

Courthouse News

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of Counties

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February 11, 2008

Secretary Reviews Budget Highlights with Legislative Committee

Department of Budget and Management Secretary Eloise Foster joined the MACo Legislative Committee for its February 6 meeting. She reviewed a document covering the major facets of the Administration's proposed FY 2009 budget plan. The document, entitled "Making Our Government Work Again," may be obtained from the Governor's website at this address:

<http://www.governor.maryland.gov/pressreleases/080116budget.pdf>

Secretary Foster reviewed the budget plan, noting that it proposes only a 4.09% total growth rate, with reductions of \$550 million from the baseline budget even after mid-year cuts from July (effected by the State Board of Public Works). The Governor's budget proposes to set aside funds in the State's Rainy Day Fund, "to hopefully hedge against what may happen in the future."

She showed large representations of the uses of budget funds – detailing the sizable share of the operating budget that is dedicated to health (25%), K-12 education (21%) and higher education (16%). The education share of the capital budget totals 41%, the largest aggregated component of the total of more than \$1.5 billion.

Speaking about education funding, Secretary Foster noted the Geographic Cost of Education index was funded for the first time, and is to be "phased-in over a two-year period," an acceleration above previous funding plans. She also noted that the school construction funding was the "second highest total ever," and that FY 2008 and 2009 represent "the highest two year commitment." She also noted the commitment to capital for community colleges was "\$81 million for 13 projects," also a record.

The Secretary's presentation covered the budget's attention to workforce development and health care, and environmental support including "full funding for Program Open Space." In public safety, she noted commitments to correctional facilities and the Juvenile Services programs, including an expansion of "Operation Safe Kids," a violence prevention pilot program. She also noted expanded programs to support veterans returning from overseas conflicts, to assist with benefit and compensation claims, and to help provide behavioral health services, "basically to help in rural areas."

Asked about recent discussions about the State pension system, she indicated the State had been "notified by our actuary of a

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Legislative Committee Meeting

February 13 - 10:30 a.m.

Tax & Education Subcommittees:

February 13 - 10:15 a.m.

Guest Speaker:
Speaker of the House
Mike Busch

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

mistake," but that they were "still fine-tuning the numbers" and that the issue was "basically on hold." She confirmed that local governments participating in the State retirement system would be affected by a potential change in employee contribution rates, but did not offer specifics about projected effects.

Responding to a question about school funding, Secretary Foster summed up the various changes to school funding formulas by observing, "everybody is moving ahead... maybe not as much as you'd want."

Secretary Foster concluded, saying she was "very appreciative of the assistance given by David [Bliden] and a number of you from MACo" during the Special Session, and mentioned that the Administration was "dealing with a lot of different issues. Thank you very much personally, and on behalf of the Governor."

Contact: Michael Sanderson

Proposed Medicaid Reimbursement Regulation Changes Hurt Counties

Proposed new federal regulations restricting Medicaid reimbursement for case management threaten to significantly cut local funding, including funding from public schools and social services and health departments. If the new Medicaid regulations go into effect as currently scheduled, the cuts will begin March 4, 2008 and impact the current fiscal year budget as well as next year's budget.

Funding cuts will likely impact departments of aging, social services, health and the local management boards, and public school systems. Particularly affected will be programs that serve Medicaid-eligible handicapped and frail children and adults. The cuts result from implementation of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 ("DRA").

Preliminary State estimates of cuts impacting counties are as follows:

- Public Schools- \$21.9 million
- Local Social Service Departments- \$15m
- Local Health Departments- \$7.5m
- Local Infants and Toddlers Programs- \$2.3m

At the February 6 Legislative Committee meeting, MACo President Jim Smith raised the need for counties to promptly communicate concerns to the Maryland Congressional Delegation. He explained that bills were introduced to address the cuts.

Further information and examples of letters recently sent are available on our homepage www.mdcounties.org.

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

Green Fund Successor Funding Bill Heard

MACo Executive Director David Bliden joined MML Legislative Director Candace Donoho in supporting the Administration's Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund, Senate Bill 213, before the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee (EHE) on February 6. SB 213 provides for the allocation of the \$50 million mandated for appropriation during the Special Session for Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts. The bill is the successor to HB 23, the Green Fund bill, for which MACo committed significant effort during the past year.

SB 213's intent is to "...drive most of the funding locally, as that is where you get results," explained Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Secretary John Griffin, who reviewed the bill's details for the Committee. He suggested the previous focus on a "top-down" Federal-State approach was not promoting needed progress in Bay restoration. An empirical "Bay-Stat" approach to fund allocation, seeking maximum benefits for investments, and a focus on non-point source pollution were highlighted.

Mr. Bliden argued that consistent with Secretary Griffin's "...much appreciated recognition that the local government should be the funding focus," the bill should specifically designate funding for local government distribution. He cited HB 23 provisions that earmarked 30% of the Green Fund for local government, noting that "...in light of Secretary Griffin's comments, [the 30%] understates the distribution, but should at least be the floor."

"This is not a hat in hand request," suggested Mr. Bliden, noting MACo's support for a required local match. With the empirical BayStat approach, this "velocitization" of investment justifies the local government priority.

Mr. Bliden also argued for language authorizing Fund investment in farmland easement acquisition, explaining these acquisitions promote Bay health through retention of pervious surface. He emphasized county "passion" for easement acquisition, noting MACo's willingness to support a match requirement. The 2006 Agricultural Stewardship Act's goal of an additional \$20 million investment in farmland easement acquisition was cited as further justification for the authorization.

Your Source for Legislative Information

www.mdcountries.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

Administration representatives noted an interest in working with stakeholders, with Secretary Griffin specifically mentioning a meeting with Mr. Bliden the previous day. Mr. Bliden thanked the Secretary for this reach-out during his testimony.

Contact: David S. Bliden

Transit Development Promotion Bill Supported

MACo Associate Director Leslie Knapp Jr. testified in support of Senate Bill 204 before the Senate Finance Committee on February 6. The Administration bill would promote State and local government partnerships to make the best use of property around a transit station and enhance the desirability and effectiveness of a mass transit system.

SB 204 would authorize the Secretary of Transportation to designate certain areas for "transit-oriented development." These areas must be adjacent to, or within one-half mile of, an existing or planned transit station and be targeted for mix-used development. The development must also be planned to maximize the use of transit, walking, and bicycling.

Before designating an area for transit-oriented development, the Secretary must consult with the Secretaries of Business and Economic Development, General Services, Housing and Community Development, the Environment, and Planning. The Finance Committee suggested expanding the consultation requirement to include the affected county or municipality. MACo supported the suggested amendment.

Mr. Knapp testified that mass transit stations are an important factor for a citizen deciding where to live. He stressed that encouraging mixed-used development around these stations can enhance their attractiveness even further. He noted county governments have partnered with the Maryland Department of Transportation in the past on transit-oriented development projects and that the bill simply codifies current practice.

Senator Nathaniel Exum suggested that the bill might allow the State to supercede local land use authority. Mr. Knapp noted that local participation is voluntary, but that MACo could support clarifying language to assure local land use authority was not

impacted.

Among the representatives for the Administration who testified on behalf of the bill were Secretary of Transportation John Porcari and Secretary of Planning Richard Hall. Anne Arundel, Howard Prince George's and Montgomery Counties and Baltimore City offered written testimony in support of the bill.

Contact: Leslie Knapp Jr.

Counties Raise Concerns with Lifeguard Mandate

House Bill 204, heard in the House Health and Governmental Operations Committee on February 6, would require one lifeguard for each 25 people in a public or semi-public pool. Bill sponsor, Delegate James King, spoke about a tragic situation triggering interest in the legislation, but indicated an interest in working collaboratively to find a resolution.

Several local governments joined MACo with statements opposing the bill as introduced. MACo Legislative Director Michael Sanderson offered testimony that local governments generally comply with safety standards established by the American Red Cross and other safety promoting organizations, and that the new standards suggested in HB 204 would be costly and potentially difficult to comply with, as trained lifeguards are frequently in short supply.

MACo and several interested parties have agreed to pursue a potential resolution to the concerns raised by the bill's sponsor and proponents.

