>SB 453 Status</u>: Senate – Third Reading Passed (47-0) (3/12/25) / House – Hearing 3/25/25 at 1:00 pm

HB 508 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0508T.pdf</u>) SB 795 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0795T.pdf</u>)

State Procurement Preferences – Blind Industries and Services of Maryland – Packaging and Repackaging

Requiring a State or State aided or controlled entity to require a prime contractor to procure certain janitorial products packaged or repackaged by Blind Industries and Services of Maryland.

Committees: HGO / B&T

Sponsors: Delegate Kerr / Senator Mautz

<u>HB 508 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (131-1) (3/7/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (3/7/25) <u>SB 795 Status</u>: Senate – Third Reading Pass (46-1) (3/21/25) / House – Hearing 3/25/25 at 1:00 pm

HB 662 (https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0662T.pdf)

Procurement – Indefinite Quantity Contracts – Authorization

Authorizing a procurement officer to award an indefinite quantity contract under certain circumstances; requiring the Board of Public Works to adopt certain regulations relating to the assignment of work under an indefinite quantity contract including assignment by right of first refusal in the order of ranking of contract awards and rotation among contractors, etc.

Committees: HGO /B&T

Sponsors: Delegates Tomlinson, Boafo, Cardin, Edelson, Embry, Hornberger, Hutchinson, Spiegel, Stonko, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Chisholm, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Kerr, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Pena-Melnyk, Reilly, Rosenberg, Ross, Szeliga, Taveras, White Holland, Woods, and Woorman

HB 662 Status: House – Third Reading Passed (139-0) (3/12/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (3/12/25)

HB 819 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0819T.pdf</u>) SB 653 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0653F.pdf</u>)

Procurement – Employee Stock Ownership Plan Preference – Pilot

Establishing a price preference program for certain procurements by the Maryland Stadium Authority, the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Baltimore City Community College; establishing a certain price preference for bids and proposals by an entity that utilizes an employee stock ownership plan.

Committees: HGO / B&T

Sponsors: Delegates Guzzone, Edelson, Embry, Hill, Kerr, R. Lewis, Shetty, White Holland, Woods, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Chisholm, Cullison, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Pena-Melnyk, Reilly, Rosenberg, Ross, Szeliga, Taveras, and Woorman / Senator McCray

<u>HB 819 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (137-3) (3/14/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (3/17/25) <u>SB 653 Status</u>: Senate – Hearing 2/26/25 at 3:00 pm / House – No Actions HB 821 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0821F.pdf</u>) SB 555 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0555T.pdf</u>)

Public Information Act – Denials – Pending Litigation

Establishing that a custodian may deny inspection of records pertaining to pending or reasonably anticipated litigation to which the State or an officer or employee of the State is or may be a party. Committees: HGO /B&T

Sponsors: Chair HGO Committee / Chair, Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

(By Request of Office of Attorney General)

<u>HB 821 Status</u>: House – Hearing 2/11/25 at 1:00 pm / Senate – No Actions <u>SB 555 Status</u>: Senate – Third Reading Passed (31-11) (3/17/25) – House – Referred HGO (3/17/25)

HB 850 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0850T.pdf</u>) SB 3 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0003F.pdf</u>)

(House) Workgroup on the Creation of a Data Dashboard for Public Work Contracts and Apprentices – Establishment / (Senate) Procurement – Public Work Contracts – Data Dashboard (Maryland Public Works and Apprenticeship Transparency Act)

Requiring the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to develop and maintain a data dashboard that includes certain information relating to contractors, subcontractors, employees, and apprentices working under public work contracts; requiring each contractor who is contracted under a public work contract to provide certain information to the Commissioner; requiring the Commissioner to update the data dashboard on a certain basis and post the data dashboard on the Maryland Department of Labor website; etc.

Committees – HGO / FIN

Sponsors: Delegates Williams, Charkoudian, Fair, Feldmark, Foley, Palakovich Carr, Pasteur, Pena-Melnyk, Pruski, Rogers, Taylor, Valderrama, White Holland, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Kerr, Lopez, Martinez, Rosenberg, Ross, Taveras, Woods, and Woorman / Senator Ellis

<u>HB 850 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (137-0) (3/17/25) / Senate – Referred FIN (3/17/25) <u>SB 3 Status</u>: Senate – Hearing 2/5/25 at 2:00 pm / House – No Actions HB 991 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0991T.pdf</u>) SB 829 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0829T.pdf</u>)

State Procurement – Construction and Services – Contract Modification

Requiring a procurement contract for construction or services to include a clause requiring contract modification for increased costs for compensation and benefits as a result of statutory changes increasing required compensation or benefits or collective bargaining.

Committees: HGO / B&T

Sponsors: Delegates Harris, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Kerr, Lopez, Martinez, Pena-Melnyk, Rosenberg, Ross, Taveras, White Holland, Woods, and Woorman / Senator Hayes

<u>HB 991 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (127-11) (3/13/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (3/17/25) <u>SB 829 Status</u>: Senate – Third Reading Passed (47-0) (3/12/25) / House – Hearing 3/25/25 at 1:00 pm

HB 1499 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb1499T.pdf</u>) SB 403 (<u>https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0403F.pdf</u>)

State Procurement – Construction and Services – Contract Modification

Requiring a procurement contract for construction or services to include a clause requiring contract modification for increased costs for compensation and benefits as a result of statutory changes increasing required compensation or benefits or collective bargaining.

Committees: HGO / B&T

Sponsors: Delegates S. Johnson, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Chisholm, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, Hutchinson, Kaiser, Kerr, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Pena-Melnyk, Reilly, Rosenberg, Ross, Szeliga, Taveras, White Holland, Woods, and Woorman / Senator McCray

<u>HB 1499 Status</u>: House – Third Reading Passed (136-2) (3/17/25) / Senate – Referred B&T (3/17/25) <u>SB 403 Status</u>: Senate – Hearing 2/05/25 at 3:00 pm / House – No Actions

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