

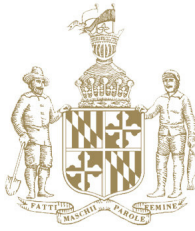
TIFFANY ALSTON, ESQ.  
Legislative District 24  
Prince George's County

Health and Government  
Operations Committee

*Subcommittees*

Government Operations  
and Health Facilities

Public Health and Minority  
Health Disparities



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 219  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3139 · 301-858-3139  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3139  
Tiffany.Alston@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for your constant support and trust during this year's 446<sup>th</sup> Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session. The Session was vigorous, and we have been resilient and relentless in advocating for the needs and concerns of all Marylanders.

My time on the Health & Government Operations Committee and on my appointed subcommittees has been devoted to ensuring that my constituents and all Maryland residents have an equal voice in healthcare. Bills I sponsored or co-sponsored in this committee focused on protecting Marylanders from excessive cost in health care, providing more access to health care for all people, ensuring small and minority business have access to procurement opportunities.

The state has fully funded the Blueprint for Education thru Fiscal Year 2027, the budget has been balanced and as county we have secured an additional \$193 million dollars over and above the statutory funding. \$28 Million is going directly to health care in Prince George's County. You may see some increases in fees as a result of our commitments. To cover our investments in the statewide Trauma System an additional \$105 Million will be raised from an annual vehicle surcharge. There will also be increases in the cost of cigarettes, vaping, and other tobacco products which should raise a total of \$150 Million for Education.

This Session, nearly 3,500 bills were introduced in the General Assembly of which 1,053 passed both Chambers and have been sent to the Governor's desk for signature. Please go to my webpage at [www.TiffanyAlston.com](http://www.TiffanyAlston.com) or scan the QR code below for a full legislative wrap-up. I am also enclosing a Special Edition of my Newsletter for your review.

I want to add you to my communication systems please text 'D24' to (240) 394-7710; by doing so, you will receive legislative updates, information on upcoming events, community gatherings, and more. Again, thank you for your support and trust. My goal is to make the government work better for you. **Contact our office to schedule a community legislative briefing for your neighborhood or scan the QR code below.** Please don't hesitate to contact my office if I can be of service.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tiffany Alston".

Tiffany Alston



# Meet the Team



**Nefetari Smith**  
Chief of Staff



**Pat Fletcher**  
Director of Community Relations



**Jesusa Balde**  
Legislative Aide

## Upcoming Events

To register: Call us at (301) 841-3139;  
Text "wrap-up" to (240) 394-7710; or  
go to [www.TiffanyAlston.com](http://www.TiffanyAlston.com).

### Legislative Wrap-Up

**Date:** Saturday, May 4th, 2024

**Time:** 10am-12pm

**Location:** Largo Community Church  
1701 Enterprise Rd, Mitchellville, MD 20721

### Legislative Wrap-Up

**Date:** Thursday, May 23rd, 2024

**Time:** 6pm-8pm

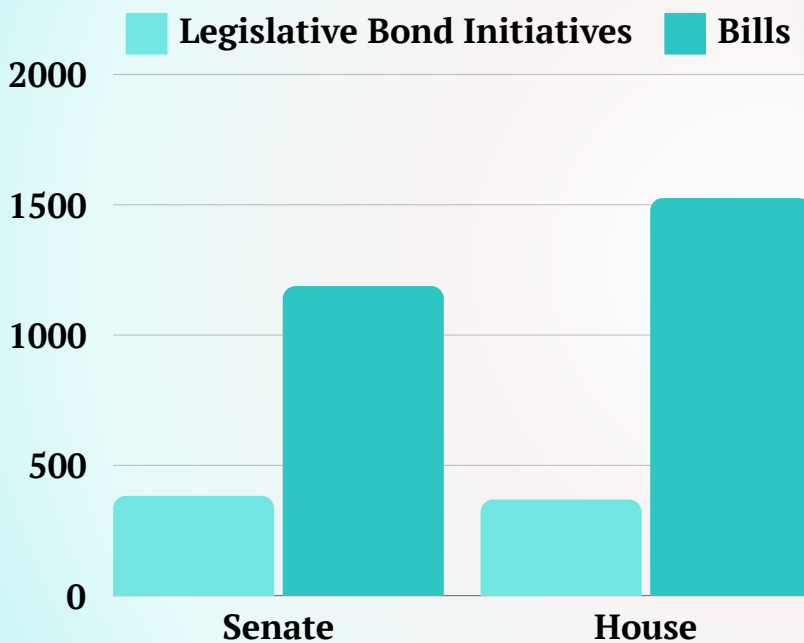
**Location:** City of Praise Family Ministries  
8501 Jericho City Dr, Landover, MD 20785

