

Legislative Update



AIA Maryland Legislative Update

As of March 9, 2026

AIA Maryland continues active advocacy in Annapolis to protect licensure, strengthen professional practice, and support policies that improve the built environment. This week included testimony, committee engagement, and continued monitoring of key legislation.

HB 1180 – Committee Testimony

- **Status:** Testimony delivered before committee.
- **AIA Maryland Position:** Engaged and advocating for professional integrity.

During testimony, AIA Maryland emphasized the importance of maintaining professional accountability and ensuring that any statutory or regulatory changes affecting the design and construction process are practical, enforceable, and aligned with existing licensure standards.

Our message: legislation must strengthen — not complicate — the practice of architecture in Maryland.

Bills We Are Supporting

SB 653 – Architects Act (Fraud Prevention & Digital Seal Verification)

- Strengthens enforcement of the Architects Act.
- Establishes a verification process for digital permit submissions.
- Includes sponsor amendments clarifying certification requirements and authorizing an anonymous reporting portal.

HB 1180 – Crossfile of SB 653

- Continued advocacy in the House.
- Over 300 members submitted correspondence in support.

HB 691 – Permitting Efficiency

- Streamlines state-level permitting processes.
- Reduces costly delays impacting financing and project delivery.

HB 1016 – Non-Compete Reform

- Letter of support submitted.
- Clarifies AIA Maryland's position and supports fair employment standards.

Bills We Are Monitoring

HB 716 – Surveyor Restrictions During Deer Season

- \$440,000 fiscal note.
- Operational concerns and fiscal hurdles.
- Opposition submitted.

SB 158 – Safe Routes to School

- \$96 million fiscal note.
- Significant fiscal barriers to advancement.

HB 647 – Nuclear Energy Classification

- Adds nuclear energy to renewable research study framework.
- Monitoring implications for energy policy.

HB 548 – Vested Rights

- Vests development approvals at submission.
- Potential downstream impacts on code updates and review timing.

What Happens Next

Committees are moving quickly as crossover deadlines approach. Fiscal scrutiny remains tight, particularly for bills exceeding informal Senate thresholds. AIA Maryland will continue strategic engagement to advance priority legislation and protect the profession.

Live Legislative Tracking List

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

www.aiamd.org/bills

This page is updated regularly as legislation progresses.

How well do you know how a bill becomes a law? Take our quiz, and if you get the answer right, you'll be entered into a drawing to win some one-of-a-kind AIA Maryland swag.

Take the Quiz

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.

Every donation, big or small, helps support this cause.



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