Contact: Michael Sanderson

Job Openings

PLANNING DIRECTOR - CHARLES COUNTY -

Located in Southern Maryland (pop. 145,000), 71 miles south of Baltimore and 32 miles southeast of Washington, D.C., is seeking applicants for a Planning Director. The County has a total operating and capital annual budget of \$519 Million with 700 full time employees. The Planning Director will manage the Planning Division and serve as a Division Chief in the County's Dept. of Planning & Growth Management. The Planning Director will manage and direct the county's land use planning and related issues. This position

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provides advice to the Board of County Commissioners, Board of Appeals, and Planning Commission on planning/zoning issues. This individual will assist in the decision making process; provide leadership and direction for planning, zoning and code enforcement activities for local County government; manage the review of all development-related proposals for conformance with the Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations, Critical Areas, Forest Conservation and Historic Preservation regulations. Interpret, administer and negotiate issues related to comprehensive planning, facilities planning and environmental regulations and policy. This individual will serve on various committees and represent the County Commissioners in presentations. The county government is implementing plans and policies that will focus future growth in the Waldorf Development District, favor future passenger rail transit and mixed-use, transit-oriented development, and protect the rural areas of the County from sprawl development. Minimum qualifications include a Master's Degree in Planning and six years of progressively responsible professional planning experience, or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Knowledge of principles and practices of land use planning required. Salary range: \$76,367 to \$123,186. Starting salary based on qualifications. Offering excellent benefits including a defined benefit pension plan, deferred compensation, generous leave and health care programs. Employee Pension Plan honors portability of prior eligible Maryland State and local government service in other defined benefit pension plans. Apply on line at www.charlescounty.org, or submit application and resume to the HR Dept., Charles Co. Gov't. Building, POB 2150, La Plata, MD 20646. Position is open until filled; for best consideration apply by **February 29, 2008**. Prior applicants do not need to reapply. EOE; minority and female applicants are encouraged to apply.

ENGINEER II (SOLID WASTE) BUREAU OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT, DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS, BALTIMORE COUNTY - Min.

Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree in Engineering and two years engineering experience (Qualifying education may be substituted for experience) or P.E. license. Various and diverse office and field duties involving engineering, environmental monitoring, and regulatory compliance associated with operations and construction projects at one active sanitary landfill, as well as at closed landfills and other solid waste facilities. 35 hour work week. \$46,684 to \$58,032, with longevity steps to \$74,142.

Open until filled. For more information about County benefits, or to obtain a job description and/or an application, please visit our website at <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/humanresources/jobs/index.html> Contact Stephen G. Lippy, P.E., DEE, 410-887-2009, or email slippy@baltimorecountymd.gov (r7/08)

COUNTY ENGINEER - DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS - WORCESTER COUNTY - \$85,000 – \$100,000 /

DOQ - Nestled between the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean lies Maryland's only seaside county offering a unique blend of our Ocean City resort and the country ambience in central and southern communities. The Worcester County Commissioners are accepting applications for the County Engineer position in Snow Hill, MD. Reporting to the Public Works Director, this full-time, salaried position provides direct oversight of the newly created Engineering & Construction Division of Public Works, tasked with directing all technical design and construction quality aspects of improvements (including capital) for departments within County (except for the Board of Education). The successful candidate will be a Registered Professional Engineer (MD) with a minimum of 5 years progressively responsible management experience in an engineering/construction field; have working knowledge of laws, regulations and ordinances pertaining to Public Works and possess above average oral and written communication skills necessary to prepare reports, prepare and deliver public presentations, provide leadership and motivation to division employees, communicate effectively and courteously with coworkers and the general public. Additional requirements include a valid driver's license and driving record of less than 4 points (MD) with the ability to travel to county-wide locations and satisfactory background check. In addition to salary we offer an exceptional benefits package. A job description is available at www.co.worcester.md.us. Qualified candidates may apply in confidence on or before **February 29, 2008**, by submitting a resume with cover letter summarizing experience and salary requirement to Worcester County Human Resources Department, Government Center, Room 1301, 1 West Market Street, Snow Hill, MD 21863 or email to humanresources@co.worcester.md.us . EOE

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Legislative Committee Action Report

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TAXES AND REVENUES

HB 377/ SB 207 - SOLAR AND GEOTHERMAL TAX INCENTIVE AND GRANT PROGRAM (The Speaker (By Request – Administration), et al) (Economic Matters and Ways and Means) (The President (By Request – Administration), et al) (Budget and Taxation and Finance) – NO POSITION

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 429/ SB 455 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX – REFUNDS AND REPORTS – INTEREST (Harford County Delegation) (Ways and Means) (Harford County Senators) (Budget and Taxation) – SUPPORT

SB 381 - SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS – RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY – PROHIBITION (Senator Rosapepe) (Budget and Taxation) – OPPOSE

SB 406 - TAX SALES – NOTICE PRIOR TO ACTION TO FORECLOSE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION (Senator Della) (Budget and Taxation) – SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HB 408 - BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – QUALIFIED DISTRESSED COUNTIES (Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Business and Economic Development)) (Economic Matter) – NO POSITION

SB 281 - AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMS – WAIVER OR MODIFICATION OF FEES AND CHARGES – ENABLING AUTHORITY FOR COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES (Senator Dyson) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) – NO POSITION

ENVIRONMENT

HB 369/ SB 213 - CHESAPEAKE BAY 2010 TRUST FUND AND NONPOINT SOURCE FUND (The President (The Speaker (By Request – Administration), et al) (Environmental Matters) (By Request – Administration), et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) – SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

HB 509/ SB 336 - TASK FORCE TO STUDY REQUIRED DEPOSITS ON RETURNABLE BEVERAGE CONTAINERS (Delegate Hammen, et al) (Environmental Matters) (Senator Raskin, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) – NO POSITION

PARKS & RECREATION

SB 330 - SWIMMING POOLS – AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR PROGRAMS (Senator Klausmeier) (Finance – OPPOSE

PLANNING & ZONING

HB 246 - CHARTER COUNTIES – LAND USE APPEALS – STANDING (Delegates Bobo and V. Clagett) (Environmental Matters) – OPPOSE

PUBLIC ETHICS AND INFORMATION

HB 349 - STATE GOVERNMENT – OPEN MEETINGS – VOTES OF A PUBLIC BODY (Delegate Bobo) (HGO) OPPOSE

PUBLIC SAFETY & CORRECTIONS

HB 364/ SB 269 - VEHICLE LAWS – SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS – STATEWIDE AUTHORIZATION AND USE IN HIGHWAY WORK ZONES (The Speaker (By Request – Administration), et al) (Environmental Matters) (The President (By Request – Administration)) (Judicial Proceedings) – SUPPORT

Impact Bills

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NOTES: The summaries of the bills listed below are taken directly from the synopsis provided by the DLS. When reporting on specific bills to the Legislative Committee, staff will make clarifications to the synopsis. MACo refines the list weekly, 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.

TAXES AND REVENUES

HB 475/ SB 517 - INCOME TAX – PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS – INFLATION ADJUSTMENT (Delegate Olszewski, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Stone) (Budget and Taxation) - Increasing the amount of specified exemptions allowed under the State income tax for specified taxable years by a specified cost-of-living adjustment. EFFECTIVE 7/1/2008

HB 612/ SB 104 - PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT – COMMERCIAL WATERFRONT PROPERTY (Delegate Kullen, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Stoltzfus) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Establishing commercial waterfront property as a subclass of real property for property tax assessment purposes; providing for the assessment of commercial waterfront property, as defined, based on its use instead of its market value; providing for the termination of a commercial waterfront use assessment and the imposition of a specified penalty under specified circumstances; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EMERGENCY BILL

HB 746/ SB 597 - RECORDATION AND TRANSFER TAXES – EXEMPTIONS – DOMESTIC PARTNERS (Delegate Kaiser, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Kramer, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Exempting from recordation tax and State and county transfer taxes instruments of writing transferring property between domestic partners and former domestic partners under specified circumstances; requiring the submission of specified evidence to qualify for specified exemptions; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 788 - REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS – MARKET DECLINES – REVALUATION (Del. Hubbard, et al) (Ways & Means) Requiring real property to be revalued outside of the triennial assessment cycle if a decline in the median price for homes in the county where the real property is located causes a change in the value of the property; etc. EFF. 10/1/08

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SB 495 - HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – FARM OR AGRICULTURAL USE LAND (Senator Haines, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Expanding the definition of a dwelling that qualifies for the homestead property tax credit to include specified homes that are located on parcels of land that are recognized by the Department of Assessments and Taxation to be actively used for farm or agricultural purposes; providing for exceptions if the dwelling is not occupied for the required time period; providing that a homeowner may claim a homestead property tax credit for two dwellings under specified circumstances; etc. EFFECTIVE 6/1/08

