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To see which bills LWVMD is testifying on visit [http://www.lwvmd.org/testimony](http://www.lwvmd.org/testimony)
HEALTH

The Baltimore Sun published an editorial on March 19, titled The 2018 Sleeper Issue, which cogently explained the problems that Maryland will encounter with President Trump’s effort to eliminate or sabotage the Affordable Care Act. The editorial clearly explains how the collapse of the Individual Market would affect the Medicare Waiver and All Payer System, which guarantees Maryland higher Medicare reimbursements. The collapse of the Individual Market would cause growth in our overall health expenditures. The waiver is predicated on keeping these spending targets lower than the rest of the country. Maryland has been able to do this for many years. We are a study for the entire country. Failure of the waiver would mean a $2 billion annual loss to our health care system.

On Saturday, March 24, the Sun had another long article, titled Bipartisan Md. Effort to Bolster Health Care, on the effort of leadership to correct the problems with the individual market. Delegate Pena-Melnyk sponsored HB 1782 Health Insurance – Individual Market Stabilization (Maryland Health Care Access Act of 2018) for Governor Larry Hogan, Senate President Thomas (Mike) Miller, and House President Michael Busch as an emergency bill. The bill was heavily amended to propose a one-time tax (this year) on the insurance companies writing in Maryland. The proceeds, calculated to be $380 million, would be used for reinsurance in the individual market. The legislators are able to do this because the insurance companies were granted a one-time 2.75 percent tax cut in the new Federal tax bill. The tax will be distributed to the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange Fund. The bill also sets up a Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission. The bill passed the House 91-47 and is in the Senate Finance Committee (hrg 3/28). Also, see SB 387 below.

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

SB 1011/HB 1167 Protect Maryland Health Care Act (Feldman/Pena Melnyk) seems to be held up in committee possibly because of the new bill described above. Reassigned to FIN, B&T and HGO Hrg. 2/1 (RSC-4)

HB 1024/SB 986 State Employees and Retiree Health and Benefits Program – Contraceptive Drugs and Devices and Male Sterilization (Hettleman/A. Kelly) have passed each house with amendments and passed over to the other house. The changes must be reconciled. (RSC-4)

HB 1283 Health Insurance – Prescription Contraceptives – Coverage for Single Dispensing (A. Kelly) Passed the House 135-1 and has moved to Senate FIN (RSC-4)

HB 1400, State Employees and Retiree Health and Benefits Program – Employees of Qualifying Organizations (Morhaim) Passed the House and is in Senate FIN (RSC-4)
SB 878/HB 1312 Health Insurance - Medicaid Buy-In Task Force (Feldman/Kelly) passed the Senate and was heard in HGO 3/22 and given an unfavorable report and withdrawn. (The unfavorable report is possibly due to efforts to correct the individual market with HB 1782) (RSC-3)

SB 387, Health Care Access Program - Establishment (Maryland Health Care Access Act of 2018). The bill has been renamed, amended and is the same as HB 1782. It passed 42-5 and is in House HGO. (RSC-3)

SB 284, Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Dental Coverage for Adults, passed the Senate 46-0 and is in HGO. (RSC-3)

HB 359/SB 309, Health – Reporting Overdose Information, By Request of Administration, passed the Senate and remains in HGO. (RSC-3)

HB 736/SB 576, Pharmacy Benefits Managers – Pharmacies and Pharmacists – Information on and Sales of Prescription Drugs, both bills have passed and crossed over. (RSC-3)

SB 30/HB 1581, Healthcare Malpractice Qualified Expert, Limitation on Testimony in Personal Injury Claims, Repeal, passed the Senate and is in JUD

SB 131/HB 600, Child Abuse and Neglect – Training, passed the House and is JPR

SB 132, Crimes – Child Abuse and Neglect Failure to Report, Passed the Senate with amendments and is in JUD

HB 326/SB 288, Public Health – Overdose and Infectious Disease Prevention Supervised Drug Consumption Facility Program, received an unfavorable report in Senate Finance.

Nielson Andrews

MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS & EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Affordable Housing

HB 1224 Youth Homelessness Act of 2018 (M. Washington plus 54) passed House with amendments. Hrg 3/28 FIN

HB 1073 Landlord and Tenant – Residential Leases – Water and Sewer Bills (Holmes) passed House with amendments, 1st reading JPR

HB 472 Real Property – Residential Leases – Collectible Rent (Rent Transparency Act) (Stein et al) unfavorable report by ET
SB 468 Landlord and Tenant – Residential Leases – Water and Sewer Bills (Eckhardt et al) favorable with amendments JPR

Employment
HB 431 Foster Care Recipients and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth – Employment Program (Fostering Employment Act of 2018) (Speaker) passed House with amendments Hrg 3/27 FIN

SB 308 Foster Care Recipients and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth – Employment Program (Fostering Employment Act of 2018) (The President) passed the Senate, favorable in APP

HB 541 Labor and Employment – Criminal Record Screening Practices (Mosby et al) unfavorable report ECM

Earned Income Tax Credit
HB 856 Earned Income Tax Credit-Individuals Without Qualified Children- Extension (Hixon et al) passed House with amendments. Hrg 3/28 B&T

SB 647 Earned Income Tax Credit-Individuals Without Qualified Children- Extension (Madeleno et al) passed Senate with amendments. Hrg 3/21 W&M

Temporary Cash Assistance
HB 1729/Family Investment Program – Temporary Cash Assistance (Valentino-Smith et al) Hrg 3/13 APP

Earned Sick Leave
The following bills, meant to alter HB 1, all receive an unfavorable report from ECM:

HB 779 Maryland Healthy Working Families Act - Exemption - Facility With On-Site Health Clinic (Wivell & McKay)

HB 1314 Healthy Working Families Act – Exemptions – Modifications (Healthy Working Families Exemption Equity Act) (Adams et al)

HB 1364 Maryland Healthy Working Families Act – Calculation of Employees (Fair Sick Leave and Holiday Compensation Act) (Ali et al)

HB 1417 Healthy Working Families Act – Delay of Effective Date (McComas et al)
HB 1421 Labor and Employment – Maryland Healthy Working Families Act – Seasonal Worker Revisions (Carozza et al)

