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### Md. Gay Marriage Bill Inching Forward Updated 2:37 PM EST, Wed, Mar 2, 2011 |



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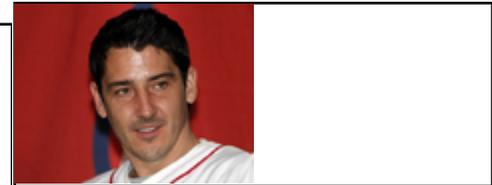
After hitting a speed-bump Tuesday, the Maryland gay marriage bill appears to be getting back on track for a House floor vote in Maryland.

The Maryland [House Judiciary Committee](#) was unable to vote on the bill Tuesday afternoon. Two members of the committee could not be found in the statehouse in [Annapolis](#), so the bill could not come up for a vote. By law, bills may go before a house vote without having been first voted on in committee, but there is no legislative precedent.

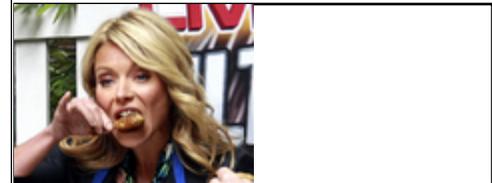
Delegate Tiffany Alston, of Prince George's County, and Delegate Jill Carter, of [Baltimore](#), were the two absent members yesterday. They are both co-sponsors of the gay marriage bill, but they said yesterday they wanted more money placed back into the education budget before they voted yes.

On Wednesday, [Alston](#) said that she was ready to vote on the bill, but she did not say whether she would be voting in favor.

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Nevertheless, Delegate [Heather Mizeur](#), one of the chamber's six openly gay members, said the committee has the 12 votes it needs pass the bill out for a House vote. Governor Martin O'Malley has said that if the bill passes in the House, he would vote gay marriage into law.  
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