SB 527 - SPENDING MANDATE RELIEF ACT (Chair, Budget and Taxation Committee) (Budget and Taxation) - Altering a requirement that the State budget include an appropriation to pay rent to counties for space occupied by clerks of the circuit courts; altering the calculation of specified State aid to private institutions of higher education; altering the calculation of specified State aid to libraries; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 534 - VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY – COMPLETED IMPROVEMENTS (Senator Muse) (Budget and Taxation) - Altering a requirement that real property shall be revalued when specified improvements are made; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

SB 537 - TAX REDUCTION ACT (Senator Pipkin) (Budget and Taxation) - Altering rates and rate brackets under the State income tax for individuals and corporations; altering the deduction amounts allowed for personal exemptions under the income tax; repealing recordation and transfer taxes imposed on the transfer of a controlling interest in specified real property owning entities; repealing the sales and use tax on computer services; altering the sales and use tax rate; altering the cigarette tax rate; altering the motor vehicle excise tax; altering the distribution of specified revenues; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 567 COMPUTER SERVICES TAX REPEAL AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ACT (Senator Garagiola, et al) (Budget and Taxation) Altering the distribution of motor fuel tax revenue and sales and use tax revenue; providing for specified increases in specified motor fuel tax rates for specified fiscal years; repealing the sales and use tax on specified computer services; providing for the payment of the motor fuel tax on specified tax– paid motor fuel held as of specified dates; establishing the Sales and Use Tax Study Task Force; etc. VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

SB 652 - PROPERTY TAX – VALUATION OF INCOME PRODUCING PROPERTY (Senator Robey, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Prohibiting a supervisor of assessments from considering income earned by a tenant under a lease less than 99 years that is not perpetually renewable when using an income method to value income producing real property for property tax purposes; etc. EFF. OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 676 - PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT – COMMERCIAL WATERFRONT PROPERTY (Senator Stoltzfus, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Establishing commercial waterfront property as a subclass of real property for property tax assessment purposes; providing for the assessment of commercial waterfront property, as defined, based on its use instead of its market value; providing for the termination of a commercial waterfront use assessment and the imposition of a specified penalty under specified

circumstances; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EMERGENCY BILL

SB 736 - PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – INDIVIDUALS AT LEAST 65 YEARS OLD (Senator Muse) (Budget and Taxation) - Requiring the governing body of each county and each municipal corporation to grant a specified property tax credit to specified individuals of at least a specified age; providing for the amount of the credit for applicable tax years; providing for the application of the Act; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

SB 758 - PROPERTY TAX – AGRICULTURAL USE ASSESSMENT (Senator Colburn) (Budget and Taxation) - Providing that property used as a migrant labor camp shall be considered actively used for farming and qualifies for valuation and assessment for property tax purposes based on its agricultural use under specified circumstances; and applying the Act to tax years beginning after June 30, 2009. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 776 - TAX CREDIT FOR EMPLOYER–ESTABLISHED PAID WORK–BASED LEARNING PROGRAMS (Senator Jones) (Budget and Taxation) - Authorizing specified persons to establish approved paid work–based learning programs under which arrangements are made to provide structured employer–supervised learning; allowing a credit against the State income tax for wages paid to specified individuals under an approved paid work–based learning program; providing for calculation of the credit; requiring that a study be done and provided to the General Assembly; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2008; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 625 - FORESTS AND PARKS – SPECIAL FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS – PAYMENTS TO COUNTIES (Delegate Niemann, et al) (Environmental Matters) - Eliminating specified annual payments made to counties from the State Forest or Park Reserve Fund, the Forest and Park Concession Account, and the Deep Creek Lake Recreation Maintenance and Management Fund. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 647/SB 313 - REAL PROPERTY – CONSTRUCTION CONTACTS – RETENTION PROCEEDS (Delegate Minnick, et al) (Economic Matters) (Senator Stone, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Providing that retention proceeds may not exceed a specified percentage of contracts or payments under specified circumstances; providing that retention proceeds may exceed a specified percentage of payments if contractors reasonably determine that the performance of subcontractors provides reasonable grounds for withholding specified amounts; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 663/ SB 791 - MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS – BUILDING EXCISE TAX (Delegate Barve, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Forehand) (Budget and Taxation) - Authorizing municipal corporations to impose, by ordinance or resolution, a building excise tax on all types of building construction within a municipal corporation; requiring the governing body of a municipal corporation to hold a public hearing before adopting a specified ordinance or resolution; prohibiting a municipal corporation from imposing a building excise tax if the municipal corporation imposes any type of impact fee; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

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HB 676/SB 561 - COUNTY PROPERTY TAXES – CLASSES OF PROPERTY AND SPECIAL RATES (Delegate Carr, et al) (Ways and Means) - Authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county to impose property tax on those classes of property that it selects to be subject to property tax; authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county to set special rates for any class of property that is subject to the county property tax; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 680 - ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS – TAX BENEFITS – JEWELRY AND CLOTHING DESIGNERS (Delegate Ross, et al) (Ways and Means) - Extending the definition of artistic work to include the creation or design of original jewelry or clothing for the purpose of specified tax benefits available in specified arts and entertainment districts; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 722 - PROPERTY – TAX SALE – NOTIFICATION (Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Aging)) (Ways and Means) - Requiring that notification of a property tax sale be provided to the local area agency on aging if an individual who last appears as an owner of the property on the collector's tax roll has been an owner of the property for the last 25 years according to the land records; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 756 - STATE LOTTERY – UNANTICIPATED REVENUES (Delegate Howard, et al) (Ways and Means) - Requiring the Comptroller to distribute specified unanticipated lottery revenues to counties and municipal corporations on a specified pro rata basis; requiring that the revenues distributed under the Act be appropriated by the recipients equally between public education and public safety; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 796 - TAX SALES – PROPERTY WITHHELD FROM SALE (Delegate Carr) (Ways and Means) - Altering a provision allowing a property tax collector to withhold property from a tax sale when the total taxes on the property amount to less than \$300; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

HB 805/ SB 368 - PROCUREMENT – PREFERENCES – EMPLOYMENT WORKS PROGRAM (Delegate Weldon, et al) (Health and Government Operations) (Senator Conway) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Naming a specified preference procurement program within the Department of General Services as the Employment Works Program; clarifying the preference priority for specified providers with regard to purchases of specified supplies and services by the State or by specified other entities; altering the membership of the Pricing and Selection Committee for the Program; defining, altering, and clarifying terms and provisions of law; clarifying provisions relating to a specified coordinating entity; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 838 - PROPERTY TAX – ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES (Delegate G. Clagett) (Ways and Means) - Repealing a specified provision that authorizes the governing body of a county to increase the percent of the assessment of specified machinery or equipment used to generate electricity, steam, or hot or chilled water that is subject to county property tax; limiting a specified payment in an agreement between the governing body of a county and the owner of a facility for the generation of electricity that is located or locates in the county; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

HB 865 - GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND STREAMLINING OPERATIONS (Delegate Morhaim, et al) (Health and Government Operations) - Requiring specified persons to use eMaryland Marketplace to advertise for a specified procurement and to publish notice of an award of a specified contract; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

HB 891/SB 467 - PROPERTY TAX – ASSESSMENT APPEAL PROCEDURES (Delegate Ross, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Peters, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - For the purpose of providing that, for an appeal of a property assessment, a supervisor of assessments shall demonstrate that a specified value or classification in a notice of property assessment is correct; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 892/SB 466 - PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT APPEALS – DUE DATE FOR PAYMENT AND STAY OF COLLECTION (Delegate Ross, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Peters, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Extending the due date for the payment of specified property taxes until final disposition of specified appeals of property tax assessments; providing that specified assessment appeals do not require the posting of a bond in order to stay collection of the property taxes; applying the Act to tax years beginning after June 30, 2008; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