Ruth Crystal

TRANSPORTATION

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

HB 372 Maryland Metro Funding Act (RSC 2 & RSC 4) Favorable with amendments including renaming the bill to Maryland Metro/Transit Funding Act, more amendments expected in the Senate for funding amount Hrg 3/27 B&T

HB 535/SB 407 Transportation – Complete Streets Program – Establishment (RSC 2) Both favorable with different amendments Hrg 4/3 FIN

HB 744/SB 850 Complete Streets Policy – Adoption (RSC 2) Both favorable with different amendments Hrg 4/3 FIN

HB 672 Vehicle Laws – Intersections – Prohibited Acts (RSC 2) Favorable with amendments Hrg 4/3 JPR

HB 959 Vehicle Laws – Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (RSC 3) Unfavorable

HB 1281 State Highway Administration – Project Planning Documents – Public Access (RSC 3) Unfavorable

Bee Ditzler

ENVIRONMENT: CLIMATE CHANGE

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

HB 03/SB 138 Environment – U.S. Climate Alliance – Membership (RSC 1); Favorable House (101-33) Favorable EHEA (36-10)


HB 993/SB 898 Maryland Pension Climate Change Risk Act (RSC 3) Passed House (90-48)

HB 1350/SB 1006 Sea Level Rise Inundation and Coastal Flooding – Construction, Adaption, Mitigation, and Disclosure (RSC 3) Passed House (95-43) Passed Senate (40-7)

Betsy Singer
ENVIRONMENT: RENEWABLE ENERGY

**HB 1453/SB 732 Renewable Energy and Job Development** (Frick/Feldman) *(RSC 2)*
House unfavorable report in ECM, withdrawn.

**HB 878 100% Clean Renewable Energy Equity Act of 2018** (Robinson) *(RSC 2)*
House unfavorable report in ECM, withdrawn.

**HB 939 Regional Carbon Cost Collection Initiative** (Kramer) *(RSC 2)* Unfavorable report in ECM.

**HB 1135/SB 1058 Renewable Energy - Offshore Wind Projects - Distance Requirements** (Adams/Hershey) *(RSC 3)* House unfavorable report in ECM.

**SJ 11 Coastal Area - Protection From Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling** (Mathias, et al) *(RSC 4)* Passed Senate. Hrg 3/30 11:30am HRU

_Sharl Glenn_

ENVIRONMENT: STORMWATER, BAY, PHOSPHORUS, PESTICIDES, RECYCLING, AIR, & OTHER

**HB 104/SB 149 Natural Resources - Electronic Licensing - Voluntary Donations**
SB 183, the other licensing/donations bill scheduled for 3/22 hrg, E&T (RSC-1, RSC-2, RSC-3)

**HB 116/SB 500 Pesticides - Use of Chlorpyrifos – Prohibition** (Stein et al/Nathan-Pilliam et al.). Unfavorable report, ET -- withdrawn; senate bill recommitted to EHEA earlier (RSC-1, RSC-2, RSC-4)

**HB 219/SB 115 Deep Creek Lake Policy and Review Board - Membership and Duties** HB now in Senate; SB now in House

**HB 361/SB 314 Bay Restoration Fund - Fee Exemption, Disbursements, and Financial Assistance (Septic Stewardship Act of 2018)** (Speaker of the House et al; President of the Senate plus 14) Unfavorable report, ET and previous unfavorable report on Senate bill by EHEA (RSC-2, RSC-3, RSC-4)

**HB 400 Agriculture - Mosquito Control - Notification to Municipalities** (Tarlau et al) Favorable report by EHEA (RSC-2, RSC-3, RSC-4)

**HB 452/SB 389 Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact – Repeal** (Carr/Feldman) HB now in Senate EHEA; SB now in House ET (RSC-2, RSC-3)
HB 458  Environment – Sale or Transfer of Home With On–Site Sewage Disposal System – Nitrogen Removal Technology Requirement (Lafferty) Passed House; now in EHEA (RSC-2, RSC-4)

HB 515  Agriculture - Noxious Weeds - Palmer Amaranth (Ghrist plus four) Passed House; favorable report by EHEA (RSC-2, RSC-4)

HB 538/SB 651  Environment - Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Products – Prohibition (Lierman plus 30/Kagan plus 19) As of 3/26/18, there were ongoing negotiations about whether current amendments are acceptable to all and whether to strengthen the tree replacement ratio.

HB 719  On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Best Available Technology for Nitrogen Removal - Requirement (Lafferty) Unfavorable report by ET (RSC-2, RSC-3)

HB 850  Solid Waste Management and Recycling – Mattresses and Box Springs (Hill plus 15) Unfavorable report by ET

HB 947/SB 958  Natural Resources - Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund - Purpose and Authorized Use of Funds (Beitzel/Edwards) Unfavorable reports by ET and EHEA. (RSC-4)

HB 1077/SB 1070  Wetlands and Waterways Program – State–Owned Lakes – Structural Shoreline Stabilization (Beitzel/Edwards) Passed House; now in EHEA. (RSC-4)

HB 1360  Environment - Sewage Sludge - Land Application (Rose plus seven) Unfavorable report, ET (RSC-3)

HB 1381  Environmental Violations - Reporting Requirements (Lafferty) Passed House; Hrg 3/27 1pm, EHEA (RSC-3)

HB 1428  Environment - Stormwater Management Infrastructure - Historic Districts (Flanagan plus seven) Passed House; Hrg 4/03, 1 pm, EHEA (RSC-3)

HB 1566/SB 854  Public Utilities - Water and Sewage Disposal Companies – Acquisition (Miller & 14 / Klausmeier) Passed House. Hrg 3/29, 1 pm, ECM (RSC-4)


SB 94  Natural Resources - Unprotected Birds – Pigeons (chair, EHEA, for Dept. of Natural Resources) ET hrg changed to 3/22, 1 pm (RSC-1, RSC-4)
SB 100 Reservoir, Dam, or Waterway Obstruction Plans - Designation of Approval Authority (chair, EHEA, for Dept. of the Environment) Hrg 3/22, 1 pm, ET (RSC-1, RSC-4)

SB 112 Natural Resources - Tidal Fish Licenses (chair, EHEA, for Dept. of Natural Resources) Hrg changed to 3/22, 1 pm, ET (RSC-1, RSC-2, RSC-4)

SB 113 Natural Resources - Recreational License Incentive Discount Program (chair, EHEA, for Dept. of Natural Resources) Hrg changed to 3/22, 1 pm, ET (RSC-1, RSC-2, RSC-4)

SB 183 Natural Resources - Electronic Licensing - Recreational License Donation Fund – Donations Hrg changed to 3/22, 1 pm, ET (RSC-1, RSC-2, RSC-4)

SB 203 Agriculture - Nutrient Management - Fertilizer Use on Turf (Middleton & Guzzone) Hrg changed to 3/22, 1 pm, ET (RSC-1, RSC-2, RSC-4)

SB 496 Environment - Graywater - Residential Use (Ready plus three). Passed Senate. Hrg 3/28, 1 pm, ET (RSC-2, RSC-4)

SB 501 State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund – Purpose, Use, and Funding – Alterations (Edwards plus six) Passed Senate; in ET (RSC-3)

SB 844 Environment - Newsprint Recycling Board - Repeal and Transfer of Authority (Conway) Passed Senate. Hrg 3/28 1pm, ET (RSC-3)

SB 926 Natural Resources - Oyster Planting - Substrate Material (Hershey) Unfavorable report, EHEA (RSC-4)

Linda Silversmith

BUDGET

Both houses of the General Assembly have passed the 2019 Budget Bill (SB 185), the Senate unanimously and the House by a vote of 126-11. There were a few differences in the provisions voted but these are expected to be resolved in conference committee. The budget totals $44.5 billion, 2.2% higher than the current year’s spending plan. The Senate restored more than $110 million that were voted by a previous legislature but omitted by the Governor including $10 million for school safety grants, $5 million for violence prevention and more than $20 million for providers serving the elderly and children in foster care. It retained the 2% increase for state employees plus bonuses should the state reach certain revenue goals. It eliminated the deficit and appropriated nearly $40 million to address the opioid crisis.

The Budget and Taxation Committee made 138 amendments to the budget submitted by Governor Hogan, most of them were minor. They also made 43 amendments to the Budget and Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2018 (BRFA). The Senate restored
enough funds to fully fund a 3.5% rate increase for providers serving the developmentally disabled and people with behavioral health problems. Nursing homes and alternatives to nursing homes would receive a 3% increase.

The largest items in the budget are $11.4 billion for Medicaid, an increase of $180 million and $6.5 billion in aid to public schools, an increase of $160 million. In an unusual move, the Senate set aside $200 million for implementation of forthcoming recommendations of the Kirwan Commission on education. The funds will come from a projected $433 million windfall to the state next year as a result of changes to the Federal income tax. In a companion bill **SB 184 Income Tax – Personal Exemptions - Alteration** (Kasemeyer et al), the standard deduction for individuals was raised by $500 to $1000 and for couples from $4000 to $5000 for the next three years. The funding would also come from the expected increased income.

Differences in the House bill include a reduction of $10 million for the court system and $4 million from the BOOST scholarship program to pay for students to attend private schools.

The budgets now go to a conference committee.

**SB 187 Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2018** also passed both houses and is in conference committee.

*Barbara Hankins*

**TAXES**

**HB 671 Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Classroom Supplies Purchased by Teachers** (Patterson et al) would allow an up to $250 per year income tax deduction for teachers purchasing unreimbursed classroom supplies. Passed the House. Hrg 3/28 B&T

**HB 1782 Maryland Health Care Access Act pf 2018** (Peny-Maryk et al) An emergency bill. Would assess a fee on health insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations and managed care organizations to provide reinsurance to carriers in the individual health insurance market. Would also establish a state individual health insurance mandate and a tax penalty for failure to maintain specified coverage. Passed the House. Hrg 3/28 FIN

**SB 212 Sales and Use Tax – Aircraft Parts and Equipment – Exemption** (Waugh & Eckert) would provide an exemption from the sales tax of a number of aircraft parts and equipment. Requires an annual update on the number of Maryland aviation technicians employed as a result of the exemption. Passed the Senate. Hrg 3/21 W&M
SB 972 Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – First-Time Homebuyers Savings Accounts (Manno et al) allows a taxpayer to deposit up to $5000 per year in a first time homebuyers savings account for up to ten years. Passed the Senate. Hrg 3/28 W&M

SB 1090 Corporate Income Tax – Single Sales Factor Apportionment (Peters & Guzzone) would change the apportionment factor used by corporations to allocate income for income tax purposes. Would require that corporations use modified Maryland income multiplied by 100% of the sales factor. Passed the Senate. Hrg 3/28 W&M

SB 1154 Income Tax – Film Production Activity Tax Credit (Peters et al) would alter the film production activity tax credit by eliminating the program’s reserve fund and the Secretary of Commerce would be allowed to award up to $30 million in tax credits through FY2021 and an unlimited amount of credits after that. Passed the Senate. Hrg 3/28 W&M

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

HB 43 Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Perpetual Conservation Easements Passed the House, Hrg 3/20 B&T

HB 96 Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Living Organ Donors, Passed the House, Hrg 3/22 B&T

SB 134 Small Business Relief Tax Credit, Passed the Senate. Hrg 3/28 W&M

SB 299 Correctional Officers’ Retirement System – Membership, Passed the Senate, Hrg 3/29 W&M

SB 517 Career Apprenticeship Investment Act, Passed the Senate, Hrg 3/20 APP

SB 877 Promoting extraordinary Innovation in Maryland’s Economy (PRIME Act) Passed the Senate, Hrg 3/28 W&M

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

HB 53 Election Law – Private Loan to Campaign Finance Entity of Candidate – Prohibited (RSC 1) received a unfavorable report in W&M

HB 332 Election Law - Use of Campaign Material Purchased Under the Authority of a Prior Treasurer (RSC 2) received an unfavorable report in W&M and was withdrawn.

