



# News Release

## Comptroller Brooke Lierman Highlights Legislative Wins After 2025 General Assembly Session

### *Agency updates Abandoned Property Act, receives funding for additional staff and technology to improve operations*

**ANNAPOLIS, Md. (April 8, 2025)** — Comptroller Brooke E. Lierman today announced that the General Assembly passed the Office of the Comptroller’s priority bills during the 2025 Legislative Session. Together, these bills support the Comptroller’s agency-wide modernization effort, which will help to update and streamline the agency’s operations for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, improve service delivery, and reduce costs for Marylanders over the long term.

The agency’s bills heading to Governor Wes Moore’s desk for his signature include:

**Revisions to the Maryland Abandoned Property Act ([HB761/SB665](#)):** modernizes Maryland’s unclaimed property program so that the state can collect newer forms of property, including virtual currency (cryptocurrency), gift cards, and certain individual retirement accounts, and reunite that property with its rightful owners. The measure also will enable Marylanders to receive their unclaimed property valued at less than \$5,000 faster and without requiring the filing of a claim.

**Earned Income Tax Credit - Notice of Eligibility – Alterations ([HB603/SB663](#)):** allows the Office of the Comptroller to send notifications related to the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to businesses electronically, instead of solely by mail. This change will save Marylanders \$145,000 in mailing costs. This year, the Office of the Comptroller launched the Earned It Campaign to educate Marylanders about the Earned Income Tax Credit. Thanks to funding provided by the General Assembly for FY 2026, the campaign will be refined and expanded later this year.

**Business Regulation - Enforcement for Miscellaneous State Business Licenses – Study ([HB577/SB664](#)):** requires the Comptroller’s Office to study the process for business license enforcement by the Field Enforcement Bureau. The Comptroller’s Office will consult with multiple stakeholders to seek guidance on options to improve the

state's business citation process and submit a report with recommendations to the General Assembly by December 1, 2025. Current law allows Field Enforcement agents to issue a criminal citation to anyone working inside a business without a posted business license. Penalties can include a misdemeanor, up to a \$300 fine, and possible imprisonment upon conviction.

The General Assembly also passed the state's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget, which allocated additional resources to the Office of the Comptroller, which includes new positions to assist taxpayers in the agency's call centers and branch offices and strengthen the agency's auditing capabilities. Together, these resources will expand the agency's operational capacity to serve more Marylanders and continue to close the state's \$3.6 billion tax gap.

"I would like to thank the General Assembly for supporting our legislative priorities and for making key investments in the Office of the Comptroller that will allow us to equitably and efficiently administer Maryland's tax code," Comptroller Lierman said. "My agency is committed to making government work better for Marylanders, including increasing our capacity and eliminating outdated systems and red tape to make it easier to do business with us. This will save taxpayers time and money while also helping us make the most of our resources to maximize the benefit to the state and our residents.

"In the coming days and weeks, my team will begin the process of implementing the new tax changes included in the Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act passed by the General Assembly. We will be scheduling webinars for businesses and standing up a page on [our website](#) that will be updated frequently with information and resources for taxpayers. I encourage Marylanders to sign up for our newsletters for timely updates as they happen."

During the 2025 Legislative Session, Comptroller Lierman testified in support of several bills that will become law, including a measure to establish a fund [providing grants](#) to improve access to abortion care in Maryland and the [Procurement Reform Act](#).

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