HB 896/ SB 465 - PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT APPEALS (Delegate Ross, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Peters, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Reducing the number of days from 120 to 60 for the Maryland Tax Court to hear and determine an appeal from a determination of a property tax assessment appeal board; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 1058 - HOMESTEAD TAX CREDIT – ADJACENT LOTS (Delegate Carr, et al) (Ways and Means) - Including within the definition of "dwelling" for purposes of the homestead tax credit any unimproved lot adjacent to the lot or curtilage on which the house is erected that is also owned by the homeowner; applying the Act to tax years beginning after June 30, 2009; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1155 - STATE-FUNDED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS – APPRENTICES (Delegate Manno, et al) (Economic Matters) - Requiring that specified contracts for State-funded construction projects require the contractor or the association of which the contractor is a member to have an approved and registered apprenticeship program in place before submitting a bid for the contract and hire specified registered apprentices at a specified ratio. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 478 - PROPERTY TAX – TAX SALES (Senator Madaleno) (Budget and Taxation) - Altering a provision allowing a property tax collector to withhold property from a tax sale when the total taxes on the property amount to less than a specified amount; including Montgomery County within a provision of law limiting the right of specified persons to be reimbursed for specified expenses relating to the foreclosure of a right of redemption within a specified period following a tax sale; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

SB 554 - PROPERTY TAX – CRIMES AND OFFENSES – FALSE INFORMATION ON REFUND CLAIMS (Senator Gladden) (Budget and Taxation) - Providing that a person who negligently relies on specified

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false information for the purpose of claiming a tax refund is guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to a specified fine under specified circumstances; providing that a person who willfully relies on specified false information for the purpose of claiming a tax refund is guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to a specified fine and imprisonment under specified circumstances and is subject to prosecution for perjury; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

SB 662 - AGRICULTURAL LAND TRANSFER TAX – RATES AND DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUE (Senator Middleton) (Budget and Taxation) - Altering specified agricultural land transfer tax rates; altering the distribution of specified revenues attributable to the agricultural land transfer tax; altering the distribution of the State transfer tax revenues under specified circumstances; providing that the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation may use a specified percentage of specified funds for administrative costs; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 688 FORECLOSURES – UNPAID WATER AND SANITARY CHARGES – PROHIBITION (Senator Brochin) (Judicial Proceedings) Prohibiting the forced sale or foreclosure of a property due to unpaid water, sewer, or other sanitary system bills; and repealing provisions rendered inconsistent with the Act. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008



MACo Annual Winter Conference

January 7-9, 2009

***Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Hotel*
Cambridge - Dorchester County**

Have you notified MACo to be paired with a state legislator buddy yet? There are still many legislators who need a county buddy.

A follow-up email will shortly be sent to county elected officials, county administrators, and legislative staffers, again asking for county buddies for legislators.

The system pairs county officials with a “legislative buddy” for whom the county “buddy” is asked to contact during the General Assembly Session just prior to a major issue vote impacting county government. The contacts made by county officials are highly effective in communicating MACo legislative positions.

The Buddy System is only enacted whenever there is a key vote on legislation impacting a major issue for county government, either in a House or Senate Committee or the full legislative body (the House or the Senate). County officials are notified with a “Buddy Alert” via email, fax or telephone call from MACo and asked to contact and discuss the issue with their designated legislator buddy (ies.)

Who’s Your Buddy?



Legislative Grassroots System Needs County Elected Officials!

At that time, MACo provides the county buddy with contact information, and “talking points.” As the legislature often acts swiftly on votes, a quick contact to the legislative buddy is necessary.

If you have questions or wish to volunteer for the Buddy System, contact Ellen Clarke at ecclarke@mdcounties.org or call (410) 269-0043.

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SB 760 HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX – RESIDENCE OF HOMEOWNER'S FAMILY MEMBER (Senator Stone) (Budget & Taxation) Altering the definition of a dwelling that qualifies for the homestead property tax credit to include specified homes that are the only residence of a family member of the homeowner; providing that a dwelling must be occupied by a specified day to qualify for the homestead property tax credit; providing that a homeowner may claim a homestead property tax credit for two dwellings under specified circumstances; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFF. 6/1/08

SB 761 - HOMEOWNER'S PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT (Senator Stone) (Budget & Taxation) - Altering the computation of the homeowner's property tax credit for all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2009, based on a specified cost-of-living adjustment percentage; requiring the Department of Assessments and Taxation to determine the cost-of-living adjustment percentage by October 1 each year based on the increase in a specified consumer price index for a specified period; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

EDUCATION

HB 616 - PUBLIC SCHOOLS – CHILDREN WITH ANAPHYLACTIC ALLERGIES – REDUCTION OF RISK (Delegate Kullen, et al) (Ways & Means) - Requiring principals of public schools that have children attending the schools who have been identified as having anaphylactic allergies to take specified actions to reduce specified risks; making registration of children with specified allergies at public schools contingent on the receipt of specified information; requiring the development of individual health plans; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 652 - EDUCATION – PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES – CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS (Chair, Ways & Means (By Request – Dept. – Education) (Ways & Means) - Prohibiting a county board of education from knowingly hiring or retaining any individual who has been convicted of specified crimes. EFFECTIVE 10/1/08

HB 704 HIGHER EDUCATION INVESTMENT FUND – EXPENDITURES – BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE PROCESS (Chair, Appropriations (By Request – Dept. – Higher Education Commission) (Appropriations) Authorizing moneys from the Higher Education Investment Fund to be used for initiatives to address higher education needs related to the Base Realignment and Closure process. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 732 - BULLYING, HARASSMENT, AND INTIMIDATION – SCHOOL POLICY (Delegate Stein, et al) (Ways & Means) - Requiring each county board of education to establish a policy prohibiting bullying, harassment, or intimidation at school; requiring a county board to develop a specified policy in consultation with specified groups; requiring a county board to submit a policy to the State Superintendent of Schools on or before a specified date and publish a copy of the policy in the student handbook; requiring a county board to develop specified educational programs; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 738 - STATE AID FOR EDUCATION – FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT – CALCULATION (Delegate Stocksdale, et al) (Ways and Means) - Altering the definition of "full-time equivalent enrollment"

in the calculation of specified State aid for education. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 784/ SB 457 - INTERSTATE COMPACT ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN (Delegate Kaiser, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Astle) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Establishing, through an interstate compact with other member states, the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children for the purpose of facilitating the timely enrollment and transfer of children of military families in elementary and secondary schools due to the frequent movement and deployment of their parents; providing for the transfer of student educational records and the enrollment of children in specified schools; etc. CONTINGENT EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 837 - CLASSROOM PLACEMENT – MULTIPLE BIRTH CHILDREN – PARENTAL DISCRETION (Delegate King, et al) (Ways and Means) - Authorizing the parent or guardian of multiple birth children to request the classroom placement of their children under specified circumstances; requiring a parent or guardian to make a classroom placement request in a specified manner within a specified period of time; requiring a school to provide the classroom placement requested by parents or guardians of multiple birth children; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 893 - EDUCATION – CHARACTER EDUCATION FUND (Delegate Ross, et al) (Ways and Means) - Establishing the Character Education Fund in the State Department of Education; requiring the Governor to include a specified amount in the State budget each fiscal year for the Fund; establishing the grant eligibility requirements for the Fund; requiring the Department to adopt specified criteria for approving character education programs, decide whether to approve a proposed program by specified dates, and make specified grant awards by specified dates; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 920/ SB 519 - EDUCATION – STUDENT WHO IS A VICTIM OF VIOLENT CRIME – OPTION TO REQUIRE OFFENDER TO CHANGE SCHOOLS (Delegates Doory and Vallario) (Ways and Means) (Senators Stone and Miller) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Requiring the State Board of Education to adopt specified policies; requiring a local superintendent to provide specified notice to a student who is the victim of specified crimes or acts committed by another student upon a specified conviction or finding; requiring a local superintendent to transfer a specified student upon a specified determination; etc. EFF. 7/1/08

HB 970 - PROCUREMENT – PREVAILING WAGE (Delegate Braveboy) (Economic Matters) - Requiring the application of the prevailing wage law to any State-funded contract for construction of a public work. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 978/ SB 647 - EDUCATION – FUNDING FORMULA FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY GRANTS (Delegate Hixson, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Kasemeyer, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Requiring the State Department of Education to provide competitive adult education grants beginning in a specified fiscal year for specified adult education providers; requiring that funding for State adult education grants shall be provided in the State budget; etc. Preliminary analysis:

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local government mandate EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2009