HB 755 Campaign Finance - Illegal Contributions - Fair Campaign Financing Fund (RSC 3) has been renamed: Campaign Finance – Contributions in Name of Another – Fair Campaign Financing Fund and highly amended to clarify the intent of the bill
which is: when a donor is convicted of violating the law that prohibits making a donation in the name someone else, the campaign finance entity must remit that donation to the Fair Campaign Financing Fund. It has passed out of the House with these amendments and was heard in EHEA on March 22nd. There is no word yet on a vote in EHEA.

SB 875/HB 981 Online Electioneering Transparency and Accountability Act (RSC 4) was amended to incorporate some of the features in HB 768 Election Law - Online Political Advertisements and Campaign Material – Disclosure (RSC 3) as well a number of clarifying and technical amendments. It passed out of the House and is now before the Senate EHEA committee, but no hearing date has been set.

Nancy Soreng

ELECTIONS

Of the 80 bills filed in this GA session relating to elections, 16 have crossed over to the other house, usually an indication that there is a possibility of passage. Two major election reforms are still in the mix: Automatic Voter Registration and Election Day Registration. SB 1048 — Secure and Accessible Registration Act (RSC 1, 4) passed in the Senate (31-13) and has received a favorable report from the House W&M committee. It is on the agenda for March 27 on the House floor. Some government agencies in Maryland (Motor Vehicle Administration, Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, local departments of social services and the Mobility Certification Office of MTA) were designated as electronic voter registration agencies in 2016. SB 1048 re-designates these agencies as automatic voter registration agencies. At these agencies, when an individual completes a transaction with the agency, the individual will be automatically registered to vote, and pertinent data will be sent to the State Board of Elections, UNLESS the individual declines to register or update her voter registration information or she is not eligible to register to vote. The bill also specifies that a person who unintentionally becomes registered to vote through the automatic voter registration process may not be considered to have violated election law. The bill would take effect July 1, 2019.

HB 532 — Elective Franchise — Registration and Voting at Precinct Polling Place (RSC 1) is a Constitutional Amendment that gives the General Assembly the power to allow a qualified individual to register and vote at a precinct polling place on Election Day. If the bill is enacted, the amendment would appear as a ballot question on the November 2018 general election ballot. Details of the implementation of Election Day Registration would be worked out through legislation in upcoming sessions, but the Constitutional Amendments is the first required step in the process. The bill has passed the House (91-47) and has passed second reading in the Senate.

Sen. Brochin has sponsored SB 940 — Election Law — Polling Places — Election Judges which relates to the number of election judges who are not affiliated with a major political party. Current law allows registered voters who are not affiliated with a major political party to serve as election judges in precincts with six or more election judges, as long as their number doesn’t exceed the number of election judges who
belong to the top two parties. SB 940 reduces to four the minimum number of judges in a precinct in which unaffiliated or non-principal party registered voters may serve as election judges.

A bill requiring a post-tabulation audit of election results has passed the House (134-0) and has a hearing in Senate EHEA on March 29. **HB 1278** (RSC 3) requires an automated software audit of electronic images of all ballots cast in the election AND a manual audit of voter-verified paper records in at least 2% of precincts in the state, including at least one randomly chosen precinct in each county and additional precincts selected by SBE. Additionally, at least 1% of early votes cast statewide shall be audited by manual check of paper ballots. These audits may not have any effect on the certified election results.

A hot topic in election legislation this year has been election security. **HB 1331 – Election Law – Cybersecurity** requires the State Administrator of Elections to submit various reports relating to potential security violations involving the election system, including voting equipment, registration database and online voter registration system, electronic poll books, etc. The bill also requires that a voter who requests that an absentee ballot be delivered to him inline or by fax must check a box acknowledging that the ballot the voter returns will have to be duplicated by election officials onto an official ballot that is machine readable.

**Lu Pierson**

**REDISTRICTING REFORM**

The highly anticipated court case, **Benisek v. Lamone** is scheduled to be heard this week on March 28, 2018. The court is being asked by **Benisek** to rule on whether the redistricting that took place in 2012, changing the boundaries of Congressional District 6, violated the First Amendment right to freedom of speech and association under the Constitution. This is the second partisan gerrymandering case heard this term by the Supreme Court. The first was heard back in October and comes out of Wisconsin, **Gill v. Whitford**. Decisions in these cases are expected by the end of June this year, and could affect how Maryland, and the entire country, does redistricting after the 2020 census.

**HB 356 General Assembly and Congressional Legislative Redistricting and Apportionment Commission**, Unfavorable report HRU. (RSC-2)

**HB 477 Potomac Compact for Fair Representation**, Unfavorable report HRU. (RSC-2)

**HB 537 Potomac Compact for Fair Representation**, Unfavorable report HRU. (RSC-2)

**HB 1022 Congressional Districts – Standards**, Unfavorable report HRU. (RSC-3)
HB 1362 House Legislative Districts - Single Member, Unfavorable report HRU. (RSC-3)

Ashley Oleson

TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

HB 677/SB 477 Public Information Act - Required Denials - Physical Addresses, E-Mail Addresses, and Telephone Numbers (RSC 2) Third reading passed the Senate unanimously. Favorable report by HGO.

HB 695 Open Meetings Act - Closed Meetings - Cybersecurity (RSC 2) Third reading passed unanimously. Hrg 3/22 1pm EHEA.

HB 715 Public Service Commission - Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity - Public Notice and Hearing (RSC 4) Unfavorable report ECM.

HB 1281 State Highway Administration - Project Planning Documents - Public Access (RSC 3) Unfavorable report ET; withdrawn.

HB 1638/SB 788 Public Information Act - Revisions (RSC 3) Second reading passed with amendments, recommitted to EHEA.

SB 97 Public Utilities - Transportation Network Services - Disclosure of Records (RSC 1) Passed Enrolled.

SB 396 Open Meetings Act - Training - Application (RSC 2) Hrg 3/28 1pm HGO.

