

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON STATUS OF BILLS

**Legislators.** A constituent's State Senator or Delegate, or the bill's sponsor often are the most effective source of information on the status of a bill.

**Department of Legislative Reference.** The Library and Information Services Division of the Department of Legislative Reference answers any request for information about the status of a bill.

Library & Information Services: (410) 841-3810  
 DC area: (301) 858-3810  
 Other areas: 1-800-492-7122, ext. 3810

TTY for deaf: (410) 841-3814  
 TTY for deaf: (301) 858-3814

State House Information Desk  
 (ground floor): (410) 841-3886  
 DC area: (301) 858-3886

During the legislative session, the Department of Legislative Reference publishes the daily floor proceedings for both the Senate and the House of Delegates, as well as daily synopses of legislation introduced. The proceedings list all actions taken on bills and joint resolutions in either chamber each day. The synopses summarize legislation introduced each day, and note the primary sponsor(s), the committee assignment, and the section of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* affected by the legislation. As with printed bills, the Senate proceedings and synopses are on white paper, the House on blue. The Department also publishes weekly the *Committee Meetings and Hearing Schedule* with the times and places for all legislative committee meetings. The hearing schedule is published weekly all year, but is especially useful during the legislative session because it lists what bills will be heard each day.

A limited number of synopses, proceedings, and hearing schedules are available to the public at the Information Desk of the State House (ground floor) or the Information Desk in the Legislative Services Building (basement level). Copies of printed bills and joint resolutions may be obtained from the Bill Room in the Legislative Services Building.

The Department of Legislative Reference offers a subscription service to persons or organizations with a broad continuing need for bill information.

Legislative Sales  
 Legislative Services Building, Room G-17  
 90 State Circle  
 Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 841-3883  
 DC area: (301) 858-3883  
 other areas: 1-800-492-7122

SUBSCRIPTIONS PICKED UP IN ANNAPOLIS

Bills (1st & 3rd readers, enrolled) . . . . . \$100  
 Synopses, proceedings, hearing schedules . . . \$25

SUBSCRIPTIONS MAILED OUT

Bills . . . . . \$600  
     1st reader copies only: \$375  
     3rd reader copies only: \$275  
     Enrolled bills only: \$125  
 Synopses . . . . . \$260  
 Proceedings . . . . . \$130  
 Hearing schedules . . . . . \$110

Every April, immediately after the adjournment of the General Assembly, the Department of Legislative Reference compiles *Session Review*. This volume contains an overview of the issues and an account of legislation passed that session by the General Assembly, as well as significant bills that failed. Copies may be obtained from the Department for a fee.

The Department of Legislative Reference also publishes legislative committee reports, various indexes to bills, *Final Status Report of Proposed Legislation*, *Synopsis of Laws Enacted*, journals of both Senate and House, and *Laws of Maryland*.

**Office of Legislative Data Processing.** By subscription, the Office of Legislative Data Processing offers access to an online bill status system, called the Maryland Legislative Information System (MLIS).

*Online Bill Status System Subscription—*  
 (410) 841-3900

**Legislative Caucuses.** Legislative caucuses track bills of particular interest to their members. Informational materials and newsletters sometimes are available from their offices.

Presently, the General Assembly has two formally organized caucuses. The Maryland Legislative Black Caucus was created in 1970. The Women Legislators of Maryland began as the Maryland Chapter of the Order of Women Legislators in 1972.

Maryland Legislative Black Caucus  
 Lowe House Office Building, Room 323  
 Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 841-3328

Women Legislators of Maryland  
 Lowe House Office Building, Room 200  
 Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 841-3013

**Newspapers.** During a legislative session, newspapers often publish public hearing schedules of General Assembly committees and articles about bills introduced.