HB 1067/ SB 657 - COLLEGE TEXTBOOK COMPETITION AND AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 2008 (Delegate Rice, et al) (Appropriations) (Senator Conway, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Requiring each institution of postsecondary education in the State to develop and implement a process to make faculty members aware of textbook version content changes, a sampling of textbook prices, and the fiscal impact of bundling on students; requiring faculty members to allow students to use a prior edition of a textbook if less than 30% of the educational content has changed; requiring institutions to list specified information, including ISBN numbers, on websites; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 1148 - PUBLIC SCHOOL VENDING MACHINES – NUTRITIONAL FOODS AND BEVERAGES (Delegate Kaiser) (Ways and Means) - Requiring each county board of education to develop and adopt specified policies relating to vending machines in public schools; requiring each county board to submit the policies to the State Department of Education on or before a specified date; requiring each school to install and use a specified timing device on every vending machine to operate the vending machine in a specified manner; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 714 - STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULUM CONTENT – FINANCIAL LITERACY (Senator Klausmeier, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Requiring the State Board of Education to develop curriculum content for a semester-long course in financial literacy; requiring the curriculum content to include instruction in choosing a career, earning an income, saving and investing money, credit, and budgeting; requiring each county board of education to implement the curriculum content in every high school in the county; requiring students to complete a course in financial literacy in order to graduate; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 773 - STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY SERVICES (Senator Pugh) (Senate Rules) - Requiring the State Department of Education each year by August 1 to compile a list by county of adult education and family literacy services offered to the public; and requiring the Department to distribute the list to specified local school officials and to post the list on its public website. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 813 - EDUCATION – SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY (Senator Pipkin) (Senate Rules) - Establishing a Scholarship Program for Children with a Disability to attend a private noncollegiate educational institution; authorizing parents or legal guardians to enroll a child with a disability in an eligible private institution and use scholarship funds to offset costs relating to the attendance of the child with a disability at the eligible private institution; providing for the administration of funds for the program; establishing the amount of a scholarship; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

HB 624 - ENERGY CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT (Delegate McDonough, et al) (Economic Matters) - Prohibiting an electricity supplier from preventing an electric company that is affiliated with the electricity supplier from constructing or acquiring a specified electric generating station and associated transmission lines; authorizing a county or municipal corporation to construct or acquire an electric generating station and associated transmission lines or contract with an outside entity for the construction or acquisition and management of an electric generating station and associated transmission lines; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 684 - TASK FORCE TO STUDY MOTOR VEHICLE TOWING PRACTICES (Delegate Stukes, et al) (Environmental Matters) - Establishing the Task Force to Study Motor Vehicle Towing Practices in the State; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to study issues relevant to motor vehicle towing practices in the State; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2008; providing for the staff of the Task Force; providing for the termination of the Act; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

SB 521 - JUNK DEALERS AND SCRAP METAL PROCESSORS – REQUIRED RECORDS (Senator DeGrange, et al) (Finance) - Altering the requirements for records that junk dealers and scrap metal processors must keep for each purchase or sale of specified junk or scrap metal in the State; providing for the applicability of the record keeping requirements; providing for the form and contents of the records; requiring junk dealers and scrap metal processors who are residents of the State to keep the required records for a specified period of time; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 569 - SECONDHAND PRECIOUS METAL OBJECT DEALERS AND PAWNBROKERS – DEFINITION OF DEALER (Senator Dyson) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Altering the definition of “dealer”, as it relates to the regulation of secondhand precious metal object dealers, to mean an individual who arranges for the sale or delivery of a secondhand precious metal object on behalf of a person who does not hold a license to do business as a dealer. EFFECTIVE 10/1 2008

SB 654 PUBLIC UTILITY TREE MANAGEMENT ACT (Senator Frosh) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Finance) Requiring a public utility to prepare a tree management plan; requiring a public utility to enter into an agreement with the Department of Natural Resources under specified circumstances; requiring specified programs and plans to be published in accordance with requirements; authorizing the Department to issue a stop work order under specified circumstances; providing for penalties; and authorizing the Department to adopt regulations. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

ELECTIONS

HB 801 - ELECTION – VOTER REGISTRATION AT THE POLLING PLACE AND VOTING ON ELECTION DAY (Delegate Reznik) (Ways and Means) - Authorizing individuals to apply to register to vote on election day at polling places and, on satisfaction of specified conditions, to vote a regular ballot; specifying the manner in which an individual may prove residence

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for purposes of voter registration on election day; clarifying provisions of law regarding the closing of voter registration; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1102 - ELECTION LAW – STATEWIDE VOTER LIST – INFORMATION FROM CIRCUIT COURTS (Delegate Myers, et al) (Ways and Means) - Requiring the clerk of the circuit court for each county to report specified information to the State Administrator of Elections; and authorizing the election director of a local board to remove a voter from the statewide voter registration list if the voter is not a citizen of the United States. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1103 - ELECTION LAW – PERIODIC AUDIT OF STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION LIST (Delegate Myers, et al) (Ways and Means) - Requiring the State Administrator of Elections to cause to be conducted an audit of the statewide voter registration list at specified times. EFF. 10/1/08

SB 624 - ELECTION LAW – MARYLAND STUDENT VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 2008 (Senator Rosapepe, et al) (Ed., Health, & Env. Affairs) - Requiring public institutions of higher education to develop a specified plan to promote student involvement in the electoral process; requiring those institutions to provide their students with the opportunity to register to vote or to update a voter registration record; making the implementation of specified requirements contingent on the appropriation of specified funds in the State budget; requiring the State Board of Elections to post specified information on its website regarding voting units; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

HB 683 - OPTIONAL RETIREMENT PROGRAM – EMPLOYING INSTITUTIONS – COMMUNITY COLLEGES (Delegate Griffith) (Appropriations) - Designating community colleges or regional colleges as employing institutions for eligible employees participating in the Optional Retirement Program. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

HB 720/ SB 564 - STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – REEMPLOYMENT OF RETIREES (Delegate Griffith (Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions)) (Appropriations) (Senator McFadden (Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions), et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Requiring local school superintendents to make reimbursements for failing to file certification of reemployed retirees with the State Retirement and Pension System and the State Department of Education; providing that retirees of the Employees' Retirement System or Employees' Pension System who are reemployed as judges to temporarily suspend their service retirement allowance while earning service credit in the Judges' Retirement System; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

HB 627/ SB 328 - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – ELIGIBILITY – PART-TIME WORK (Delegate Taylor, et al) (Economic Matters) (Senator Kelley, et al) (Finance) - Requiring that an individual be deemed eligible for specified benefits if the individual is able to work on a part-time basis, available for part-time work, and actively seeking part-time work. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 855/ SB 743 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION – LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS – LYME DISEASE PRESUMPTION (Delegates Davis and Ramirez) (Economic Matters) (Senator Pugh) (Finance) - Applying the occupational disease presumption under the workers' compensation law to specified law enforcement officers who contract Lyme disease under specified circumstances; and providing that specified law enforcement officers who are eligible for benefits under the Act shall receive the benefits in addition to specified retirement benefits, subject to a specified adjustment. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1047 - BALTIMORE COUNTY AND HOWARD COUNTY – CAREER FIREFIGHTERS – ANNUAL PHYSICAL (Delegate Malone) (Environmental Matters) - Requiring career firefighters who work at fire stations in Baltimore County or Howard County to pass a physical examination each year as required by the State Fire Marshal. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1150 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION – PERMANENT PARTIAL DISABILITY – COMPENSATION (Delegates Manno and Schuler) (Economic Matters) - Requiring, if a covered employee receives additional compensation for a specified award for permanent partial disability, an employer or insurer to pay the additional compensation in a specified manner subject to a specified credit. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1154 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION – PERMANENT PARTIAL DISABILITY – BENEFIT (Delegates Manno and Schuler) (Economic Matters) - Repealing provisions in law providing compensation awarded for a permanent partial disability claim for less than 75 weeks; repealing provisions related to compensation for public safety employees; increasing the maximum weekly benefit for an employee who is awarded compensation for less than 75 weeks; providing that all employees who are awarded compensation for permanent partial disability for less than 250 weeks will be entitled to the same maximum weekly benefit; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFF. OCTOBER 1, 2008

ENVIRONMENT

HB 388 - ENVIRONMENT – POZZOLAN – USE AND DISPOSAL (Delegates McConkey and Holmes) (Environmental Matters) - Prohibiting specified uses of pozzolan, commonly known as "fly ash"; and requiring pozzolan to be disposed of in a regulated refuse disposal system. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 710 - SCRAP TIRES – REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS – INTEREST IN SITE (Delegate Costa) (Environmental Matters) - Clarifying a specified exemption from the requirement of reimbursing the State Used Tire Cleanup and Recycling Fund for costs incurred due to the storage, disposal, or processing of scrap tires. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 734 - BAY RESTORATION FUND – DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS (Delegates Elliott and Stull) (Environmental Matters) - Increasing the percentage of specified funds from the Bay Restoration Fund that are disbursed to fund cover crop activities; altering the percentage of funds that are used for purposes relating to onsite sewage disposal systems; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

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HB 741 - ENVIRONMENT – DRINKING WATER – PROVISION OF BOTTLED WATER (Queen Anne's County Delegation) (Environmental Matters) - Requiring a public facility served by a public water system to provide bottled water on-site whenever the public water system fails to comply with the maximum contaminant level set for arsenic. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 972 - FOREST CONSERVATION – REPORTING AND ENFORCEMENT (Chair, Env. Matters (By Request – Dept. Natural Resources) (Env. Matters) - Requiring specified local authorities to report enforcement activity relating to forest conservation requirements to the Department of Natural Resources within 15 days after commencement of the enforcement activity; and requiring specified enforcement activities to be included in the Department's annual forest conservation report. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 973 - WATER MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION – LIVING SHORELINE PROTECTION ACT OF 2008 (Chair, Environmental Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Environment)) (Environmental Matters) - Requiring specified erosion protection projects to include specified nonstructural shoreline stabilization measures; and requiring the Department of the Environment, in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources, to adopt regulations. EFFECTIVE 10/1/08

HB 1056 - ENVIRONMENT – WATER MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION – WETLANDS AND WATERWAYS PROGRAM FEES (Delegate George, et al) (Environmental Matters) - Establishing specified application fees for applications related to activities in wetlands and waterways; making specified permits subject to a specified application fee refund process; exempting specified persons and activities from the application fees; establishing the Wetlands and Waterways Program Fund; clarifying specified provisions of the Tidal Wetlands Compensation Fund; defining terms; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 508 - ENVIRONMENT – PERMIT PROCESS – MODIFICATIONS (Senator Stone) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Requiring the Department of the Environment to provide an opportunity for a contested case hearing under specified circumstances; altering specified public hearing and notice requirements; establishing an Environmental Leadership Group; requiring an applicant for a specified permit to prepare and submit an environmental impact statement to the Department; requiring the environmental impact statement to be prepared, submitted, and approved in accordance with specified regulations. EFF. 10/1/08

SB 590 - ENVIRONMENT – STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS (Senator Pinsky, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Altering the statute of limitations for prosecution of and suits for violations of specified laws relating to the environment. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 674/ HB 1423 WATER RESOURCES – GROUNDWATER APPROPRIATION OR USE – PRIORITY FUNDING AREAS (Senator Brinkley) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) Authorizing the Maryland Department of the Environment to give priority to a public water system that supplies water to a priority funding area established on or before January 1, 1997, under § 5-7B-03 of the State Finance and Procurement Article when appropriating or using

groundwater of the State; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 786 - ENVIRONMENT – PRIVATELY LICENSED SANITARIANS – SOIL PERCOLATION TESTS (Senators Haines & Middleton) (Ed., Health, and Env. Affairs) - Providing that a county or local health department may not prohibit a person from directly hiring or scheduling a privately licensed sanitarian to conduct a soil percolation test; and requiring a county or local health department to accept a specified soil percolation test under specified circumstances. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

GOVERNMENT LIABILITY & COURTS

HB 643/ SB 651 - COSTS – CIRCUIT COURTS AND DISTRICT COURT – FAILURE TO APPEAR OR VIOLATION OF PROBATION (Delegate Barnes) (Judiciary) (Senator DeGrange, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) Requiring a circuit court or the District Court to impose on a criminal defendant a fee of \$40 for failing to appear or violating a condition of probation under specified circumstances; and requiring a clerk of a circuit court or the District Court to pay fees collected under the Act to specified law enforcement agencies. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1134/ SB 579 - IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY – MEDICAL EMERGENCY – USE OF AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (Delegate Lee, et al) (Judiciary) (Senator Forehand) (Judicial Proceedings) - Providing immunity from civil liability under specified circumstances, notwithstanding other provisions of law, to an individual or facility that acquires an automated external defibrillator (AED) or that owns or manages the premises where an AED is located, to an individual who retrieves an AED, or to an individual who uses, attempts to use, or fails to use an AED; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 596 - COURTS – NONPROFIT ASSOCIATIONS – STANDING TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENTAL PROCEEDINGS (Senator Brochin, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Authorizing a nonprofit association to institute, defend, intervene, or participate in specified governmental proceedings under specified circumstances; authorizing a nonprofit association to assert a claim in its name on behalf of its members under specified circumstances; requiring an unincorporated nonprofit association to designate a resident agent and file the person's written consent with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 687 - COURTS – NONPROFIT ASSOCIATIONS AND HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS – STANDING (Senator Brochin) (Judicial Proceedings) - Granting a nonprofit association or homeowners association standing in court under specified circumstances; requiring a nonprofit or homeowners association to allege and prove specified conditions before being granted standing; establishing that standing for a nonprofit or homeowners association vests at the conclusion of the individually named party's case and that standing of a nonprofit or homeowners association is limited to asserting specified claims; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HEALTH

HB 653/ SB 600 - SCHOOLS – EARLY INTERVENTION – HEARING AND VISION SCREENINGS (Delegate Hixson) (Ways and Means) (Senator Conway, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) -

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Altering a timeframe for when county boards of education and county health departments are required to provide hearing and vision screenings to specified students; requiring county boards of education and county health departments to provide specified forms; requiring specified parents or guardians to report specified information; etc. EFF. 10/1/08

HB 802 - WOMEN'S HEALTH – HIV TESTING AND INFANT MORTALITY REDUCTION (Delegate Nathan–Pulliam, et al) (Health and Gov't. Operations) Requiring pregnant women to be tested for the presence of HIV at specified times during the pregnancy; providing that a pregnant woman may decline to be tested for the presence of HIV; requiring the declination to be tested for the presence of HIV to be documented in the woman's medical record; providing that a woman may not be denied testing for the presence of HIV based on her economic status; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to convene a work group to study infant mortality in the State; etc. EFF. 7/1/08

HB 991 - HIV TESTING – INFORMED CONSENT AND TREATMENT – PREGNANT WOMEN (Delegate Pena–Melnyk, et al) (Health and Gov't. Operations) - Altering requirements for health care providers to obtain informed consent for HIV testing; establishing procedures for referral for treatment and supportive services for individuals who test positive; requiring specified health care providers to notify pregnant women that they will be tested for HIV infection as part of routine tests; requiring specified health care providers to test specified patients; making an exception; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HUMAN SERVICES

HB 527/ SB 686 - TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE PROCUREMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BY STATE AGENCIES (Del. Reznik, et al) (Health & Gov't. Ops.) (Sen. Rosapepe, et al) (Finance & Ed., Health, & Env. Affairs) - Establishing a Task Force to Study the Procurement of Health and Social Services by State Agencies; providing for the membership and duties of the Task Force; providing for the designation of a chair of the Task Force; authorizing the Task Force to establish specified subcommittees; requiring the Dept. of Budget and Mgmt. and the Dept. of General Services to provide staff for the Task Force; prohibiting members of the Task Force from receiving compensation; etc. EFF. 7/1/08

HB 758 - TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE PLACEMENT OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN (Delegate Glenn, et al) (Appropriations) Establishing a Task Force to Study the Placement of Vulnerable Children; providing for the membership and duties of the Task Force; providing for the designation of a chair of the Task Force; requiring the Department of Human Resources to provide staff for the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 965/ SB 243 - CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT – ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONS REQUIRED TO REPORT (Delegate Anderson, et al) (Judiciary) (Senator Kelley, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) Expanding the list of individuals who are required to notify the appropriate authorities in a specified manner if the individual, acting in a professional capacity in the State, has reason to believe a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

HB 885 - COUNTIES AND MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS – ILLEGAL ALIEN "SANCTUARY LAWS" – PROHIBITION (Delegate McDonough, et al) (Judiciary) - Requiring local governments to comply fully with and support federal immigration law; prohibiting local governments from restricting their employees from requesting, obtaining, sending, receiving, exchanging, or maintaining immigration information; requiring local governments to enforce federal immigration law and protect civil rights; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 681 - CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – POLICE REPORTING – DETAINED UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS (Senator Kittleman, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Requiring a police officer who encounters and detains in the normal course of the officer's duties an individual who the police officer determines is an undocumented alien to inform the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency of the Department of Homeland Security of the detention as soon as possible after the police officer has detained the undocumented alien; and providing that the Act does not require that a police officer search for an individual for the sole purpose of detaining undocumented aliens. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

PARKS & RECREATION

HB 836 - ENVIRONMENT – TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE REGULATION OF SWIMMING POOLS (Delegate Hucker, et al) (Environmental Matters) - Establishing the Task Force to Study the Regulation of Swimming Pools in the State; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to study specified issues relevant to the environmental regulation of swimming pools in the State; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2008; providing for the staffing of the Task Force; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

HB 1097/ SB 458 - TOURISM PROMOTION ACT OF 2008 (Delegate Doory) (Economic Matters and Appropriations) (Senator Astle, et al) (Finance and Budget and Taxation) - Requiring the Maryland Tourism Development Board to provide grants to the destination marketing organizations and financial assistance to the Office of Tourism Development; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation to the Maryland Tourism Development Board Fund; requiring the Treasurer to deposit annually into the Fund an amount derived from sales tax revenues collected on retail sale of tourist-oriented goods and services; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

PLANNING & ZONING

HB 694/ SB 574 - PUBLIC HEALTH – CONSTRUCTION SITES – REST ROOMS (Delegate Pendergrass, et al) (Economic Matters) (Senator Klausmeier, et al) (Finance) - Prohibiting a State or local authority from issuing a building permit for specified construction projects unless the site has a toilet and lavatory that meet specified requirements; requiring toilets at specified sites to be flush toilets under specified circumstances; providing that the requirements of this section only apply to construction projects that have a total cost of \$500,000 or more; and defining "building permit". EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

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HB 857 - MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS – ANNEXATIONS – SMALL PARCELS (Delegate Carr, et al) (Environmental Matters) - Providing that referendum provisions do not apply to a proposed annexation into a municipal corporation of a parcel that is 5 acres or less and is part of a lot that contains another parcel that is already within the corporate area and includes a municipal boundary that existed before the lot was created. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 898/ SB 434 - INCENTIVES FOR AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2008 (Delegate Cane (Chair, Task Force on Incentives for Agriculture), et al) (Environmental Matters and Ways and Means) (Senator Dyson (Chair, Task Force on Incentives for Agriculture)) (Budget and Taxation and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill for fiscal years 2010 through 2013 an appropriation of \$1,250,000 for the Next Generation Farmland Program; altering the Maryland estate tax to exclude from the gross estate the value of specified agricultural property; altering an income tax credit for donations of specified interests in land; altering specified production credits for ethanol and biodiesel products; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 976 - MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM – LOT RELEASES (Chair, Environmental Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Agriculture)) (Environmental Matters) - Requiring that releases from easement restrictions issued by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) include a statement acknowledging the status of adjacent farmland; and altering the size of lots that may be released from easement restrictions by MALPF under specified circumstances. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 699 - TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES IN URBAN AREAS (Senator Gladden) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Establishing a Task Force to Study the Development of Environmentally Friendly Communities in Urban Areas; establishing the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to evaluate and make recommendations regarding the development of environmentally friendly communities in urban areas; requiring the Task Force to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a specified date; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

PUBLIC ETHICS AND INFORMATION

HB 615/ SB 549 - STATE GOVERNMENT – CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS – INSPECTION OF PUBLIC RECORDS (Delegate Anderson (By Request – Baltimore City Administration), et al) (Health and Government Operations) (Senator Gladden (By Request – Baltimore City Administration)) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs) - Requiring a custodian of records to deny inspection of a public record or any part of a public record for which the request for inspection is related to a matter that is the subject of a pending civil action subject to specified exceptions; requiring a custodian to permit inspection of a public record if the court grants a petition for inspection on a showing of good cause; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 671 - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – EMPLOYEES SERVING AS MEMBERS OF COUNTY GOVERNING BODIES (Senator Colburn, et al) (Education, Health, and

Environmental Affairs) - Providing that an individual employed by the Department of Correctional Services in a specified capacity is not prohibited from serving in a specified elective office; and requiring the Secretary of Correctional Services, in consultation with the State Ethics Commission, to adopt specified regulations. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

PUBLIC SAFETY & CORRECTIONS

HB 707 DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE – STATE AID FOR POLICE PROTECTION FUND – TRANSFER TO GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION (Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request – Departmental – State Police)) (Appropriations) Transferring the administration of the State Aid for Police Protection Fund from the Department of State Police to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention; transferring the functions of the Secretary of State Police relating to the Fund to the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 729/ SB 575 - PUBLIC SAFETY – STATEWIDE DNA DATABASE SYSTEM – SEXUAL OFFENSES AND KIDNAPPING – SAMPLE COLLECTION ON ARREST (Delegate Jameson, et al) (Judiciary) (Senator Forehand, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Requiring the collection of a DNA sample from an individual who is arrested for specified sexual offenses or kidnapping; adding the facility where a specified arrest is processed as a location where a DNA sample shall be collected; requiring an individual who was arrested before a specified date and convicted on or after a specified date to submit a DNA sample; providing for the expungement, under specified circumstances, of specified DNA information collected due to an arrest; etc. EFFECTIVE 10/1/08

HB 761/ SB 629 - CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – OFFENDER REGISTRY – RETROACTIVITY (Delegate Shank, et al) (Judiciary) (Senator Jacobs) (Judicial Proceedings) - Providing that provisions requiring the registration on an offender registry of specified persons convicted of committing specified offenses are to be applied retroactively to include a person convicted on or after October 1, 1995, of an offense committed before October 1, 1995; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 765 - PUBLIC SAFETY – CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS – MINIMUM AGE (Delegate Barkley, et al) (Judiciary) - Requiring the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services to adopt regulations requiring that a correctional officer hired on or after October 1, 2008, for employment in the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services or the Patuxent Institution be at least 21 years old, with a specified exception; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1072 - JUVENILE LAW – CUSTODIAL INTERROGATION OF MINOR – RECORDING RESTRICTIONS (Delegate Conaway) (Judiciary) - Prohibiting a police officer from making an electronic recording of a custodial interrogation of a minor without the consent of a parent or guardian of the minor; providing that a statement made by a minor during a custodial interrogation recorded in violation of the Act shall be presumed involuntary and is inadmissible as evidence against the minor in any criminal or juvenile proceeding; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

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HB 1074 - PUBLIC SAFETY – DNA SAMPLE COLLECTION ON ARREST – UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS (Delegate Conaway) (Judiciary) - Requiring the collection of a DNA sample from an individual under arrest and determined to be an undocumented alien; altering a definition; requiring a DNA sample to be collected at the facility where a specified arrest is processed; and providing that a specified DNA record may be expunged under specified circumstances. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1076 - JUVENILE LAW – CUSTODIAL INTERROGATION OF MINOR ON SCHOOL PREMISES – RECORDING RESTRICTIONS (Delegate Conaway) (Judiciary) - Prohibiting a police officer or school official from making an electronic recording of a custodial interrogation of a minor on school premises without the consent of a parent or guardian of the minor; providing that a statement made by a minor during a custodial interrogation recorded in violation of the Act shall be presumed involuntary and is inadmissible as evidence against the minor in any criminal or juvenile proceeding; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1116/SB 700 - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – VIOLATION OF PROTECTIVE ORDER – ACTIVE ELECTRONIC MONITORING (Delegate Shank, et al) (Judiciary) (Senator Forehand) (Judicial Proceedings) - Authorizing the court, in a county that implements a global positioning satellite tracking system program, to suspend the sentence of a defendant convicted of failing to comply with specified relief granted in an interim, temporary, or final protective order and place the defendant under active electronic monitoring under specified conditions; requiring the defendant to pay specified fees established by the county under specified circumstances; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

SB 498 - MISSING SENIOR ADULT ALERT PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT (Senator Kramer, et al) (Judicial Proceedings) - Requiring the State Police to develop policies and procedures for the creation of a specified alert program to assist in locating specified missing senior adults who are over 60 years of age and suffer specified cognitive impairment; requiring the State Police to inform local law enforcement officials of the policies and procedures to be used in handling reports of missing senior adults; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

HB 611/ SB 445 - UNDERGROUND FACILITIES – DETERMINATION OF MARKING – INITIAL FEES (Delegate Anderson (By Request – Baltimore City Administration), et al) (Economic Matters) (Senators Pugh and McFadden (By Request – Baltimore City Administration), et al) (Finance) - Providing that the one-time initial fee that a political subdivision or municipal corporation may charge, assess, or collect from a person under the Miss Utility program includes reimbursement of expenses that the political subdivision or municipal corporation incurs to determine if marking of the underground facility is necessary. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 793/ SB 644 - BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY STUDY TASK FORCE (Delegate Haynes, et al) (Environmental Matters) (Senator Pugh, et al) (Finance) - Establishing a Baltimore Regional Transportation Authority Study Task Force to consider specified transportation-related issues, and to study and make recommendations regarding the creation of an independent

transportation authority for a specified region; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to report to the Governor and the General Assembly by a specified date; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

HB 921 - STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION – UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS ON HIGHWAY RIGHTS-OF-WAY (Delegate Pena-Melnyk, et al) (Environmental Matters) - Providing for original jurisdiction of the District Court for specified actions; prohibiting unauthorized signs within the right-of-way of a State highway; clarifying that such signs may be removed by the State Highway Administration or by other designated agencies; authorizing the State Highway Administration or a specified county or municipal corporation government to recover specified costs; providing for civil penalties; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2008

HB 1127 - TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND – DEDICATED HIGHWAY FUNDS (Delegate Krebs, et al) (Ways and Means) - Providing that specified taxes, fees, charges, and revenues deposited into the Transportation Trust Fund may be used only for specified purposes; repealing obsolete provisions; repealing provisions relating to the transfer of specified funds from the Transportation Trust Fund to a special fund; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 1128 - TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND PROTECTION ACT (Delegate Krebs, et al) (Appropriations) - Prohibiting the transfer or diversion of funds from the Transportation Trust Fund except under specified circumstances; requiring the Governor to make a specified declaration if funds are transferred or diverted from the Transportation Trust Fund; and requiring the enactment of legislation providing for a specified repayment plan before funds are transferred or diverted from the Transportation Trust Fund. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 806 - CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION TASK FORCE (Senator Simonaire) (Senate Rules) - Establishing a Critical Infrastructure Protection Task Force; providing for the composition and duties of the Task Force; requiring the Department of Legislative Services and the Department of Business and Economic Development to provide staffing for the Task Force; prohibiting members of the Task Force from receiving compensation, but authorizing reimbursement for specified expenses; requiring the Task Force to submit specified reports of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2008

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

HB 861 - INCOME TAX – ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS (Delegate Sossi, et al) (Ways and Means) - Allowing an individual to itemize deductions to compute Maryland taxable income whether or not the individual itemizes deductions on the individual's federal income tax return; providing that for an individual who does not itemize deductions on the individual's federal income tax return, Maryland itemized deductions shall be determined as if an individual itemized deductions on the federal income tax return; applying the Act to tax years after 2007; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 955 - INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – FOSTER PARENTS (Delegate Haddaway, et al) (Ways and Means) - Allowing a

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subtraction modification for the Maryland income tax for \$3,500 for specified foster parents under specified circumstances; providing that the subtraction may not be claimed under specified circumstances; and requiring a taxpayer to obtain a statement certifying compliance with specified provisions to qualify for the subtraction modification. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 999 - INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – RETIREMENT INCOME (Delegate Krebs, et al) (Ways and Means) - Including income from specified retirement plans within a subtraction modification allowed under the Maryland income tax for retired individuals who are at least 65 years old or who are disabled or whose spouse is disabled; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008 TG, § 10-209 - amended Assigned to: February 7, 2008

HB 1009 - INCOME TAX EXEMPTION – MILITARY HEALTH CARE PENSIONS – HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE SHORTAGE (Delegate Cardin, et al) (Ways and Means) - Providing a subtraction modification under the State income tax for individuals with specified military retirement income that commit to working in the State; extending the termination date of the Statewide Commission on the Shortage in the Health Care Workforce; expanding the requirements of the Commission to include identifying specified health care fields; requiring the Commission to report specified findings to the Comptroller; applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2008; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 1120 - HOMETOWN HEROES ACT OF 2008 – INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR RETIREMENT INCOME OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL (Delegate Gilchrist, et al) (Ways and Means) - Providing, under specified circumstances, a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for retirement income of residents who are at least 50 years old and are retired law enforcement officers or fire, rescue, or emergency services personnel; applying the Act to tax years after 2007; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

HB 1122 - INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION AND TAX CREDIT FOR DEPENDENT CARE EXPENSES – INELIGIBILITY (Delegate Levi, et al) (Ways and Means) - Denying eligibility for a specified subtraction modification and specified tax credit allowed against the State income tax to specified parents or guardians under specified circumstances; requiring a specified State Board to adopt specified regulations that provide a process for determining ineligibility; requiring revenue attributable to a denial of a specified subtraction modification and a specified tax credit to be distributed to a specified special fund; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 581 - HOMETOWN HEROES ACT OF 2008 – INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR RETIREMENT INCOME OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL (Senator Robey, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Providing, under specified circumstances, a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for retirement income of residents who are at least 50 years old and are retired law enforcement officers or fire, rescue, or

emergency services personnel; applying the Act to tax years after 2007; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 625 - INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – MILITARY RETIREMENT INCOME (Senator Muse) (Budget and Taxation) - Increasing the subtraction modification under the State income tax for military retirement income from \$5,000 to the total amount of military retirement income received; providing for a delayed effective date; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 666 - INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – FOSTER PARENTS (Senator Colburn) (Budget and Taxation) - Allowing a subtraction modification for the Maryland income tax for \$3,500 for specified foster parents under specified circumstances; providing that the subtraction may not be claimed under specified circumstances; and requiring a taxpayer to obtain a statement certifying compliance with specified provisions to qualify for the subtraction modification. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 715 - INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – MILITARY COMPENSATION OUTSIDE THE STATE (Senator Klausmeier, et al) (Budget and Taxation) - Extending the subtraction modification for military pay under the Maryland income tax to include specified military compensation paid to active military personnel for service outside the State; repealing a reduction in the amount of the subtraction modification for military pay in excess of \$15,000; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

SB 759 - INCOME TAX SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR RETIREMENT INCOME – ROLLOVERS TO INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS (Senator Stone) (Budget and Taxation) - Including income from specified retirement plans within a specified subtraction modification allowed under the Maryland income tax for specified retirement income under specified circumstances; applying the Act to tax years after 2007; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008

Statewide Hearing Schedule

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

1:00 p.m. HGO – House 240 – HB 235 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Emergency Service Transporters – Payments

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 373 – Maryland Transit Administration – Transit-Oriented Development

1:00 p.m. W&M – House 130 – HB 429 – Personal Property Tax – Refunds and Reports -Interest

1:00 p.m. FIN – MSB 3E – SB 225 – Local Correctional Facilities – Inmate Health care Expenses – Payment Rates to Health Care Providers

1:00 p.m. EHE – MSB 2W – SB 259 – Program Open Space – Attainment of Acquisition Goals – Increased Allocation for Local Government

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 246 – Charter Counties – Land Use Appeals - Standing

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 406 – Tax sales – Notice Prior to Action to Foreclose Right of Redemption

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

1:00 p.m. HGO – House 240 – HB 349 – State Government – Open Meetings – Votes of a Public Body

1:00 p.m. FIN – MSB 3E – SB 330 – Swimming Pools – Automated External Defibrillator Programs

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

1:00 p.m. JPR – MSW 2E – SB 269 – Vehicle Laws – Speed Monitoring Systems – Statewide Authorization and Use in Highway Work Zones

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 364 – Vehicle Laws – Speed Monitoring Systems – Statewide Authorization and Use in Highway Work Zones

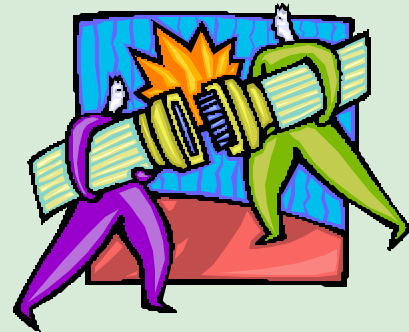
11:00 a.m. W&M – House 130 – HB 366 – BRAC Community Enhancement Act

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 369 – Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund and Nonpoint Source Fund

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

1:00 p.m. HGO – House 240 – HB 319 – Local Government – Procurement – Resident Preferences



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