Valerie Glenn

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

SB 1268 Criminal Procedure - Lifetime Sexual Offender Supervision - Violations and Petitions for Discharge (Middleton) Provides that if a person violates a condition of lifetime sexual offender supervision, a sexual offender management team shall report the violation to the State’s Attorney in the jurisdiction where the lifetime supervision was imposed. The judge who originally imposed the supervision will conduct a hearing to determine if the violator is subject to a fine and imprisonment. A person under supervision may petition to be released from supervision. A judge may determine whether the petitioner’s risk for a sexual re-offense may or may not justify ending further supervision. A petition may not be denied without a hearing. First reading SRU
Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

**SB 170/HB 388 Criminal Procedure - Violation of Conditions of Release** Passed House 136 - 0, passed Senate 45 - 0 (RSC 1)

**HB 513** Circuit Court Judges - Election, Qualifications and Term of Office unfavorable report JUD, withdrawn (RSC 2)

**HB 607** Circuit Court Judges - Selection and Tenure unfavorable report JUD, withdrawn (RSC 2)

**HB 480/SB 484 Criminal Procedure - Pretrial Release - Fees** unfavorable report JUD, unfavorable report JPR, withdrawn (RSC 2)

**SB 617/HB 1166 Criminal Procedure - Sentencing - Primary Caretaker** unfavorable report JPR, unfavorable report JUD (RSC 2)

**SB 346/HB 1411 Criminal Law - Death Penalty – Reinstatement** unfavorable report JUD (RSC 2)

**HB 353/SB 298 Courts - Evidence of Sexually Assaultive Behavior - Admissibility** unfavorable report JUD (RSC 2)

**HB 301/SB 270 Courts - Evidence of Sexually Assaultive Behavior - Admissibility** (Repeat Sexual Predator Prevention Act of 2018) Passed House 137 - 0; first reading 3/16 JPR (RSC 2)

**SB 582/HB 522 Public Safety - Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission - Sexual Assault** unfavorable report JPR; unfavorable report JUD (RSC 2)

**SB 736/HB 1128 Criminal Procedure - Pretrial Release - Assault on a Law Enforcement Officer (Police Protection Act)** unfavorable report JUD (RSC 3)

**HB 1030/SB 579 Criminal Procedure - Incompetency and Criminal Responsibility - Dismissal of Charges** unfavorable report JUD; unfavorable report JPR (RSC 3)

**HB 1082** Justice Reinvestment Act - Modifications Passed House 92 – 43, first reading JPR (RSC 3)

**HB 887** Criminal Law - Death Penalty - Murder of Specific Individuals or Mass Murder unfavorable report JUD (RSC 3)

**HB 1379** Criminal Procedure - Pretrial Release - Defendant on Parole unfavorable report JUD (RSC 4)
SB 1100/ HB 1529 Criminal Law - Assault - Sentencing (Violence Prevention Education Act) unfavorable report JPR; unfavorable report JUD (RSC 4)

HB 1700 Criminal Procedure - Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits - Analysis unfavorable report JUD, withdrawn (RSC 4)

Marlene Cohn

CORRECTIONS

HB 1808 Correctional Services - Statewide Inmate Release Programs - Office of Alternatives to Incarceration (Conaway) creates and staffs an Office of Alternatives to Incarceration in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services. The Office would adopt regulations governing the release of inmates in local correctional facilities. Using a risk assessment tool recommended by the US Department of Justice, the judge who committed the inmate to incarceration could rule that the inmate could participate in a home detention or work release program, or a pretrial release program. The new Office would be responsible for supervising the release and obtaining employment for the released person. Based on the recommendation of the director of the correctional facility, the judge may order the inmate released to a prerelease center. On the recommendation of the director of the prerelease center and a report of the inmate’s performance in the program, the judge may release the inmate from custody. The director of the prerelease center shall collect a portion of the inmate’s earnings to cover the county’s costs for food, lodging and clothing. First reading HRU

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

SB 237 Adult Correctional Institutions - Literacy and Entrepreneurship Curriculum - Development and Implementation favorable Report with amendments, FIN; Passed Senate 47 - 0; House, First reading HRU (RSC 1)

HB 291/SB 1137 Correctional Services - Inmate Case Record - Educational, Vocational and Job History Second hearing passed, JPR (RSC 2)HB 295 Correctional Services - Diminution Credits - Education unfavorable report JUD withdrawn (RSC 2)

HB 579/SB 210 Correctional Services - Murder - Diminution Credits unfavorable report, JUD (RSC 2)

SB 598/ HB797 Correctional Services - Inmates - Menstrual Hygiene Products Passed House 138 - 0; Passed Senate 46 - 0 (RSC 2)

SB 629/ HB 787 Correctional Services - Pregnant Inmates - Medical Care Passed Senate 37 - 7 (RSC 2)

SB 539/ HB 786 Correctional Services - Restrictive Housing - Limitations Passed House 131 - 5; first hearing 3/16 JPR (RSC 2)
HB 963 Correctional Services - Eligibility for Parole - Violent Crime unfavorable report JUD (RSC 3)

HB 1256 Public Safety - Deaths Involving a Correctional Officer - Reports unfavorable report JUD (RSC 3)

HB 1289 Correctional Services - Arrested Persons - Mental Disorder Screenings unfavorable report JUD, withdrawn (RSC 4)

Marlene Cohn

DRUG ABUSE

HB 02/SB 01 Natalie M. LaPrada Cannabis Commission Reform Act House passed 3/8; Hrg 3/20 FIN

SB 87 Controlled Dangerous Substances --- Registration, Schedules, Penalties, and Orders of Impoundment Senate passed 1/24. Hrg 3/20 HGO


HB 268 Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission - Provider Applications - Opioid Use Disorder Unfavorable report 3/17. HGO

HB 325/SB 446 Criminal Law - Use or Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance - De Minimis Quantity JUD unfavorable report. JPR unfavorable report and withdrawn.

HB 326/SB 288 Public Health - Overdose and Infectious Disease Prevention Supervised Drug Consumption Facility Program Unfavorable report Senate FIN


HB 499 Involuntary Commitment Unfavorable report HGO. Withdrawn.

