



The Maryland State Law Library

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Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1697

Maryland Legislative History Checklist

Updated by Library Staff, January 2012

Maryland Code Section: _____

At the end of each statute, the publishers of the Code provide a history of the statute's amendments, displayed in parentheses in chronological order separated by semi-colons.

Session Law/Chapter Number: _____ **Year** _____

Available in the Library's conference room and online from the Maryland State Archives and the HeinOnline database.

Senate/House Bill Number: _____. Note the bill number provided in the header of the chapter in the Laws of Maryland. It is important to note whether the bill number provided is for the House or the Senate.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Research Maryland courts' usage of legislative history</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cases: In re Jason W., 378 Md. 596 (2003); Conaway v. Deane, 401 Md. 219 (2007); Bd. of Educ. v. Beka Indus., 190 Md. App. 668 (2010); State v. Johnson, 415 Md. 413 (2010); State v. Gardner, 420 Md. 1 (2011); etc. • Secondary Sources: Jack Schwartz and Amanda Stakem Conn, "The Court of Appeals at the Cocktail Party: The Use and Misuse of Legislative History," 54 Md. L. Rev. 432 (2005); Norman J. Singer and J.D. Shambie Singer, Statutes and Statutory Construction (formerly called Sutherland Statutory Construction); etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Bill Drafting Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Assembly Website, 1996 to the present ▪ Bill Files at the State Law Library, 1976 to 1998 (Available in microfilm; 1999 House bills also available) ▪ Bill Files at the Department of Legislative Services Library, 1965 to present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1965 to 1972: Files from <i>interim</i> sessions from are available in microfilm, arranged by Legislative Council Report "item number." ▪ 1967 to 1974: A limited number of original Files from regular sessions between are available—consult the "Pre-1975 Legislative History Files List" to determine holdings. ▪ 1975: Files from 1975 are available in microfilm. ▪ 1976 to 1999: A limited number of original Files from regular sessions between 1976 to 1999 are available—consult the "Files Kept in Stacks List" to determine holdings. ▪ 2000 to 2010: Original Files are available. ▪ 2011 to 2012: Original Files are retained by the legislative committee to which the bill was referred; consult the Library to determine access.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Legislative Policy Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reports of Committees to the General Assembly, 1977 to 1981 (Call Number: LE 3(A).2 :RAP in the MD State Documents Collection) ▪ Summary Reports, from 1983 to the present (Call Number: LE 3(a).2 :SRO in the MD State Documents Collection)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Legislative Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reports to the General Assembly, 1939 to 1975 (Library's holdings start in 1941. Call Number: LE 3(A).2 :RAP in the MD State Documents Collection) ▪ Research Reports, 1940 to 1958 (Call Number: LE 3a.2 :LCR in the MD State Documents Collection)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Commission to Revise the Annotated Code (Call Number: LE 5.2 :CR in the MD State Documents Collection)</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Maryland House and Senate Journals (In Library Storage, Basement Room D; ask a librarian for availability.)</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Reports from Legislative and Executive Task Forces and Study Commissions (Available on the web via the Library's Digital Collections or search the Library catalog via Advanced Search and limit location to "MD Task Force Report.")</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Governor's Messages and Vetoes</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Annual Reports and Publications of Executive Agencies and the Judicial Branch</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Reports of Professional and Trade Associations and Stakeholders Reports of the Annual Meetings of the Maryland State Bar Association, 1896 to 1991 (Call Number: KFM1281 .M382 in the Maryland Legal Collection)</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Legislative Study Group Publications (Call Number: LE 9.2 :IR in the MD State Documents Collection)</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Documentation from National Legislative Organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (Call Number: KF165 .A2 in the Legal Texts Collection) ▪ American Law Institute's model codes (Search the Library catalog with "American Law Institute" as author and "model code" as title.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Newspapers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baltimore Sun (online at the Library) ▪ Annapolis Capital (online at the Library) ▪ Daily Record (available in microfilm at the Library)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Journal Articles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Index to Legal Periodicals (online at the Library)

Notes:

