

Chapter 71

**(House Bill 244)**

AN ACT concerning

**General Assembly – Prefiled Bills – Deadlines**

FOR the purpose of altering the date by which a member of the General Assembly may request the Department of Legislative Services to prepare a bill for prefile at a regular session under certain circumstances; altering the date by which a member may direct the Department to prefile a bill under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the introduction of bills by members of the General Assembly.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – State Government  
Section 2–1502(c)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – State Government**

2–1502.

- (c) (1) In a year when an election for members of the General Assembly is held:
  - (i) a bill may be prefiled only by an individual elected or re-elected to the General Assembly at that election;
  - (ii) the deadline for directing the Department to file a bill for introduction is December 10;
  - (iii) the deadline for requesting the Department to prepare a bill for prefiling is November 20; and
  - (iv) an individual first elected at that election may not request the Department to prepare a bill until after the election.
- (2) In any other year, a member may prefile a bill at any regular session by:
  - (i) on or before the preceding November [15] 1, requesting the Department to prepare the bill; and

(ii) on or before [the second Friday following Thanksgiving] **THE PRECEDING NOVEMBER 20**, directing the Department, in writing, to file the bill for introduction.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

**Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2018.**