



## Memorandum

**To:** Governing Board

**From:** Ross Goldstein

**Date:** March 1, 2024

**Subject:** 2024 Legislative Session - Update

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During the current legislative session, the following bills have an impact on or are of interest to the MLDS Center. The status of each bill as of March 1, 2024 is noted.

1. [SB 444 / HB 634 - Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center - Student Information - United States Census Bureau](#) - This bill allows the MLDS Center Governing Board to authorize the Center to send student information to the United States Census Bureau. As discussed during the December Governing Board meeting, the purpose of sharing data with the Census Bureau is to participate with their Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO) explorer project.
  - **Status** - SB 444 passed the Senate and HB 634 passed second reading in the House.
2. [SB 756 - Primary and Secondary Education - School Safety and Student Well-Being - Examination of Policies and Funding](#) - This bill requires the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS), the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), and the Interagency Commission On School Construction to review and develop guidelines on the state of physical security in schools and establishes school safety funding requirements. The bill also requires MSDE, in consultation with MCSS and the MLDS Center, to provide an analysis of the effect State and local policies from school years 2018 - 2024 had on school safety and student well-being.
  - **Status** - Committee hearing held; no further action.
3. [SB 818 / HB 1271 - Information Technology - Artificial Intelligence - Policies and Procedures \(Artificial Intelligence Governance Act of 2024\)](#) - This bill requires all units of state government to create and submit to the Chief Data Officer, an inventory of data collected. The bill provides a definition of artificial intelligence and requires each unit of state government to conduct an inventory of systems that employ artificial intelligence. Finally, the bill establishes the Governor's Artificial Intelligence Subcabinet.
  - **Status** - Committee hearings held in both chambers; no further action.
4. [SB 1017 - Correctional Services - Maryland Correctional Enterprises - Formerly Incarcerated Individuals](#) - This bill requires the Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE) to connect incarcerated individuals with job opportunities before parole. The programs established by MCE shall include a plan for employment within 60 days of release. The MLDS Center among other agencies are required to provide consultation on the programs.
  - **Status** - Committee hearing held; no further action.

5. [SB 1022/ HB 1244 - Maryland Higher Education Commission - Academic Program Approval and Institutional Mission Statements - Requirements](#) - This bill requires the Department of Labor, Department of Commerce, and the Higher Education Commission (MHEC) to each have one full-time staff member to work collaboratively with one another in producing uniform and consistent baseline data about workforce needs to inform State policies relating to postsecondary education (including the State Plan for Higher Education and program approvals). The bill specifies that MHEC is required to consult, as necessary, with other state agencies with expertise in specific workforce segments, including the MLDS Center.
  - *Status* - Committee hearings recently held in both chambers.
6. [SB 620 / HB 92 - Resources and Education for All Prisons \(REAP\) Act](#) - This bill requires the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) to assist incarcerated individuals in accessing federal Pell Grants for higher education. The bill also requires the Department of Labor to set goals for the number of incarcerated individuals in education programs, establish a tracking system, and forward information from the tracking system to the Maryland Higher Education system.
  - *Status* - HB 92 passed third reading in the House and committee hearing held recently in the Senate.

#### **FY 2025 Budget**

The Governor's budget allocated \$3,526,666 for the MLDS Center for FY 25. The budget analysis by the Department of Legislative Services contained no proposed cuts and did not have any questions or issues for the Center. The allocation represents a minor reduction of \$5,181 from the FY 24 allocation.

#### **Action**

Informational.