SB 522 Health Care Providers - Opioid Prescriptions - Discussion of Information and Risks Passed Senate with amendments 3/19. Hrg 3/20 HGO


HB 924/SB 1222 Emergency Medical Care – Administration of Opioid Antidotes – Immunity Hrgs 3/7 JUD; 3/14 JPR

Chris Hager
GUN CONTROL

**SB 1262** – Background Information for Firearm License Investigations – School Crisis Welfare Officers (School Safety Act 2018: Prevention) (Astle, Miller, & Waugh) creates a State Police workgroup to investigate background information on applicants for firearm licenses, requires school crisis welfare officers, and specifies duties for those officers. The bill would require the Department of Human Resources to provide the sheriff of each county at least one individual to work as a school crisis welfare officer. The duties of the officer would include investigating cases of potential violence in the school system, in particular individuals who have been reported on more than one occasion as potential dangers, assist schools in crisis response programs and in taking steps to prevent violence in the schools. They would also assist in the investigation and prosecution of violent crimes that occur in or near schools. Hrg 3/23 JPR

**SB 1263** Public Safety – School Mental Health Services and Mental Disorder Weapon Restraining Order (School Safety Act of 2018: Anticipation) (Waugh & Miller) requires the MD State Department of Education (MSDE) to develop a model policy for the establishment of a threat assessment team by January 1, 2019. Legislation would require local superintendents to enter into MOUs to coordinate mental health and behavioral health interventions and services, and also requires local school systems to create threat assessment teams. The bill would also establish detailed procedures for the issuance of mental disorder weapon restraining orders and create a new crime of knowingly threatening to commit or cause a crime of violence that would put 5 or more minors at substantial risk of death or serious injury, if the threat were carried out. Hrg 3/23 JPR

**SB 1264** – Primary and Secondary Schools – Law Enforcement Presence (School Safety Act 2018: Deterrence) (Jennings, Waugh & Miller) requires that each public high school have an armed school resource officer (SRO) present on school grounds during regular school hours on school days. The officer would perform screenings at the entrance to the school, regularly patrol school grounds, participate in all school drills, etc. The bill authorizes private schools to have an armed SRO and requires local law enforcement agencies to collaborate with local public schools to establish a reasonable time for responses to an emergency at schools. Hrg 3/23 JPR

**Updates on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:**

**SB 27/HB 29** (RSC-1) Passed Senate, Favorable report JUD 3/26

**HB 819/SB 741** (RSC-2) Passed House 3/14: Senate Second Reading Passed with Amendments 3/23


Mary Ellis

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:


HB 479/SB 1066 Juvenile Law - Lead Testing and Behavioral Health Assessment (Mosby/Conway) Unfavorable Report JPR; Unfavorable Report JUD (RSC 2)

HB 555 / SB 257 Juvenile Law – Records – Juveniles Charged as Adults (Sydnor/Kelley plus 11) Unfavorable Report JPR; Unfavorable Report, Withdrawn JUD (RSC 1)

HB 827 / SB 669 Juvenile Law - Juvenile Diversion Program (West/Brochin & Smith) Hrg 3/06 JPR; Unfavorable Report, Withdrawn JUD (RSC 2)

HB 859 Juvenile Law - Transfer of Cases to Juvenile Court (Clippinger) Unfavorable Report, Withdrawn 3/12 JUD (RSC 2)

HB 1023/SB 861 Juvenile Law - Witnesses - Body Attachment (Clippinger/Ferguson) JPR; Hrg 4/3 JUD (RSC 3)

HB 1244 / SB 657 Workgroup on Establishing an Independent School Board for the Juvenile Services Education System (Hettleman plus 23/ Kelley plus 27) Hrg 2/28 EHEA; Unfavorable Report, Withdrawn JUD (RSC 2)

HB 1411/SB 346 Criminal Law - Death Penalty – Reinstatement (McComas plus 20/ Cassilly plus 7) Hrg 2/07 JPR; Unfavorable Report JUD (RSC 2)

HB 1550/SB 863 Juvenile Law - Juvenile Court Jurisdiction (Sydnor/Kelley) Hrsg Unfavorable Report JPR; Unfavorable Report, Withdrawn JUD (RSC 3)

HB 1524/SB 1134 Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (Clippinger/Ferguson) JUD; Hrg 3/13 JPR (RSC 3)

HB 1702/SB 1147 Juveniles- Reportable Offenses (Washington County Delegation) Unfavorable Report JPR/Unfavorable Report JUD (RSC 3)

SB 91 Juvenile Law - Disclosure of Court Records (Chair, JPR, by request – Departmental – Juvenile Services) Passed JPR, Favorable with amendments (46-0), Hrg 3/22 JUD (RSC 1)

Judy Morenoff & Jill Muth

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

HB 1173 Public Safety - Use of Force De-Escalation Training of Law Enforcement Officers - Reports unfavorable report JUD (RSC 3)

Marlene Cohn

EDUCATION

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

SB 185 Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2019) (RSC 2). Both houses have passed their versions of the budget. The legislature restored funding to after school and summer programs, and restored funding to the Next Generation Scholars Program to prepare low-income students for college. The budget sets aside $200 million for implementation of the Kirwan Commission’s recommendations for next year. The Senate version appropriates approximately $9 million for Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) Program for nonpublic schools while the House version reduces funding to $5 million and requires more transparency and accountability by nonpublic schools. A conference committee is scheduled to vote on final recommendations beginning 3/26.


- $309 million for the state’s Capital Improvement Program for School Construction, which provides every Maryland school district funding for renovation and new construction projects
- $60 million for school districts that have significant growth in enrollment or over 300 relocatable classrooms, which includes the additional $20 million approved by the House Appropriations Committee
- $6.1 million for the state’s Aging Schools Program, which provides a small amount of funding for the oldest schools in the state
- $7 million for Nonpublic Aging Schools, which provides grants to private and parochial schools - the Senate added $3.5 million to the Governor’s proposed amount for security enhancements
- $10 million added to improve safety and security in school buildings statewide
• $15 million added for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning improvements for Baltimore City public school buildings, which includes an additional $5 million approved by the House Appropriations Committee. House vote due 3/26/2018.

SB 373 Education – Head Start Program – Annual Appropriation (The Ulysses Currie Act) (RSC 1) Hrg 3/20 APP.

