

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Joint Resolution 1 (Senator McCray, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Rules and Executive Nominations

2026 FIFA World Cup - Protection of Human Rights

This joint resolution declares the General Assembly's support of the fundamental requirements for United 2026 as laid out in the Federation Internationale de Football Association's (FIFA) "Proposal for a United Human Rights Strategy." It also encourages all host stadiums, cities, ports of entry, and fan zones to provide specified policies and experiences for fans, spectators, players, officials, and volunteers at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, including an atmosphere that celebrates diversity and welcomes international fans and players.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The joint resolution does not directly affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: The joint resolution does not directly affect local government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: The 2026 FIFA World Cup, hosted by the United States, Canada, and Mexico (United 2026) will be held in 16 cities with up to 12 of the bidding U.S. cities expected to be awarded tournament games. Baltimore and the District of Columbia have been selected among the final bidding cities.

The preamble states that FIFA and the host countries are committed to creating a new model and legacy for global sporting events that centers on human rights and labor rights

within the framework for the games. To this end, FIFA adopted a “Proposal for a United Human Rights Strategy,” which in part states that FIFA plans to ensure a commitment to the core standards of the International Labour Organization and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in its processes for conducting the 2026 FIFA games.

As noted in the preamble, the General Assembly has passed laws directly in line with the requirements for bid cities for the 2026 FIFA games, including broad antidiscrimination and human rights protections, living wage and minimum wage requirements, prevailing wage requirements, and human trafficking protections and awareness.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: HJ 7 (Delegate Pena-Melnyk, *et al.*) - Rules and Executive Nominations.

Information Source(s): Maryland Commission on Civil Rights; Baltimore City; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

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