# TIFFANY TIMES



## 2024 Legislative Wrap-Up

### Legislation by the Numbers



In the Senate, there were 383 Legislative Bond Bills and 1,188 Senate Bills introduced. In total, they had a number of 1,576 bills altogether.

In the House, there were 369 Legislative Bond Bills and 1,526 House Bills introduced. In total, they had a number of 1,904 bills altogether.

*This session, there were a total of **1,053** bills that passed both Chambers & are headed to the Governor's desk.*

### Delegate Alston Working for YOU



Del. Alston & doctors from Community Radiology testify in support of **HB1259**, a **bill that requires insurance companies to pay for Breast & Lung Cancer diagnostic Screening**, which is one of the bills that she championed this session. Alston also secured bond funding for **Intrepid Hope University**. A school founded by **Dr. Ylawnda Peebles** with a mission to promote enlightenment, healing and freedom.

In this issue, you will find a summary of a few bills that passed the 2024 Legislative Session.

# Budget

**SB0360:** FY25 Budget Bill & **SB0362:**  
Budget Reconciliation & Financing Act

# Bill Highlights

## Decency Agenda

**HB0785: Freedom to Read Act:** establishes a set of State Standards for Libraries and protects Maryland's library collections and the librarians who curate them.

**HB0602: Employment Discrimination – Sexual Orientation:** expands the State's current law on Equal Pay for Equal Work to include non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

**HB1386: Education – School Employee Antibias Training – Requirements:** establishes an anti-bias teacher training program focused on combating biases, prejudices, and discrimination faced by historically marginalized racial, ethnic, and religious minorities.

**HB1287: School Leadership Training Program – Alterations:** requires all State & County Superintendents and other school leaders to complete a standardized school leadership training program.

**HB0333: Election Law – Election Discrimination and Improper Influence Related to Voting:** requires the State Board of Elections to set up a portal on its website to receive tips from the public regarding voting misinformation and other voter suppression efforts.



*Del. Alston and members of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System.*

## Health & Government Operations Committee

**HB1259: Health Insurance – Breast and Lung Cancer Screening – Coverage Requirements:** extends coverage for follow-up diagnostic tests after initial screenings for breast and lung cancer.

**HB0759: Advanced Practice Registered Nurses – Professional Liability Insurance Coverage – Notification Requirements:** requires advanced registered nurses in the State to inform patients in writing if the nurses do not maintain professional liability insurance coverage.

**HB0728: Access to Care Act:** allows undocumented Maryland residents to purchase health insurance through the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, the state's health insurance marketplace.



**HB1051: Maryland Maternal Health Act of 2024:** ensures that practices in our healthcare system protects new mothers and newborns & that hospitals in the State are taking the necessary steps to provide resources and information postpartum.

**HB1143: Emergency Medical Services – Maryland Emergency Department Wait Time Reduction Commission – Establishment** establishes the Maryland Emergency Department Wait Time Reduction Commission to address factors throughout the healthcare system that contribute to increased emergency department wait time.

**HB0576: Mental Health – Assisted Outpatient Treatment Programs:** authorizes each County to establish an assisted outpatient treatment program to prescribe specified mental health treatment regimens for mentally ill individual.

## Ways & Means Committee

**HB0416: Public Schools – Active Shooter Safety Drills or Trainings – Requirements:** requires the Maryland Center for School Safety to collaborate with an institution of higher education to study the effectiveness and impact of active shooter safety drills or trainings and identify best practices that help in reducing impacts.

**HB0903: Education – Access to Attorneys, Advocates, and Consultants for Special Education Program and Fund – Established:** provides funding and resources to eligible students with disabilities and their families who need legal, advocacy, and consultant services.



