

# Courthouse News

A publication  
of the  
Maryland Association  
of Counties

Volume 30 Number 2

January 28, 2008

## Presiding Officers Meeting Held

The first of three planned MACo-coordinated Session meetings with the Presiding Officers, Senate President Mike Miller and House Speaker Mike Busch, was held on January 23. Attending the meeting were MACo President Jim Smith, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Wilson Parran, and Secretary Wayne Cooper, Mayor Sheila Dixon, County Executives David Craig, Jack Johnson, Ike Leggett, and John Leopold, and MACo Executive Director David Bliden.

“We are going to find a way to keep it, but it will be a tough fight,” advised President Miller, referring to the tax on computer services enacted during the Special Session. He raised a proposal by the Senate Minority Leader to eliminate the tax, accommodating the revenue loss by shifting a portion of teacher pension responsibilities to the counties. “We can’t afford the pensions,” explained County Executive Craig.

“The idea of a further reduction...passed on to the counties would be devastating,” explained County Executive Leggett, referencing the \$400 million deficit now confronting Montgomery County. “It would be a tremendous, tremendous burden.”

“This is a hold-on year,” continued County Executive Johnson, noting Prince George’s County’s \$100 million deficit. “All our numbers are based on no further cuts from the State” and “from now on [the County] could face further erosion...” in its own source revenues.

“You have all been living off that,” explained Speaker Busch, raising the precipitous decline in county recordation and transfer tax revenue. “That hurts every county,” with the challenges in tax cap counties, such as Anne Arundel and Prince George’s Counties, aggravated, as their options to recoup the lost revenue are impeded. In the context of these challenges, “I don’t see any further cuts being passed onto counties,” said the Speaker.

“That’s another cut,” suggested President Smith commenting on the new county financial burden arising from the Governor including funding for new optical scan election systems in his budget. Executive Director Bliden highlighted the inequity, noting that 19 counties had optical scan voting systems before being required to transition to the touch screen systems. And, “now they will have to buy them back,” while often continuing payments on the touch screen systems the State required.

He “...could have punted,” explained President Miller, citing last Session’s action, which made the system change contingent on the

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## Legislative Committee Meeting

January 30 - 10:30 a.m.

### Tax & Education Subcommittees:

January 30 - 10:15 a.m.

#### Agenda

- I. Call to Order ..... Wilson Parran, ..... Legislative Committee Chairman
- II. President’s Comments ..... Jim Smith ..... President
- III. Guest Speaker ..... Warren Deschenaux, ..... Director, Office of Policy Analysis, DLS
- IV. Bill Considerations ..... Staff
- V. Issues Update ..... Staff

## Important Dates!

### August 13-16, 2008

Annual Summer Conference, Ocean City

### October 22-24, 2008

Administrators/Attorneys Fall Conference - Annapolis

### January 7-9, 2009

Annual Winter Conference - Hyatt Regency Hotel, Cambridge

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Governor including funding in the budget. "It's very popular," but "we don't have the money."

"An aggressive capital budget is good for all of us," observed Speaker Busch, citing the record community college funding of \$81 million and \$333 million for school construction and renovation. That "will benefit everyone at the local level, which is good. It is something we can all rally around." President Miller urged a focus on merit-based distribution of the school construction and renovation funding.

"That's music to our ears," responded President Smith, noting "...counties will pony up..." their share. He explained that with the average county two for one match, the \$333 million appropriation translated to a \$1 billion investment in public school projects. With Maryland the "...most educated state in the union" and BRAC coming, the investment is justified, he said.

President Miller expressed hope that county officials appreciated the nexus between slots being authorized and the State's fiscal health. "It's \$500 million for health care and education ... We have to have it."

"We feel good the way we worked for you and the way you worked for us," observed President Smith, referring to MACo and individual county visible support during the Special Session. "We want to thank you," responded Speaker Busch.

Contact: David S. Bliden

## Counties Join Local Government Briefing Before Senate Committee

MACo participated in a briefing before the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee on January 16 to offer a local government perspective. MACo President and Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith opened the discussion, thanking Committee Chairman Ulysses Currie for the invitation and opportunity.

County Executive Smith spoke about the opportunity for MACo, and himself as President, to "build a foundation for a strong future for the people of Maryland." He reflected on the support offered by MACo and county officials during the legislature's recent Special Session. He discussed the legislative initiatives planned for the 2008 Session, and spoke about the "critical" need for school renovation and construction.

MACo Legislative Director Michael Sanderson thanked the Committee for its attention to helping resolve continuing county/municipal issues, and the Committee Chairman's announcement of a work group led by Senator Jim Robey to oversee local government concerns. He also noted that while counties have not objected to recent municipal attempts to secure new taxing authority, "an effort to redirect county revenues will certainly become a point of conflict."

St. Mary's County Chief Financial Officer Elaine Kramer spoke about the practicalities of county budgets. She said the county is "not budgeting to the crest" regarding transient revenue sources like recordation and transfer taxes. "We got some revenues, let them fall to our fund balance, but didn't start programming long term costs to those levels," she observed. She also commented on the county's costly and difficult effort to grapple with post-employment benefits costs.

### The Maryland Association of Counties

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*Courthouse News is published monthly May through December & weekly during Session. Email articles to eclarke@mdcounties.org*

MACo Executive Director David Bliden spoke about the “missed opportunity” to fund local roads and bridges as part of the Special Session revenue enhancement. “It will be like there are two road systems in Maryland,” he observed, “while the state highways are getting the attention, the local roads were left behind.” He also commented on continued pressure on property taxes, noting that restraint in property taxes “amounts to anger management” for local government officials, and warned of the harm that results from citizen-imposed tax limitations. “You end up shifting the problems of government from the county seat to Annapolis,” he concluded.

