

Office of Financial Regulation

Bill Number	Bill Name	Effective Date	Description	Office of Financial Regulation Impact
HB0379/ SB0929 CH28/CH29	Commissioner of Financial Regulation - Name and Organization of Office	July 1, 2023	Changing the name of the office under the Commissioner of Financial Regulation in the Maryland Department of Labor to the Office of Financial Regulation and designating a new appointee of the Commissioner of Financial Regulation as the Deputy Commissioner for Non-Depository Activities.	The Office of the Commissioner of Financial Regulation will change its name to the Office of Financial Regulation. In addition, there will now be two Deputy Commissioners, one responsible for depository activities and one responsible for financial services licensing and regulation (aka, Non-depository activities).
HB686 CH567	Financial Regulation - Modernizing Licensing of Non-Depository Institutions and Elimination of Branch License Requirements	July 1, 2023	Eliminating requirements for collection agencies and certain non-depository financial institutions to maintain separate licenses for branch locations and authorizing them to conduct business at multiple licensed locations under a single license; and altering certain other requirements and provisions governing the licensing and regulation of collection agencies and certain non-depository financial institutions, including applications, assessments, and bond requirements.	Upon implementation, financial service businesses will pay one licensing fee that will include all branches plus an assessment the amount of which is determined each year. The assessment will be based on actual costs to regulate the business including risk and size. Businesses must still license all locations and adhere to bonding requirements to ensure consumer protection. OFR intends to draft and issue implementing regulations that will be applied to licenses to be issued for calendar year 2024.
HB1150 CH568	Commercial Law and Financial Institutions - Credit Regulation - Shared Appreciation Agreements	July 1, 2023	Making certain that shared appreciation agreements are subject to the Maryland Mortgage Lender Law and other provisions of law that regulate certain loans of single extensions of closed end credit and revolving credit plans; and authorizing the Commissioner of Financial Regulation to adopt regulations regarding the enforcement of and compliance with provisions of law that regulate shared appreciation agreements.	This bill confirms that companies offering shared appreciation mortgages must be licensed and regulated by OFR. OFR will promulgate regulations and guidance for shared appreciation mortgages. OFR intends to issue appropriate regulations on shared appreciation agreements.

<p>HB0548/ SB0550</p> <p>CH432/CH433</p>	<p>Financial Regulation - Maryland Community Investment Venture Fund - Establishment (Access to Banking Act)</p>	<p>July 1, 2023</p>	<p>Establishing the Maryland Community Investment Venture Fund as an instrumentality of the State to develop opportunities for banking institutions and credit unions to better serve the needs of low- to moderate-income tracts; providing for certain assessment offset credits for certain banking institutions and credit unions in certain areas; authorizing the use of the Banking Institution and Credit Union Regulation Fund for certain purposes; etc.</p>	<p>The Act establishes the Venture Fund for 5 years. The Commissioner can seed the Fund from the depository special fund. It also permits the Commissioner to provide credits for Maryland licensed banks and credit unions with branches in low-to-moderate income census tracts. The fund encourages banks and credit unions to deposit the value of the credit into the venture fund and permits the Commissioner to match some or all these funds. The Venture Fund will then be used to provide seen funding to small business developing new access to capital for under resourced small businesses.</p>
<p>SB0516 CH255</p>	<p>Cannabis Reform</p>	<p>Upon Enactment</p>	<p>Renaming the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission to be the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission; establishing the Maryland Cannabis Administration as an independent unit of State government; establishing a regulatory and licensing system for adult-use cannabis; imposing the sales and use tax on the sale of adult-use cannabis at certain rates in certain fiscal years; requiring the Administration, by July 1 2023, to convert medical cannabis licenses to licenses to operate a medical and adult-use cannabis business; etc.</p>	<p>OFR will monitor the banking sector for any issues with banks and credit unions that chose to provide banking services to licensed cannabis businesses.</p>
<p>HB0384 CH749</p>	<p>Institutions of Higher Education - Transcripts - Prohibition on Punitive Measures Related to Student Debt</p>	<p>July 1, 2023</p>	<p>Prohibiting an institution of higher education from refusing to provide a current or former student with a transcript or taking other punitive measures regarding a student's transcript request because the student owes a debt to the institution of higher education.</p>	<p>The Student Loan Ombudsman will produce materials to advise Marylanders on this issue.</p>

<p>HB0680 CH738</p>	<p>Income Tax - Student Loan Debt Relief Tax Credit - Alterations</p>	<p>July 1, 2023</p>	<p>Increasing the total amount of credits against the State income tax that the Maryland Higher Education Commission may approve in a taxable year for certain individuals with certain student loan debt amounts; requiring the Commission to reserve a certain amount of the tax credits that the Commission is authorized to approve for certain graduates; extending, from 2 years to 3 years, the period of time that an individual who claims the credit has to prove that they used the credit to repay the individual's student loan debt.</p>	<p>The Student Loan Ombudsman will produce materials to advise Marylanders on this issue.</p>
<p>HB0913 CH456</p>	<p>Financial Institutions - Student Financing Companies - Required Registration and Reporting</p>	<p>October 1, 2023</p>	<p>Requiring student financing companies to register with the Commissioner of Financial Regulation before providing services in the State; requiring a student financing company to renew its registration on an annual basis; authorizing the Commissioner to adopt registration procedures for student financing companies, which may include certain fees; and requiring student financing companies to annually report certain information, to be made publicly accessible on a certain website, to the Commissioner beginning March 15, 2024.</p>	<p>OFR will create a registry with NMLS for student financing companies to register. OFR will also create a portal for these companies to report the required information. OFR will post this information on our website and use it for the Student Loan Ombudsman Report.</p>
<p>SB0106 CH720</p>	<p>Courts - Judgments - Exemptions From Execution</p>	<p>October 1, 2023</p>	<p>Exempting up to \$500 in a deposit account or other account of a judgment debtor held by a depository institution from execution on the judgment without an election by the debtor to exempt the money; establishing procedures a depository institution is required to follow on receipt of a writ of garnishment or other levy or attachment under certain circumstances; establishing a \$6,000 limit on the cumulative value of property and cash that may be exempted; requiring a certain writ of garnishment; etc.</p>	<p>OFR will monitor licensees who may be impacted by this legislation.</p>

HB0127 CH709	District Court - Small Claims - Enforcement of Money Judgments	October 1, 2023	Prohibiting the District Court, in aid of enforcement or execution of a money judgment resulting from a certain small claim action, from ordering the appearance of an individual for an examination or ordering an individual to answer interrogatories.	OFR will monitor licensees who may be impacted by this legislation.
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