## Economic Matters Committee

**SB0001: Electricity and Gas – Retail Supply – Regulation and Consumer Protection:** protects energy customers, specifically those in lower income neighborhood, from predatory third-party retail energy suppliers.

**HB0603: Consumer Protection – Online Products and Services – Data of Children (Maryland Kid’s Code):** requires tech companies that offer an online product catered to children to complete a data protection impact assessment to protect children’s privacy, safety, and wellness.

**SB0539: Commercial Law – Consumer Protection – Sale and Resale of Tickets:** requires ticketing platforms to implement all-in-ticketing which allows consumers to see the total cost of a ticket up front and also bans the sale of speculative tickets.

**HB1101: Clean Water Justice Act of 2024:** restores citizens' ability to sue to protect several streams and wetlands that were cut from the Clean Water Act due to the Supreme Court Case decision of Sackett v. EPA.

**HB0649: Labor and Employment — Equal Pay for Equal Work — Wage Range Transparency:** requires employers to include wage ranges on job postings/employment listings.



*Del. Alston, State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy, and supporters of HB0547 after the committee hearing in the House Judiciary.*

## Judiciary Committee

**HB0585: Protecting Elected Officials Act of 2024:** prohibits someone from threatening an elected official or their immediate family member due to their role in administering the election process.

**HB0700: Election Law — Election Judges — Revisions:** requires the State Board to develop a marketing campaign to use by local boards to recruit individuals to serve as election judges. Despite **HB0547: The Sacred Places Act of 2024** not passing, we are working to ensure that it gets reintroduced for the next legislative Session.

## Environment & Transportation Committee

**HB0241: Housing and Community Development — Just Community Designation:** allows areas in the State to receive a “just community” designation, which makes it part of a priority funding area.

**HB0538: Housing Expansion and Affordability Act of 2024:** improves affordability for housing by allowing new housing where our communities need it the most. the three types of priority projects include transit-oriented development, formerly state/federal owned campuses, and owned/controlled by a charity.

There are also two bills, **HB0693: Renters' Rights and Stabilization Act of 2024** & **HB1117: Tenant Safety Act of 2024** that protect renters & tenants against landlords and property owners and gives them rights in regard to their homes.

## Appropriations Committee

**HB0609: Library Workers Empowerment Act:** authorizes employees of public libraries to form, join, and participate in employee organization and engage in collective bargaining.

**HB0819: State Finance — Catastrophic Event Account and Federal Government Shutdown Employee Assistance Loan Fund — Noncivilian Federal Employees:** alters the purpose of the Catastrophic Event Account and Federal Government Shutdown Employee Assistance Loan Fund to provide financial assistance to noncivilian federal employees.

# Artificial Intelligence

**SB0818: Artificial Intelligence Governance Act of 2024:** establishes policies to ensure that AI that is used the by the State Government is used correctly and ensures that Maryland law is equipped with the proper assurance to protect against unlawful discrimination and bias.

## Key Bridge Collapse

**HB1526: Maryland Protecting Opportunities and Regional Trade (PORT) Act:** provides financial assistance for affected workers and companies, as well as scholarships for the children and spouses who unfortunately died during the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge.



*Francis Scott Key Bridge; Picture from Wikipedia.*

# Equal Rights Amendment



**SJ0001: Affirming the Federal Equal Rights Amendment:** urges the Administration of President Joseph R. Biden to publish, without delay, the federal Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This amendment states Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

For further information on the bills listed or to see which bills passed both Chambers, please scan the QR code.



# Spot a Delegate, Snap a Delegate

Annapolis Spotlight



**Governor Wes Moore** and the members of Sigma Gamma Rho, Inc. including Del. Alston & **Prince George's County State's Attorney Braveboy** (left of Governor).



**Governor Wes Moore** and House Team 24



**Speaker Adrienne Jones** & Tiffany Alston.



Clerk of the Court, **Mashasin El Amin, Esq.** (left), Del. **Tiffany Alston** (center) & Register of Wills, **The Honorable Cereta A. Lee** (right).



The Honorable **Hassan El-Amin**, Ret. Judge (left) **Tiffany Alston** (center) **Martha El-Amin** (right).  
Ramadan Iftar at the Ali-Kahan Islamic Center.



**Delegate Kent Roberson**, District 25 on Sine Die.