

# Legislative Update



## **AIA Maryland Legislative Update**

*Week of March 30, 2026*

The Maryland General Assembly has entered the final phase of the 2026 legislative session. With crossover complete, legislation is now moving through the opposite chamber for final consideration, and budget negotiations are underway. AIA Maryland continues to advocate for policies that protect architectural licensure, strengthen permitting processes, and support the built environment across the state.

### **Priority Legislation**

#### **SB 653 / HB 1180 – Architects Act (Fraud Prevention & Digital Seal Verification)**

- **Status:** Successfully crossed over and currently under review in opposite chamber committees.
- **AIA Maryland Position: Support**

This legislation strengthens enforcement of Maryland’s Architects Act and establishes a verification process for digital permit submissions at every level of government. The bill requires that licensed architects—not permit applicants—certify plan submissions and authorizes the State Board of Architects to create an anonymous reporting portal to support confidential reporting within the profession.

**With strong bipartisan support and successful crossover, AIA Maryland anticipates continued advancement toward final passage.**

### **Additional Legislation We Support**

#### **HB 691 – State Permitting Efficiency**

- Streamlines state-level permitting processes.

- Reduces delays affecting project financing and delivery timelines.

### **HB 1016 – Non-Compete Reform**

- AIA Maryland's support remains on record.
- Monitoring continued movement in the second chamber.

### **Monitoring & Fiscal Watch**

#### **Energy & Transmission Legislation**

- Multiple bills addressing grid capacity, generation classification, and cost recovery remain active.
- AIA Maryland continues monitoring implications for electrification, infrastructure readiness, and development costs.

#### **Land Use & Development Policy**

- Vested rights and development timing proposals remain under review.
- Evaluating potential downstream impacts on code updates and regulatory timelines.

### **Legislative Trivia Quiz – Thank You for Participating!**

We had a fantastic response to our recent legislative trivia quiz, with **25 entries** submitted. Thank you to all who participated and tested their knowledge of the Maryland legislative process!

#### **Correct Answers:**

- **Question 3:** In the Maryland General Assembly, where must a bill be introduced?  
*Answer:* Either chamber — the sponsor chooses.
- **Question 4:** What happens after a bill receives a “favorable” vote in committee?  
*Answer:* It advances to the full chamber for debate and vote.
- **Question 5:** If the Governor vetoes a bill in Maryland, how can the General Assembly override the veto?  
*Answer:* Two-thirds vote in both chambers.

#### **Congratulations to our winners:**

- Michael Dolce
- Jason Darling
- Eric Catellier
- Marjory Whitehurst Gibson
- Randy Ohler
- Heber Daniel Munoz

- Jennifer Verbeke
- Joe Taylor
- Stephanie L. Gerson

Winners will receive an email from [jaclynf@aiamd.org](mailto:jaclynf@aiamd.org) with additional details regarding prizes and next steps. Congratulations!

### **Live Legislative Tracking List**

For detailed bill summaries, status updates, and committee assignments, visit:

[www.aiamd.org/bills](http://www.aiamd.org/bills)

This page is updated regularly as legislation progresses.

### **Not just a Political Action Committee The Maryland Architects PAC Protects Architects' Careers.**

Founded in 1995, the Maryland Architects PAC partners with AIA Maryland to achieve legislative goals, aiding architects in electing supportive legislators. Financial contributions are vital for promoting Maryland architects' interests and enhancing the state's architectural practice.



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