Contact: *Michael Sanderson*

## Lawsuit Notice Requirement Extension Opposed

Harford County Attorney Rob McCord, Harford County Assistant County Attorney Karen Kruger, and Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) Director of Legal Services John Breads joined MACo Executive Director David Bliden in offering testimony on January 15 against House Bill 16, which would extend the notice period for filing a suit against a local government. Under existing provisions of the Local Government Tort Claims Act (LGCTA), a claimant must give the county notice of an intent to sue 180 days after the incident upon which the suit would be founded. But, a notice failure can be excused upon a showing of good cause if the county cannot demonstrate that its defense has been prejudiced by the notice failure.

Bill sponsor, Delegate Michael Smigiel argued that increasing the LGTCA notice requirement to one year, as HB 16 proposes, would merely promote consistency with the law applicable to action against the State, which requires a one year notice. That is “...only half the story,” responded Mr. Bliden, highlighting that the notice requirement for actions against the State is “absolute with no escape clause” as provided in the LGTCA. He explained application of the escape clause was a discretionary decision of the trial judge that would be difficult to get changed through an appeal.

“It’s fifty-fifty,” explained Mr. Breads, responding to a question about how often a claimant prevails in invoking the escape clause. He also cited specific cases in which the clause had been found applicable,

## Your Source for Legislative Information

[www.mdcounties.org](http://www.mdcounties.org)

[Recent Committee Action](#) - bills and positions taken by the MACo Legislative Committee at their last meeting.

[Bills Position Summary](#) - all positions taken on bills by the Committee.

[Bills Pending Review](#) - bills pending review by the Committee at their next meeting.

[All Impact Bills](#) - all bills impacting local government.

[Major Issues Summary](#) – MACo initiative bills and other significant county government legislation.

[Testimony](#) – submitted testimony to G.A. Committees.

[Buddy System](#) – overview of MACo’s grassroots advocacy system.

### Issue Areas for Staff

Legislative Director Michael Sanderson:

Taxes & Revenues  
Finance  
Business Affairs  
Intergovernmental Relations  
Health  
Transportation and Public Works  
Human Services  
Elections  
Parks & Recreation  
Employee Benefits

Associate Director Les Knapp:

Planning and Zoning  
Community and Economic Development  
Environment  
Education  
Public Safety and Corrections  
Government Liability and Courts  
Public Ethics and Information  
Employee Relations

promising to provide the Committee with more examples. The need for the shorter time period for smaller towns and counties was argued as justified by their lack of the “centralized” systems used by the State for managing claims.

County Attorney McCord cited the great burdens claims management imposes on a mid-sized county, such as Harford. He raised the relationship of pending claims to needed reserves, explaining the great interest bond rating agencies have in these reserves.

Delegate Kevin Kelly inquired about whether MACo would support the one-year extension, if the escape clause were stricken, so as to provide the consistency Mr. Bliden argued was lacking in HB 16. Mr. Bliden noted satisfaction with the status quo, suggesting that a similar inquiry should be made to the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association, who had offered testimony in support of the bill.

*Contact: David S. Bliden*

## MACo & MML Meetings Held to Discuss Issues

MACo and MML representatives met in an effort to resolve issues of possible conflict at the MACo offices on January 23. The group met to follow-up on issues discussed at a similar meeting during the Fall Board Retreat with MML’s President and Executive Director on December 7. Representing MACo was Calvert County Commission President and MACo Legislative Committee Chair Wilson Parran, Charles County Commission President Wayne Cooper, and Immediate Past President and Frederick County Commission President Jan Gardner. Representing MML was the Chairman of its Legislative Committee, Baltimore City Council Member Jim Kraft, Immediate Past President and Bel Air Town Council Member David Carey, and Frederick City Alderman Marcia Hall. MACo’s and MML’s Executive Directors, David Bliden and Scott Hancock also participated.

“It’s a win-win,” observed Commission President Parran emphasizing the benefits of MACo and MML, “keeping their differences aside. We don’t want to do battle with all of you.”

Executive Director Bliden identified three areas of potential conflict as: the perceived MML advocacy to

secure a portion of recordation taxes; to alter the framework for POS distributions; and to make tax differentials mandatory in all subdivisions. Possible conflict regarding growth issues was also raised, particularly with deliberations of the Growth Task Force about to begin. He noted that concern about these issues had motivated MACo to explore legislation altering the present distribution of county generated income tax revenues to municipalities.

“Advocacy for these issues is unproductive,” Mr. Bliden said, citing “General Assembly fatigue with the continuing MACo-MML beef.” He expressed hope that MACo and MML could partner on issues of common concern such as speed cameras and highway user funding.

“Let’s get that on the side for now,” suggested Councilperson Kraft, raising MML’s interest in securing transfer tax authority. The MACo representatives noted their common frustration, shared by other counties, in not being able to secure transfer tax authority. They then suggested the possibility of a partnership in which MACo and MML would jointly advocate for a single transfer tax authority bill.

Commission President Gardner volunteered to testify for such a bill if the broader issues could be resolved. In this regard, both Commission Presidents Parran and Cooper urged a broad resolution of all pending issues with Commission President Parran urging an institutional “framework.”

It was agreed to pursue a follow-up meeting on September 30. Commission President Gardner urged discussion of the Growth Task force this January, noting its first meeting would be September 29.

*Contact: David S. Bliden*

## Smart Growth Survey Planned for February

MACo, the Maryland Association of County Planning Officials, the Maryland Department of Planning, and the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education, are coordinating efforts to disseminate a comprehensive smart growth survey to county planners in February. The survey will focus on growth and the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the Smart Growth law. Survey results will be shared with the Task Force on the Future for Growth and Development.

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The survey will measure county growth trends and perceptions, understanding of smart growth principles among citizens and elected officials, the level of implementation of smart growth in each county, and impediments to implementing smart growth.

The survey will also examine regional planning efforts and the relationship between local and State land use and environmental laws.

The Task Force was created by HB 1141 of 2006 and further expanded by HB 773 of 2007. The Task Force is charged with a broad number of duties, including: (1) studying current land use polices and their impact on growth in the State, (2) analyzing the capabilities of municipalities and counties to plan for future growth and development, (3) determining methods to assess the cumulative regional impacts of proposed development on infrastructure; (4) determining the parameters for a State development plan, State transportation plan, and a State housing plan; and (5) determining how those plans would work together with local land use plans.

Frederick County Commission President Jan Gardner and Worcester County Planning Director Sandy Coyman are the MACo representatives to the Task Force. The Task Force is required to report its findings to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1. It is likely that the Task Force's findings will play a key role in shaping smart growth and land use reform legislation during the 2009 session.

The survey will be sent to county planners on February 1, with a response deadline of February 15. The results of the survey will be presented to the Task Force during its March meeting.

MML plans to circulate a slightly simplified form of the survey to municipal planners.

Contact: *Leslie Knapp Jr.*

### Briefly

*Harford, Cecil, Baltimore and Prince George's Counties win national sustainable communities award*  
Harford, Cecil, Prince George's and Baltimore counties and the city of Baltimore collectively are one of 10 recipients of its prestigious 2006-2007 Center for Sustainable Communities Awards, as announced by NACo. The awards, presented every two years by NACo's Center for Sustainable Communities, recognize

the most effective and innovative county-led partnerships with the private sector, other governments or community groups in developing economically prosperous, environmentally safe, and socially equitable communities. **Harford, Cecil, and Baltimore Counties and Baltimore City** were honored for the "Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor initiative." As a result of a planned influx of thousands of new residents brought on by recommendations for Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), Maryland faces an array of new challenges and opportunities in job creation, service provision, and community development. To address them, Harford, Cecil, and Baltimore Counties and Baltimore City entered an unprecedented tri-county partnership to market the region as the "Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor. (CSSC)" The comprehensive effort, due largely to recommendations regarding Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG); a \$1 billion technology generator for the region; maximizes economic development potential and utilizes shared resources to best promote the region's prime location, attract new educational opportunities, initiate transportation and infrastructure upgrades, strategically address housing and resource challenges, and enhance the quality of life for constituents in the region. Through the CSSC, the partners have developed a mechanism to leverage changes brought on by BRAC to create a greater quality of life for residents. **Prince George's County** and the Maryland State Highway Administration were honored for the "Low Impact Development/Green Highways Programs." The county and State Department implemented cutting-edge activities promoting the practices of Low Impact Development (LID) and Green Highways that exemplify the best in sustainable development principles by fostering economic reinvestment, infrastructure savings, protection of critical environmental areas and resources, and the creation of beautiful, livable communities. Working with the SHA and with the support of the Federal Highway Administration, Prince George's County led a multi-level federal-state-local collaboration to protect watersheds and waterways through the use of low impact development strategies. The county's effort has become a nationally recognized model. It has been the subject of numerous presentations at major conferences and forums related to environmentally responsible development, with Prince George's County serving as host of the first national conference on Low Impact Development.

### Job Openings

#### **HUMAN SERVICES MANAGER II - OFFICE ON AGING ADMINISTRATOR - HOWARD COUNTY**

(\$72,717-\$117,312) Seeking to fill executive exempt management position within the Howard County Department of Citizen Services. Office on Aging Administrator provides overall direction, supervision and management for local Office on Aging of 100+ employees. Serves as a public advocate for older adults and works with other organizations on the local, state, and national levels to advance appropriate services and policies. Assesses functional health and social service needs, allocates resources to meet needs, and develops public and private partnerships in community to improve outcomes for older adults and caregivers and to ensure high quality of service delivery system. Administers programs and services and responsible for development of budget of \$9 million. Staffs Commission on Aging. Min. Required Education/ Experience: Bachelor's degree and a minimum of five years experience. Preferred Education Experience: Master's degree (M. A.) or equivalent; or five years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience in services to older adults, family caregivers, and/or persons with disabilities. Management experience in increasingly responsible positions and supervisory experience required. Demonstrated ability in written and verbal communication required. Working knowledge of word processing, database, and spreadsheet applications necessary. Budget experience (development and monitoring) required. The position offers generous benefits, including health insurance, retirement plan, leave time, and educational assistance, as well as the opportunity to work in a progressive collaborative county. Send cover letter and resume to Susan Rosenbaum, Director, Howard Co. Dept. of Citizen Services, srosenbaum@howardcountymd.gov or to 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 300, Columbia, MD 21046 by **January 30, 2008**.

#### **PRINCIPAL ANALYST - FISCAL & POLICY ANALYSIS UNIT, OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR, BALTIMORE COUNTY - \$77,250+**

DOQ. Seeks to fill an interesting and challenging principal-level analyst position. The Office of the County Auditor operates as part of the legislative branch of County Government and serves the Baltimore County

Council in its legislative oversight function by providing independent auditing and other fiscal services such as economic analysis, revenue forecasting, fiscal impact analysis, budget analysis, and legislative research. The Fiscal & Policy Analysis Unit is responsible for a wide variety of activities, including: staffing the Council's Spending Affordability and Economic Advisory Committees; reporting on the County's economic indicators and revenue/expenditure projections; completing special projects, including policy research, at the request of the County Council; analyzing agency budget requests and the fiscal impact of proposed legislation; and other varied and challenging assignments. The principal-level analyst position reports to the Director of the Fiscal and Policy Analysis Unit and is responsible for performing, organizing, and managing independent economic analysis, revenue/expenditure forecasting, fiscal impact studies, and budget analysis, as well as supervising and reviewing the work of senior and staff analysts. The duties of the position include complex report writing and documentation of methodology. Required Qualifications: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in economics, math, public policy, or a related field; 7 years experience in the field of economics, forecasting, or fiscal/policy analysis, (progressive graduate degrees earned beyond bachelor's degree in economics, public policy, or related field may be substituted on a year-for-year basis for up to 5 years of the required experience); excellent written and oral communication skills; Enthusiasm for public service; strong attention to detail, with the ability to remain focused on the big picture; and advanced proficiency in performing spreadsheet and database analysis. Preferred Qualifications: Graduate degree in economics, public policy, or a related field; relevant government or forecasting experience; supervisory experience a plus. The position offers generous benefits, including health insurance, retirement plan, leave time, and educational assistance, as well as a convenient, suburban location in the heart of Towson, Maryland. Please send resume & cover letter to principalanalystposition@baltimorecountymd.gov or P.O. Box 6792, Towson, MD 21285-6792. Responses received by **February 1, 2008** will receive first consideration. EOE

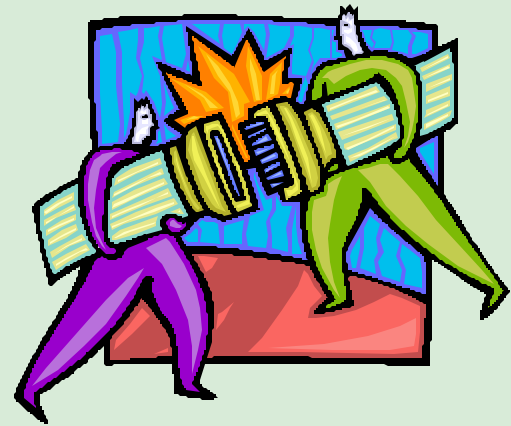
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**STAFF ANALYST - THE FISCAL & POLICY ANALYSIS UNIT, OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR, BALTIMORE COUNTY** - \$40,000+ DOQ  
- Seeks to fill an interesting and challenging staff-level analyst position. The Office of the County Auditor operates as part of the legislative branch of County Government and serves the Baltimore County Council in its legislative oversight function by providing independent auditing and other fiscal services such as economic analysis, revenue forecasting, fiscal impact analysis, budget analysis, and legislative research. The Fiscal & Policy Analysis Unit is responsible for a wide variety of activities, including: staffing the Council's Spending Affordability and Economic Advisory Committees; reporting on the County's economic indicators and revenue/expenditure projections; completing special projects, including policy research, at the request of the County Council; analyzing agency budget requests and the fiscal impact of proposed legislation; and other varied and challenging assignments. The staff analyst position is responsible for performing fiscal, policy, and budget analysis and research, as well as completing other projects, as assigned. The duties of the position include thoroughly documenting work methodology and assisting with report drafting. Required Qualifications: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in public policy, public administration, economics, or a related field; strong quantitative and analytical skills; excellent written and oral communication skills; enthusiasm for public service; strong attention to detail, with the ability to remain focused on the big picture; and computer proficiency, including proficiency in performing spreadsheet analysis. Preferred Qualifications: graduate degree in public policy or a related field; relevant government experience a plus. The position offers generous benefits, including health insurance, retirement plan, leave time, and educational assistance, as well as a convenient, suburban location in the heart of Towson, Maryland. Please send resume & cover letter to [staffanalystposition@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:staffanalystposition@baltimorecountymd.gov) or P.O. Box 6792, Towson, MD 21285-6792. Responses received by **February 1, 2008** will receive first consideration. EOE



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*Watch for Details!*

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## Impact Bills

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*NOTES: - The summaries of the bills listed below are taken directly from the synopsis provided by the Department of Legislative Services. When reporting on specific bills to the Legislative Committee, staff will make clarifications to the synopsis. MACo refines the list each week, consistent with the organization's by-laws, to bring before the Legislative Committee a list of Action Bills that represent opportunities for county input and effect. Visit [www.mdcounties.org](http://www.mdcounties.org) for daily updates about legislation impacting county government.*

**The following listed bills are in addition to those listed in the January 21 Courthouse News.**

### **TAXES AND REVENUES**

**HB 146 - CONDOMINIUMS – CONVERSION OF RENTAL FACILITIES – EXTENDED LEASES – PROPERTY TAX CREDIT** (Delegate Hixson, et al) (Environmental Matters and Ways and Means) - Increasing from 3 to 5 years the minimum period of an extended lease that a developer converting a rental facility to a condominium is required to offer specified households; authorizing a county or municipal corporation to grant, by law, a property tax credit against the county or municipal corporation property tax imposed on residential real property owned by a developer that converts a residential rental facility to a condominium and offers extended leases to tenants of the residential rental facility; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

**HB 178/ SB 131 - MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS – HOTEL RENTAL TAX** (Delegate Barve, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator King, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Authorizing a municipal corporation to impose a tax on charges for sleeping accommodations paid to hotels in the municipal corporation, subject to specified limitations; authorizing a municipal corporation to set the tax rate, not to exceed 2%; authorizing a municipal corporation to provide for the administration and collection of the tax, to provide for additional exemptions from the tax, and to impose penalties for failure to collect, report, or pay the tax; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

**HB 189 - STATE PROPERTY TAX – HOMEOWNER'S PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT CAP REDUCTION** (Delegate Krebs, et al) (Ways and Means) - Reducing from 110% to 105% the homestead property tax credit percentage for the State property tax; and applying the Act to tax years beginning after June 30, 2009. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

**HB 260 - RECORDATION TAX – INDEMNITY MORTGAGES** (Delegate Kaiser, et al) (Ways and Means) - Providing that, for purposes of the recordation tax, secured debt with respect to an indemnity mortgage, deeds of trust, or other security interests in real property securing a guarantee of repayment of a loan for which the guarantor is not primarily liable is deemed to be incurred as debt is incurred on the guaranteed loan and the recordation tax applies as if the guarantor were primarily liable for the guaranteed loan; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

**HB 280 - TAX CREDITS FOR QUALIFYING EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES – SUNSET EXTENSION** (Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Education)) (Ways and Means) - Extending by 3 years termination provisions and dates of applicability

for specified tax credits for employers that hire qualifying individuals with disabilities. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**HB 290 - PROCUREMENT – PURCHASE OF APPAREL BY STATE AGENCIES – LABOR STANDARDS** (Delegate Benson, et al) (Health and Government Operations) - Requiring specified contractors and subcontractors to ensure adherence to a sweatfree code of conduct; requiring specified production facilities to adhere to specified provisions of a sweatfree code of conduct; defining a sweatfree code of conduct to include specified requirements and prohibitions related to achieving specified working conditions; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

