



## How to Find, Track, and Read a Bill

### How to Find a Bill

On [Maryland General Assembly](#), type in a bill number under **Find Legislation** (ex., HB1; SB1). If you do not know the bill number, do a search **By Broad Subject** or an advance search [here](#). Be sure to select the current session year. This is also where you can look up bills from past legislative sessions.

### How to Track a Bill

To track the status of a bill during the legislative session, click [here](#).

### How to Read a Bill

A bill consists of the bill number, the bill title, the purpose paragraph, the section of the Maryland code being changed and the body of the bill. The most relevant section is the body of the bill.

- CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. Lowercase is existing law.
- [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
- Following the bill's introduction and consideration by a standing committee, the committee may add or delete provisions to the bill which will be indicated by Underlining (new language) or a ~~strike-out~~ (stricken or deleted language).
- After a bill is voted by an entire chamber (House or Senate), the committee in the opposite chamber may also make changes to the bill which are indicated by *Italics*.
- ***Bold italics indicate conference committee amendments***, which may occur after both chambers have voted the bill with different language and then a small committee of both Delegates and Senators will convene to make final changes.