



## Darryl Barnes

Maryland

Delegate, HD-025 (D)

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## MD Legislative Scorecard 2024

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

The Legislative Scorecard is a nationwide, nonpartisan educational program of The John Birch Society intended to inform voters about legislators' voting records. It does not promote any candidate or political party. Bills are chosen for their constitutional implications and taxpayer costs.

★ Constitutional	✗ Unconstitutional	? Did not Vote	\$/Year	Vote
				NONE
1. <b>HB244 Maryland OSHA Penalties Increase (Passed 102 to 36 on 2/20/2024).</b> Increases certain civil penalties for violations of the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Act.				?
			-\$0.06	NONE
2. <b>HB641 Curbside Voting Expansion (Passed 116 to 20 on 3/12/2024).</b> Would have required each local board of elections to designate an outdoor location for curbside voting.				?
			-\$2.00	NONE
3. <b>HB666 SNAP Increase and Expansion (Passed 125 to 12 on 3/13/2024).</b> Lowers the minimum age for household members to qualify for a state-provided supplemental benefit under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) from 62 to 60 years old and increases the amount of this supplemental benefit from \$40 to \$50.				?
			-\$0.03	NONE
4. <b>HB155 Carbon Capture Program (Passed 102 to 35 on 3/13/2024).</b> Establishes the Carbon Capture Opportunity Program within the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA).				?
				NONE
5. <b>HB691 New Immigrant Commission (Passed 100 to 39 on 3/18/2024).</b> Establishes the Commission on New Americans within the state government.				?
				NONE
6. <b>HB1397 Protected Classes (Passed 122 to 11 on 4/8/2024).</b> Expands the state's nondiscrimination laws by adding "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" to the list of protected characteristics.				?

Scorecard Votes: %



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# \$290,647

U.S. National Debt Per Household as of May 28, 2026

# Why do these votes matter?

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## 1. Maryland OSHA Penalties Increase

HB244 increases certain civil penalties for violations of the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Act. The Commissioner of Labor and Industry is required to annually adjust these penalties based on the Consumer Price Index so fines keep pace with inflation.

The Maryland State House of Representatives passed HB244 on February 20, 2024 by a vote of 102 to 36. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is unconstitutional, and states should not cooperate with it or enforce its regulations. Mandating annual adjustments to fines based on inflation further entrenches bureaucratic control.

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## 2. Curbside Voting Expansion

HB641 would have required each local board of elections to designate an outdoor location for curbside voting. There are several location selection requirements, but any voter can use it.

The Maryland State House of Representatives passed HB641 on March 12, 2024 by a vote of 116 to 20. We have assigned pluses to the nays because weakening election security threatens the integrity of our electoral process. Curbside voting compromises ballot security by creating opportunities for fraud, coercion, and mishandling of votes outside the safeguards of a controlled polling place.

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## 3. SNAP Increase and Expansion

HB666 lowers the minimum age for household members to qualify for a state-provided supplemental benefit under the SNAP from 62 to 60 years old. It also increases the amount of this supplemental benefit from \$40 to \$50.

The Maryland State House of Representatives passed HB666 on March 13, 2024 by a vote of 125 to 12. We have assigned pluses to the nays because SNAP is a socialist and unconstitutional, federally funded program that enables government dependency and erodes personal responsibility. This bill seeks to broaden SNAP's reach by enabling recipients to use taxpayer-funded benefits in additional ways, further entrenching reliance on government aid. Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution does not authorize social-welfare programs, and states should not be complicit in advancing federal welfare expansion.

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## 4. Carbon Capture Program

HB155 establishes the Carbon Capture Opportunity Program within the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA). This program is designed to support nonprofit and for-profit businesses in the state that are engaged in carbon-capture projects or research. The initiative aims to promote carbon-capture technologies and research to help reduce greenhouse-gas emissions.

The Maryland State House of Representatives passed HB155 on March 13, 2024 by a vote of 102 to 35. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill promotes government interference with private enterprise, violating protections guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment. Additionally, it aligns with the United Nations' Agenda 2030, which undermines individual liberty and local control.

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## 5. New Immigrant Commission

HB961 establishes the Commission on New Americans, which is tasked with studying the contributions of "new Americans"—individuals who are not U.S. citizens or have recently become citizens—and assessing the availability of government services tailored to them.

The Maryland State House of Representatives passed HB961 on March 18, 2024 by a vote of 100 to 39. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the creation of a government commission specifically focused on "new Americans" undermines the fundamental principle that all U.S. Citizens are equal under the law as stated in the Declaration of Independence: "All men are created equal" and these measures contradict the 14th Amendment.

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## 6. Protected Classes

HB1397 expands the state's nondiscrimination laws by adding "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" to the list of protected characteristics, prohibiting discrimination based on these identities in employment, housing, public accommodations, and other areas.

The Maryland State House of Representatives passed HB1397 on April 8, 2024 by a vote of 122 to 11. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill imposes government mandates that violate individual and religious freedoms, forcing businesses and individuals to conform to state-imposed woke policies. By expanding nondiscrimination laws to include "sexual orientation" and "gender identity," HB1397 compels speech and behavior that conflict with religious and moral beliefs, infringing on First Amendment-protected rights. Such laws have been used to punish business owners who refuse to act against their faith, undermining constitutional protections of religious freedom.