**HB 312 - PROCUREMENT – SECURITY REQUIREMENTS – REPEAL SUNSET PROVISION** (Delegate Morhaim, et al) (Health and Government Operations) - Repealing a reporting requirement on the implementation of a specified Act relating to security requirements for procurement; and repealing the termination provision of a specified Act relating to security requirements for procurement. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

**HB 319 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT – PROCUREMENT – RESIDENT PREFERENCES** (Delegate Costa) (Health and Government Operations) - Prohibiting a county, Baltimore City, or a municipal corporation from granting a specified preference to a resident bidder or offeror in the award of specified procurement contracts; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

**SB 151 - SALES AND USE TAX – RATE – EASTERN SHORE COUNTIES** (Senator Colburn, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Altering the State sales and use tax rate in specified counties; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

**SB 155 - DORCHESTER COUNTY – BAY RESTORATION FEE – LIEN AGAINST PROPERTY** (Senator Colburn) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Judicial Proceedings) - Establishing in Dorchester County that an unpaid Bay Restoration Fee is a lien against the property on which the wastewater facility, onsite sewage disposal system, or holding tank is located and requiring the lien to be recorded in the office of the clerk for Dorchester County. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

**SB 206 - BRAC COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT ACT** (The President (By Request – Administration), et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Authorizing the creation of BRAC Revitalization and Incentive Zones in the State; establishing eligibility criteria for the Zones and factors to be considered by the Secretary of Business and Economic Development in approving the Zones; providing for specified tax credits to be available to eligible businesses in the Zones; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

**SB 208 - HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDINGS ACT** (The President (By Request – Administration), et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Requiring specified buildings constructed or renovated solely with State funds to be high performance buildings under specified circumstances; requiring the Department of Budget and Management and the Department of General Services to establish jointly a waiver process; requiring specified new schools that receive State public school construction funds to be constructed to be high performance buildings; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

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SB 214 - DIVESTITURE FROM IRAN (The President (By Request – Administration), et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Requiring the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System to review specified investment holdings; requiring the Board of Trustees to provide written notice to specified companies; and requiring the Board of Trustees to take divestment action with regard to specified investments. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 216 - REAL PROPERTY – RECORDATION OF INSTRUMENTS SECURING MORTGAGE LOANS AND FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGES AND DEEDS OF TRUST ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY (Senator Pugh and the President (By Request – Administration), et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Prohibiting an action to foreclose a mortgage or deed of trust on residential property from being filed until 90 days after default and 45 days after a notice of intent to foreclose is sent, except under specified circumstances; requiring personal service of an order to docket or a complaint to foreclose a mortgage or deed of trust on residential property; prohibiting a foreclosure sale of residential property from occurring until 45 days after service; requiring one publication of notice of a foreclosure sale; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

SB 227 - INTEREST RATE ON TAX DEFICIENCIES AND REFUNDS (Senator Kasemeyer) (Budget and Taxation) - Altering the calculation of the annual interest rate that the Comptroller sets for tax deficiencies and refunds. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 232 - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE TAX – RATES (Senator Forehand) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Increasing the State tax rates for alcoholic beverages in Maryland from \$1.50 to \$4.50 per gallon for distilled spirits, from 40 cents to \$1.20 per gallon for wine, and from 9 cents to 54 cents per gallon for beer; expressing the State tax rates for alcoholic beverages alternatively as 89.1843 cents for each 0.75– liter container of distilled spirits, 23.7825 cents for each 0.75–liter container of wine, and 5.0625 cents for each 12–ounce container of beer; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EMERGENCY BILL

SB 239 - HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX CREDIT (Senator Kasemeyer, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Repealing a requirement for homeowners to file applications to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation to qualify for the homestead property tax credit; repealing provisions relating to the application requirement; etc. EMERGENCY BILL

### EDUCATION

HB 133 - COMMISSION TO DEVELOP THE MARYLAND MODEL FOR FUNDING HIGHER EDUCATION – MEMBERSHIP AND EXTENSION OF SUNSET (Delegate Bohanan) (Appropriations) - Modifying the membership of the Commission to Develop the Maryland Model for Funding Higher Education; altering the date by which the Commission must submit a final report to the Governor and General Assembly; making the Act an emergency measure; and extending the termination date of the Commission. EMERGENCY BILL

HB 139 - EDUCATION – MULTIPLE SUSPENSIONS (Delegate Stukes, et al) (Ways and Means) - Requiring principals to report suspensions of specified students in writing to county superintendents within specified periods of time; requiring principals to refer specified students to pupil

services teams and give notice to specified students and specified parents or guardians that pupil services teams must meet within a specified period of time; requiring notice to be provided in specified languages or specified modes of communication; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 188 - SMART START SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (Delegate Bates, et al) (Ways and Means) - Establishing the Smart Start Scholarship Program in the State Department of Education; authorizing specified schools to apply to the Department to participate in the Program; authorizing eligible students to apply for specified scholarships; requiring the Department to determine the amount of scholarships based on specified income eligibility; establishing requirements for the use of scholarship moneys; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 199 - PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BULLYING AND CYBER–BULLYING – POLICY AND DISCIPLINARY STANDARDS (Delegate Rice, et al) (Ways and Means) - Requiring the State Board of Education to establish a policy prohibiting bullying and cyber–bullying in schools; requiring the State Board to develop standards for investigating complaints of bullying and disciplining specified individuals; requiring the model standards to include specified requirements; requiring county boards of education to establish local standards concerning bullying based on the State model uniform standards; and defining “bullying”. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 206 - EDUCATION – STUDENT BULLYING – STATE AND SCHOOL POLICY (Delegate Riley, et al) (Ways and Means) - Requiring, by September 1, 2009, each county board of education and the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City to adopt a policy declaring bullying in schools, on school property, and at school functions or school–sponsored activities regardless of location as against State and school policy; requiring each county board of education and the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City to make a copy of the policy available to specified individuals and to take specified other steps; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 230 - VEHICLE LAWS – SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS – AUTHORITY TO DIRECT TRAFFIC (Chair, Environmental Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)) (Environmental Matters) - Authorizing a school crossing guard who meets specified qualifications to stop or otherwise direct vehicles and pedestrians on a highway or on school grounds under specified circumstances; requiring drivers to obey the directions of a school crossing guard exercising authority under the Act; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 300 - EDUCATION – PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS – CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE COURSES (Delegate Conaway) (Ways and Means) - Requiring each county board of education and each nonpublic noncollegiate educational institution to develop for its students a mandatory course regarding criminal law and criminal procedure to be implemented during middle school or during the equivalent age–appropriate grade level; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