HB 1415 Education - Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (RSC-3). Passed House with amendments to the Learning in Extended Academic Program (LEAP), in which the eligible schools were changed from 90% or more students qualifying for Free and Reduced Meals to 80% or more. Changes were also made to limit the literacy program to end in FY22. EHEA, B&T.

SB 611 Education – Healthy School Facility Fund – Established (RSC 2) Passed Senate with amendments which increased funding to $30 million per year, changed effective years to FY2020 and 2021, and added plumbing and windows to building issues which could be addressed under this legislation. Hrg 3/28 APP.

SB 1183 Public School Construction Assessment and Maintenance Reform Act (RSC 4). Hrg 3/15 B&T

HB 1783/SB 1243 21st Century School Facilities Act (RSC 4) HB 1783 received a favorable report with 42 pages of amendments by APP. The Interagency Committee for School Construction would be replaced by Interagency Commission for the Public School Construction Program. A statewide assessment of the condition of school buildings would still be required, but a workgroup and the Interagency Commission in consultation with local jurisdictions would determine how the results would be used. A supplemental annual $10 million School Safety Grant Program is established. SB 1243 hrg 3/15 B&T.

SB 1122 Education – Commercial Gaming Revenues – Constitutional Amendment (RSC 3) Passed Senate with amendments. The amendments speed up the increase in school funding so that the governor must include not less than the following amounts as supplemental funding for education in the budget: FY2020-$125 million, FY2021-$250 million, FY2022-$375 million and for FY2023 and thereafter 100 percent of the revenues received for education as supplemental funding. Hrg 3/29 APP, W&M.

HB 823 Education - Public School Teachers – Preparation (RSC-2) Passed House with amendments. Hrg 3/21 EHEA.

SB 515 Career and Technology Education and Workforce Investment Act (RSC 3) Passed Senate with amendments hrg 3/20 APP, W&M.

SB 978 Career Preparation Expansion Act (RSC 3) Passed Senate with amendments. ECM, W&M.
SB 949 Career Education Policy Act (RSC 3) Unfavorable Report, EHEA.

Lois Hybl

EDUCATION: SCHOOL SAFETY

HB 1816/SB 1257 Safe Schools Act of 2018 (Speaker/President) would require each school system in the state to develop a School Emergency plan, subject to State Board of Education approval, and to complete safety assessments of each school annually. Initially the State Fund expenditures would increase by 10.0 million and by an additional 2.5 million annually beginning in 2019. Expenditures from the fund are restricted to implementing the SSA. Further, local education agencies must adopt and implement comprehensive maintenance plans. Failure to do so would result in withholding of school construction funds.

A Governing Board will be established, with an Executive Director appointed by the Governor. The Board will consist of various educational specialists, teacher, parent and community representatives. The Board shall appoint the Executive Director of the presently existing Maryland Center for School Safety. The Center will be responsible for developing a curriculum for training school personnel, and for disseminating safety information to school personnel and the general public.

Each County Board must establish a County Threat Assessment Team, which, in turn, will have oversight over the School Threat Assessment Teams. These teams will have the responsibility of having knowledge of threats to the safety of students, teachers and community members in the school itself or community at large. Each County Board must develop a School Security Plan to meet its individual needs, as must each individual school. Each school must have a School Resource Officer, who has been trained and certified as qualified. Hrgs 3/22 W&M, APP; 3/15 EHEA, B&T

Patricia Gordon

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

HB 1/SB 2 Family Law – Child Conceived Without Consent – Termination of Parental Rights (RSC 1) Both bills approved by Governor.

HB 191 Family Law – Marriage – Age Requirements (RSC 1) Passed in House; first reading JPR

HB 430/SB 379 Education – Child Care Subsidies – Mandatory Funding Levels (RSC 2) each bill has passed in house of origin; Hrgs 3/28 in B&T, 3/29 in APP

HB 524/SB 291 Family Law – Protecting the Resources of Children in State Custody (RSC 2) each bill has passed in house of origin. HB 524 first reading JPR, SB 291 Hrg 4/3 JUD

HB 600/SB 131 Child Abuse and Neglect – Training (RSC 1) HB 600 passed House, first reading JPR, SB 131 Hrg 1/23 JPR

HB 806 Education – Summer Meals Expansion Grant Pilot Program (RSC 3) Hrg 2/22 W&M

HB 1152/SB 965 Family Law – Age of Majority – Jurisdiction of the Court (RSC 3) Unfav Rpts JUD & JPR

HB 1476 Education – Supplemental Prekindergarten Grant – Eligibility (RSC 3) Hrg 3/8 W&M

HB 1610 State Occupied Building – Child Care Centers – Requirements and Renovations (RSC 3) Hrg 3/7 HGO

HB 1685/SB 912 Maryland Prenatal and Infant Care Coordination Services Grant Program Fund (Thrive by Three Fund) (RSC 3) HB 1685 referred by HRU to HGO
Hrg 3/20, SB 912 passed Senate, first reading HGO

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

SB 491/HB 1303 Family Law – Domestic Violence – Permanent Protective Orders (Kelley) (RSC – 3) expands the circumstances under which the court is required to issue a certain permanent protective order; and requires the court to issue a permanent protective order against a certain individual if, during the term of a certain protective order, the individual commits an act of abuse against a certain person eligible for relief under certain circumstances. Hrgs 2/8 JUD; 3/28 JPR

HB 30 Domestic Violence – Education and Definition of Abuse (RSC – 3) Hrgs 1/18 JUD; 3/28 JPR


HB 328/SB 121 Family Law - Domestic Violence - Definition of Abuse (RSC – 3) Hrgs 2/1 JUD; 1/23 JUD; Unfavorable Report JUD, withdrawn; 3/27 JPR

Judy Morenoff

Deborah Mitchell
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Update on Bills Previously Reported in the RSC:

**HB 06** Criminal Law - Human Trafficking - Felony *(RSC – 3)* Unfavorable Report, JUD

**HB 346/SB 297** Criminal Law - Crime of Violence - Human Trafficking Hrgs 2/6 JUD *(RSC – 3)*; 2/7 JPR; 3/20 JUD

**SB 585** Devices Capable of Accessing Content on the Internet - Blocking Capability (Human Trafficking Prevention Act for Maryland) *(RSC – 3)* Unfavorable Report FIN, withdrawn

Deborah Mitchell

IMMIGRATION

**HB 1536/SB 546** Higher Education – Tuition Rates – Exemptions (Hixson et al/Conway) Currently under Maryland law, if a person has graduated from a high school in Maryland and has attended for three (3) years or is the recipient of a General Equivalency Diploma (GED), he/she may go to a community college where he/she is a resident at in-state tuition cost, and having earned 60 credits or an associates’ degree, advance to a 4-year State of Maryland college or university at in-state tuition rates, and this process must commence within four (4) years of graduation or the award of the GED. HR 1536 would no longer require that the education be commenced at the community college and the commencement of post high school education could be up to six (6) years following graduation from high school or having been awarded a GED. If HB 1536 is enacted, students would be eligible for in state and/or in county tuition through the awarding of a degree as long as the student or parent(s) or legal guardian(s) file a Maryland income tax return each year between June 5, 2012 and March 5, 2018. Citizenship in the United States or the holding of permanent residency status in the United States is not mentioned as a requirement for in-state tuition. Passed House with amendments 88-47, EHEA. Hrg 2/21 EHEA

**HB 1461** Criminal Procedure – Immigration – “Supporting All Families Everywhere” (SAFE Act) (Gutierrez). HB 1461 is written for two purposes:

1. to assure community trust in Maryland’s law enforcement, (state, county and municipality,) with regard to undocumented aliens by defining parameters, and
2. to protect those in Maryland’s law enforcement community (state, county and municipality) from several possible demands or requests such as
   a. holding in incarceration beyond release date for turnover to the federal government any person in relation to his/her residency status,
   b. perceived requirements to collect and turn over information or maintain lists with regard to documentation of citizenship or residency status, or
   c. having to ask questions about citizenship or immigration status.
With the passage of this bill as written, the State of Maryland would indemnify the law enforcement person for any legal actions that might be taken against him/her for failure to carry out such demands or requests, provided that they were not direct requirements of federal law. The various parts of HB 1461 are written as severable. The US Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), enters into written agreements with local law enforcement entities to assist ICE in its deportation efforts. At this time Anne Arundel, Frederick and Harford Counties have entered into such agreements. Hrg 3/13 JUD

HB 1549 “Sanctuary Laws” For Illegal Aliens – Prohibition (Miller et al). This would require that local governments (counties and municipalities) fully comply with federal law prohibiting illegal aliens. Local governments would not be able to restrict their personnel from requesting immigration status information of an individual. Local governments would be required to fully comply with and support federal law enforcement in prohibiting entry or presence or residence in the US of illegal aliens. Jurisdictions failing to comply would receive notification from the State of Maryland, be able to appeal within 30 days, and if found not in compliance, the local jurisdictions would forfeit any state fund increases that would be remitted to them for law enforcement (above the previous year.) Heard in Judiciary 3/13/18. Unfavorable report JUD.

HB 1613/SB 1239 Appointment or Designation of Standby Guardian - Adverse Immigration Action (Sanchez/Smith) This emergency bill authorizes a parent of a minor to designate or to petition a court to appoint a standby guardian of the person or property of a minor effective on the parent’s removal from the United States. The bill also specifies the court procedures for considering a petition for standby guardianship filed either by a parent or the person designated by the parent to be a standby guardian and stipulates when a standby guardianship becomes effective. Hrg 3/7 JUD Favorable with amendments by JUD. Passed House. Hrg 3/28 JPR. SB 1239 SRU

SB 581 Criminal Procedure - Immigration - U Nonimmigrant Status and Enforcement (Ramirez) provides that a person who is temporarily in the United States with permission, such as a student or visitor, and assists law enforcement in solving a crime could have a document submitted to the US Department of Citizenship and Immigration Services for securing a U Non-immigrant Visa. Hrg 2/14 JPR

SB 357 Voter Registration Integrity Act of 2018 (Ready) would have required jury commissioners in Maryland to provide to the State Board of Elections the names etc. of those called for jury duty who were found not to be US citizens, and for local Elections Directors to seek and request this information from jury commissioners, and for the voter registration records to reflect the removal of such individuals from the roles of registered voters. Hrg 2/8 EHEA. Unfavorable report by EHEA.
HB 1626 Public Information Act - Motor Vehicle Administration - Warrant or Subpoena for Personal Information (Stein plus 57) This emergency bill would require that custodians of records of the MD Motor Vehicles Administration can disclose personal information about a person to United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement only after being provided a valid warrant or subpoena issued by a federal or state court. Hrg 3/29 ET

HB 1493/SB 526 Labor and Employment - Regulation of Farm Labor Contractors and Foreign Labor Contractors (Valderrama/Lee) These cross-filed bills prescribe requirements for those contracting foreign laborers as well as the registration of the contractors. Hrgs 3/13 ECM; 2/20 FIN

HB 1308 Keep Our Communities Safe Act of 2018, State and Local Correctional Facilities - Undocumented Immigrants - Transfer to United States Department of Homeland Security (Szeliga et al) calls for state and local correctional facilities who have custody of an undocumented immigrant convicted and serving a sentence, to transfer the person to the United States Department of Homeland Security. Hrg 3/13 JUD. Unfavorable report by JUD.

HB 1589 Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees – Placement Information (Unaccompanied Alien Children Placement Transparency Act) (Miller) would require that the Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees annually request from the US Department of Health and Human Resources information on the alien children whom the latter had placed in Maryland with Maryland sponsors, and for the State agency, having received this information, to provide this information to appropriate county agencies. The Maryland agency’s request would include medical records of the child if he/she is attending public school in Maryland, the sponsor’s address and immigration status, and any federal public benefits the child receives as well as any federal benefits public the sponsor receives as a result of the sponsorship. The state would then provide information to the appropriate county entities quantity information without identifying any persons, either child or sponsor. Hrg 3/1 W&M

Carole Conors

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