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**SB 167** - EDUCATION – TEACHER CERTIFICATION – NATIONAL ORGANIZATION STANDARDS (Senators Greenip and Colburn) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Expanding the State and Local Aid Program for Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to include teachers who pursue certification or renewal by the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence; renaming the Program to be the State and Local Aid Program for Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence; updating Program qualifications; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

**SB 203** - DLLR – CONSOLIDATION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUNCTIONS – TRANSFER OF ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY SERVICES AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES (The President (By Request – Administration)) (Finance and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Consolidating workforce development functions by transferring adult education and literacy services and education and training programs for correctional facilities that are administered by the State Department of Education to the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; establishing the Workforce Creation and Adult Education Transition Council; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

**SB 229** - EDUCATION – CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES – REQUIRED FUNDING (Senator Greenip, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Requiring a county board of education to spend revenues in accordance with specified requirements; requiring each county board to spend a specified percentage of total operating expenditures on direct classroom expenditures beginning in fiscal year 2010; requiring a county board to increase direct classroom expenditures by a specified percentage over a specified period of time until the county board reaches the required percentage if the county board is spending less than the required percentage; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

**SB 230** - PUBLIC SCHOOL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SUNSHINE ACT (Senator Greenip, et al) (Finance) - Requiring that written collective bargaining agreements be made available to the public by county boards of education within 10 days following approval of the agreement; requiring the county boards to submit the agreements to the State Board of Education; requiring the State Board to store the agreements in a repository; and requiring the State Board to make the agreements available to the public. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

**SB 231** - PUBLIC SCHOOLS – CERTIFIED TEACHERS – FLAGGING INVESTIGATIVE PROCEEDINGS (Senator Jacobs, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Requiring a county superintendent to send a written notice to the State Superintendent of Schools that an investigative proceeding involving a complaint has been initiated against a certified teacher if the complaint alleges specified crimes; requiring that a specified notice be sent within a specified number of days and include specified information; requiring the State Superintendent to place immediately a warning flag on a certified teacher's file under specified circumstances; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

**SB 264** - HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS – ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND GED REQUIREMENTS (Senator Pugh, et al) (Ed., Health, & Env. Affairs) - Requiring representatives of local boards of education to provide information concerning alternative education programs and GED program requirements and testing locations to specified individuals; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

### **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**HB 184** - PUBLIC SAFETY – PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS – HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT – FUNDING (Delegate Aumann, et al) (Env. Matters) - Authorizing the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide and allocate matching grants and technical assistance to eligible political subdivisions to implement local housing laws regarding the number of individuals who may live in a housing unit; authorizing the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop and use a formula to determine whether a political subdivision is affected by the student population of a public senior higher education institution; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

### **ELECTIONS**

**HB 138** - ELECTION LAW – BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE – ADDITIONAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT OF CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED (Delegate Kaiser, et al) (Ways & Means) - Requiring a ballot issue committee to file a campaign finance report of its contributions on or before a specified date preceding a general election. EFF. 7/1/08

**SB 136** - ELECTION LAW – QUALIFICATION OF VOTERS – PROOF OF IDENTITY (Senator Harris, et al) (Ed., Health, & Env. Affairs) - Requiring an election judge to establish a voter's identity and verify the voter's address if the voter seeks to vote a regular ballot; requiring an election judge to qualify a voter by requesting the voter to present a specified form of identification; requiring an election judge to authorize an individual to vote a regular ballot; allowing a voter who is unable to present a specified form of identification to vote by provisional ballot under specified circumstances; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

**SB 201** - ELECTIVE FRANCHISE – VOTING BY 17-YEAR-OLD CITIZENS (Senator Dyson) (Ed., Health, & Env. Affairs) - Authorizing specified citizens who are less than 18 years old to vote in specified elections under specified circumstances; making stylistic changes; and submitting the amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection. CONTINGENT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

**SB 245** - CAMPAIGN FINANCE – AFFILIATED BUSINESS ENTITIES – ATTRIBUTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS (Senator Frosh, et al) (Ed., Health, & Env. Affairs) - Requiring that campaign finance contributions by two or more business entities be attributed to one business entity if one is a wholly owned subsidiary of another or if the business entities are owned or controlled by at least 80% of the same individuals; defining the term "business entity" to include a corporation, a general or limited partnership, a limited liability company, or a real estate investment trust; and applying the Act prospectively. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

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## EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

HB 175 - STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – MILITARY SERVICE CREDIT – ELIGIBILITY (Delegate Aumann, et al) (Appropriations) - Reducing the number of years of creditable service from 10 to 5 years that a member of the State Retirement and Pension System is required to accrue in order to be eligible to receive military service credit. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

## ENVIRONMENT

HB 307 - TASK FORCE ON A STATEWIDE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND SEDIMENT CONTROL INITIATIVE (Delegate Costa) (Environmental Matters) - Establishing a Task Force on a Statewide Stormwater Management and Sediment Control Initiative; establishing the membership and staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the Task Force; authorizing the Task Force to establish subcommittees; requiring the Task Force to evaluate and make recommendations to improve the State's erosion and sediment control and stormwater management regulations and programs; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 189 - SURFACE WATER DISCHARGE PERMITS – CONTESTED CASE HEARINGS – STANDING (Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee (By Request – Departmental – Environment)) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Authorizing a person meeting specified requirements of federal law to request a hearing on a surface water discharge permit; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 209 - RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD PERCENTAGE REQUIREMENTS – ACCELERATION (The President (By Request – Administration), et al) (Finance) - Altering the renewable energy portfolio standard by increasing the percentages of electricity sales that must be met in specified years through the accumulation of renewable energy credits from specified sources; redefining a specified renewable energy credit; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 213 - CHESAPEAKE BAY 2010 TRUST FUND AND NONPOINT SOURCE FUND (The President (By Request – Administration), et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Altering the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund and its purposes; providing for the uses of the Fund; establishing in statute the BayStat Program and BayStat Subcabinet; requiring the Program to distribute funds from the Trust Fund to the BayStat Subcabinet agencies; requiring the BayStat Subcabinet agencies to redistribute the funds through grants to various entities and to the Chesapeake Bay Nonpoint Source Fund; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 246 - AGRICULTURE – FERTILIZER – PHOSPHORUS CONTENT REDUCTION (Senator Frosh, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Requiring specified fertilizer to be labeled in a specified manner; prohibiting a person from using, selling, manufacturing, or distributing specified fertilizer after a specified date unless it is low phosphate fertilizer; requiring specified manufacturers to reduce phosphorus levels from lawn care products by a specified amount, by a specified date; requiring specified manufacturers to report annually to the Department of the Environment; and authorizing the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

## GOVERNMENT LIABILITY & COURTS

HB 292 - MARYLAND FALSE CLAIMS ACT (Delegate Smigiel, et al) (Judiciary and Health and Government Operations) - Prohibiting specified actions constituting false claims against the State; providing specified penalties for making false claims against the State; requiring the Attorney General to investigate specified violations; authorizing a person other than the State to file a civil action on behalf of the State against a person who makes a false claim against the State; providing for the procedures to be followed in a civil action; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 308 - CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – RESTITUTION – PRIORITY TO VICTIMS (Delegate Vallario) (Judiciary) - Providing that payment of restitution to a victim has priority over any payments to any other person or governmental unit, subject to specified exceptions. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 215 - MARYLAND FALSE HEALTH CLAIMS ACT (Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Departmental – Health and Mental Hygiene)) (Judicial Proceedings) - Prohibiting specified actions constituting false claims against a State health plan or a State health program; providing specified penalties for making false claims against a State health plan or a State health program; authorizing the State to file a civil action against a person who makes a false claim against a State health plan or a State health program under specified circumstances; providing for the procedures to be followed in a civil action; providing for specified remedies under a civil action; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 125 - COURTS – SERVICE OF PROCESS – INCREASE IN SHERIFF'S FEES – DISTRIBUTION TO RENTAL ALLOWANCE PROGRAM FUND (Senator Brochin, et al) (Judicial Proceedings and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Increasing specified fees for service of process of specified papers by a sheriff; requiring that \$10 of the fees be distributed to a fund established under the Rental Allowance Program of the Department of Housing and Community Development; establishing the Rental Allowance Program Fund; providing for the purpose of the Fund; requiring the Department to administer the Fund; specifying that the Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund; providing that the money in the Fund may be used only for specified purposes; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 265 - STATE GOVERNMENT – ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT – SCOPE OF JUDICIAL REVIEW (Senator Stone, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Expanding the circumstances in which a court may reverse or modify a decision in specified contested cases involving employee discipline or termination under the Administrative Procedure Act; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

## HEALTH

HB 151 - HEALTH – REPORTABLE CONDITIONS – METHICILLIN-RESISTANT STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS (Delegate Hubbard) (Health & Gov't. Operations) - Adding methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus to the list of conditions that a medical laboratory director must report to a specified county health officer; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

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HB 217 - VITAL RECORDS – COPIES TO COUNTY REGISTRARS OF VITAL RECORDS (Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Dept. – Health and Mental Hygiene)) (Health and Government Operations) - Authorizing the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to provide a copy of an original birth certificate to the registrar of vital records of the county or Baltimore City where the birth took place; requiring the Secretary, under specified circumstances, to provide original specified vital records to the registrar of vital records of the county in which the subjects of the records reside or resided; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

## **HUMAN SERVICES**

HB 265 - FAMILY LAW – EMERGENCY PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN – CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECKS (Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Dept. – Public Safety & Corr. Services) (Judiciary) - Authorizing the local department of social services to request a designated State or local law enforcement agency to perform a federal name-based criminal history records check on specified individuals if a child is placed in an emergency in-home placement; requiring a local department of social services to submit a complete set of fingerprints for specified individuals to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 241 - CHILD WELFARE – REPORTS OF CHILDREN AT SUBSTANTIAL RISK OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT (Senator Kelley, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Requiring specified professionals to notify the local department of social services or the appropriate law enforcement agency if the professionals have reason to believe that a child is at substantial risk of abuse or neglect because the child is regularly permitted to associate with a specified individual; providing specified exceptions; describing the information that is to be included in a specified report; providing for the receipt and investigation of a report that a child is at substantial risk of abuse or neglect; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

HB 204 - PUBLIC SAFETY – POOL LIFEGUARDS – REGULATION (CONNOR'S LAW) (Delegate King) (Health and Government Operations) - Requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt regulations requiring the owners of specified types of swimming pools to have one lifeguard on duty for each group of 25 or fewer individuals in the water. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 259 - PROGRAM OPEN SPACE – ATTAINMENT OF ACQUISITION GOALS – INCREASED ALLOCATION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Senators Middleton and Edwards (Joint Subcommittee on Program Open Space/Agricultural Land Preservation), et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Altering the amount a local government can spend on development projects after it has attained its acquisition goals under Program Open Space. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

## **PLANNING & ZONING**

HB 246 - CHARTER COUNTIES – LAND USE APPEALS – STANDING (Delegates Bobo and V. Clagett) (Environmental Matters) - Authorizing specified persons in a charter county to appeal a decision of a board of appeals or a zoning action of a local legislative body to the circuit court of the county; authorizing specified persons in a charter county to make

specified appeals to the Court of Special Appeals; providing specified rules and procedures for specified appeals under specified circumstances to apply to a specified person in a charter county; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

HB 274/SB 133 - MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION – ALLEGANY COUNTY AND GARRETT COUNTY – COAL RIGHTS (Allegany County Delegation and Garrett County Delegation) (Environmental Matters) (Senator Edwards) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Prohibiting regulations and procedures adopted by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation for the establishment and monitoring of agricultural districts from requiring, in Allegany County and Garrett County, a coal rights owner or lessee to subordinate its interest to the Foundation's interest under specified circumstances; and requiring that a specified report be submitted by October 1, 2011. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

## **PUBLIC ETHICS AND INFORMATION**

SB 147 - STATE ARCHIVES – RECORDS AND OTHER SERVICES – FEES (Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee (By Request – Departmental – Archives, Maryland State)) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Authorizing the State Archivist to establish reasonable fees for the care and preservation of records and other services; providing that these fees may be in specified forms; requiring a specified percentage of these fees to be deposited in the Archives Endowment Account of the State Archives Fund; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

## **PUBLIC SAFETY & CORRECTIONS**

HB 108 - PUBLIC SAFETY – ELECTRONIC WEAPONS – PROHIBITION (Delegate Branch, et al) (Judiciary) - Prohibiting a person from possessing, using, selling, distributing, offering to sell or distribute, or transporting into the State an electronic weapon; establishing penalties; requiring the Police Training Commission to require specified training in the proper use of electronic weapons; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 177 - VEHICLE LAWS – SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS – RADAR CAMERAS (Delegate Aumann) (Environmental Matters) - Authorizing specified law enforcement agencies to mail a citation to the owner of a motor vehicle that is recorded by a speed monitoring system to be in violation of specified laws regarding the operation of a motor vehicle in excess of specified speed limits; providing for the distribution of specified penalties; establishing the Homeland Security Fund to be financed by enforcement of specified speed limit laws and specified additional sources; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 235 - MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – EMERGENCY SERVICE TRANSPORTERS – PAYMENTS (Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Health and Mental Hygiene)) (Health and Government Operations) - Repealing the statutory cap on reimbursement by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for emergency service transporters under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and replacing it with a cap as specified in regulations adopted by the Department. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

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SB 211 - PUBLIC SAFETY – STATEWIDE DNA DATA BASE SYSTEM – CRIMES OF VIOLENCE, BURGLARY, AND BREAKING AND ENTERING A MOTOR VEHICLE – SAMPLE COLLECTIONS ON ARREST (The President (By Request – Administration), et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Requiring the collection of a DNA sample from an individual who is arrested for or charged with a crime of violence or attempt to commit a crime of violence, burglary, or breaking and entering a motor vehicle; etc. EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2009

SB 225 - LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES – INMATE HEALTH CARE EXPENSES – PAYMENT RATES TO HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS (Senator Middleton) (Finance) - Providing that a local correctional facility that is responsible for payment for specified health care expenses of inmates is only responsible for payment at the lower of specified rates; and providing that a county may enter into an agreement with a health care provider for the provision of health care services at amounts that are higher or lower than a specified rate. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

### **TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS**

HB 131 - VEHICLE LAWS – EMERGENCY AND POLICE VEHICLE AND PERSONNEL PROTECTION ACT (Delegate Conaway) (Environmental Matters) - Requiring drivers approaching emergency or police vehicles stopped, standing, or parked on a highway and using any visual signals, except when otherwise directed by a police officer, to vacate the lane closest to the emergency or police vehicle under specified circumstances and to slow to a speed that is sufficient to ensure the safety of police officers or emergency services personnel in the vicinity of the emergency or police vehicle under specified circumstances; establishing a penalty; etc. EFF. OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 255 - VEHICLE LAWS – EMERGENCY AND POLICE VEHICLE AND PERSONNEL PROTECTION ACT (Delegate Conaway) (Env. Matters) - Requiring drivers approaching emergency or police vehicles stopped, standing, or parked on a highway and using any visual signals, except when otherwise directed by a police officer, to vacate the lane closest to the emergency or police vehicle under specified circumstances and to slow to a speed that is sufficient to ensure the safety of police officers or emergency services personnel in the vicinity of the emergency or police vehicle under specified circumstances; establishing a specified penalty; etc. EFF. OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 200 - COMMISSION TO STUDY SOUTHERN MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION NEEDS (Sen. Dyson and Middleton) (Finance) - Authorizing the Commission to Study Southern Maryland Transportation Needs to reconvene for specified purposes; altering the date for the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; and altering the date for the termination of the Commission. EFF. JUNE 1, 2008

SB 204 - MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION – TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (The President (By Request – Adm.), et al) (Finance) - Establishing that specified transit-oriented development of specified property located near transit stations is a transportation purpose that is essential for the attainment of specified objectives; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

HB 155/ SB 150 - CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – MARYLAND CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL BOND LOAN OF 2008, AND THE MARYLAND CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL BOND LOANS OF 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, AND 2007 (The Speaker (By Request – Administration) (Appropriations) (The President (By Request – Adm.) (Budget & Taxation) - Authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$872,099,000, the proceeds to be used, subject to specified restrictions and reporting requirements, for the acquisition, building, construction, demolition, planning, renovation, conversion, replacement, and capital equipping of specified State projects, and for grants to specified subdivisions and other organizations for specified purposes, subject to the requirement that specified grantees provide and expend specified matching funds; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

SB 267 - INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – PUBLIC SCHOOL VOLUNTEER AIDES (Senator Simonaire, et al) (Budget & Taxation) - Providing a subtraction modification under the State income tax for qualifying volunteer aides; requiring a county superintendent of schools or the superintendent's designee to provide a statement of certification to a volunteer aide who volunteers a specified number of hours; requiring the State Board of Education to create and provide a specified form; applying the Act to tax years after 2007; etc. EFF. 7/1/08