



# Courthouse News

A publication  
of the  
Maryland Association  
of Counties

Volume 32 Number 7

March 8, 2010

## MACo Leaders Say

### “No More Cuts to Local Government”

County leaders called for an end to massive cuts in State Aid to Local Government during a Press Conference March 3 in Annapolis. County elected officials said they have taken their fair share and it was not acceptable to “pile on more” as a means to address the State’s funding challenges.

“MACo President and Harford County Executive David R. Craig, said while he understood the State’s fiscal troubles, he hopes that “members of the General Assembly don’t misconstrue flat funding [in the Governor’s budget] to mean that local governments have not been cut. We’ve been hit hard and it just isn’t fair to come after us for more cuts to get through the next fiscal year”.

Further, “There have been some feelings that county governments are awash in money, that we have huge fund balances, that we have not had to do anything strange to our budget or damaging to our budget.” But, he said that was not true and cuts to local aid in the current year are “being carried over into this year’s proposed budget” and include an additional \$23 million in reductions.

He added that counties are receiving revenues at about the same level as they did in 1984 — excluding money for schools — and that many counties are laying off or furloughing employees to help balance the holes in their budgets.

Whatever cushion local jurisdictions may have been able to create through these budget actions was whited out by the February snowstorms, said MACo Executive Director Michael Sanderson.

County leaders expressed frustration that while education funding is being substantially increased, it is being funded at the expense of other critical local government services, such as public safety.

“When the State talks about aid to local government, they mix apples and oranges, counting schools and counties exactly the same,” said Mr. Sanderson. He noted, “that’s not a fair picture — school funding is going up again, while they are slashing support for county governments — things like our local roads, police departments, and public health workers.”

Contact: *Ellen Clarke*

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## NEXT

### Legislative Committee Meeting - March 31 11:00 am - Sine Die Lunch

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order ..... Wayne Cooper, Chair
- II. President’s Comments ..... David Craig
- III. Issues Update ..... Staff

## GUEST SPEAKERS

Governor Martin O’Malley  
Comptroller Peter Franchot  
Treasurer Nancy Kopp

## RESEARCH

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

-  **Budget and Tax**  
STATE BUDGET DOCUMENTS
-  **Environment**  
STORMWATER MANAGMENT
-  **Education**  
MOE
-  **Land Use & Planning**  
GROWTH TASK FORCE

### EPA Speaker Discusses Chesapeake Bay TMDLs

Katherine Antos from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Chesapeake Bay Program Office addressed the Legislative Committee on March 3. Ms. Antos discussed the forthcoming total maximum daily load (TMDL) requirements for the Bay.

TMDLs are limits on the amount of nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment that can be discharged into the Bay or a tributary of the Bay. All of the Bay states and their local governments will be required to abide by these limits, which will vary by watershed. Limits will be set for both point and nonpoint sources to meet Bay water quality standards.

Ms. Antos noted that final TMDL numbers will be released in December. The states must have the first phase of their Watershed Implementation Plans complete by November.

The Plans will describe how the State and local governments will meet the TMDLs, including two-year milestones to assess progress. MDE will be the primary implementing State agency.

Ms. Antos also discussed the potential consequences for failing to meet the milestones. She stated that the most likely consequences would be the denial of federally issued permits, revocation of a state's permit issuance authority, and the withholding of federal funding for environmental programs.

Finally, she noted that technical and potential monetary assistance may be available from the federal government. For more information, visit the EPA Chesapeake Bay TMDL website at: <http://www.epa.gov/chesapeakebaytmdl/> or the MDE TMDL website at: <http://www.mde.state.md.us/Programs/WaterPrograms/TMDL/index.asp>.

Contact: *Les Knapp Jr.*

### Renewable Energy Grants Application Deadline is Short - March 26

The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) has received significant funding through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) to promote clean, affordable, and reliable energy. As part of this initiative, MEA has set aside a portion of this funding to promote the installation of renewable energy systems on public buildings throughout the state through Project Sunburst.

Counties have a short deadline of March 26 to submit the Project Identification Form to MEA for consideration.

This is an opportunity for counties to further their green agenda at virtually no cost. There is no upfront capital investment and the county would be buying clean energy at or below existing electricity rates.

In general the process includes:

- Determining if county buildings qualify
- Submitting application to MEA by March 26
- Signing partnership agreement with MEA
- Issuing RFP due May 14
- Signing contract with solar developer for installation and financing

For more information, and to access the Form and instructions, visit <http://energy.maryland.gov/sunburst.asp>

Contact: *Michele Dinkel*

#### Maryland Association of Counties

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## PlanMaryland Public Forums

**County officials are STRONGLY encouraged to attend these forums.**

MDP has scheduled regional forums for public input regarding the creation of a state comprehensive plan. The forums will begin with a one-hour open house “where people can mingle, get information, and ask questions from State agencies, **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**, NGOs and others”. Following the open house, MDP will facilitate “innovative activities and small table discussions”.

**For more information on:**

**\* Schedule Updates \* Driving directions \* Maps \* Parking Information**

visit the MDP “PlanMaryland” page at:

<http://planning.maryland.gov/mdpheadlines.shtml>

**Thursday, March 4 (CANCELLED 2-23) - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
Bowie State University Center for Learning & Technology,  
Auditorium Room 102- 14000 Jericho Park Rd. Bowie, MD 20715

**Tuesday, March 9 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
Carroll Community College  
“K” Building Auditorium. Ample parking near amphitheatre  
1601 Washington Road - Westminster, MD 21157

**Thursday, March 18 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
Coppin State University  
Talon Center, Dining & Meeting Hall. Parking in Lot F  
2500 West North Avenue - Baltimore, MD 21216-3698

**Wednesday, March 24 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
UMD Universities at Shady Grove—Building II, Multi-Purpose  
Room - 9630 Gudelsky Drive - Rockville, MD 20850

**Thursday, April 8 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
College of Southern Maryland  
Center for Business and Industry, Atrium  
8730 Mitchell Road - La Plata, MD 20646

**Wednesday, April 14 (tentative) - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
Community College of Baltimore County, Essex Campus  
Campus location TBA  
7201 Rossville Boulevard - Baltimore, MD 21237

**Wednesday, April 21 (tentative) - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
Anne Arundel Community College  
Community College Center—101 College Pkwy. Arnold 21012

**Thursday, May 6 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
Salisbury University Guerrieri University Center— Parking in  
Dogwood Lot D or Camden Lot E  
1101 Camden Avenue - Salisbury, MD 21801

**Wednesday, May 12 (tentative) - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
Washington College—Campus location TBA  
300 Washington Avenue - Chestertown, MD 21620

**Wednesday, May 19 (tentative) - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
Frostburg State University—Campus location TBA  
101 Braddock Road - Frostburg, MD 21532

**Wednesday, May 26 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**  
Cecil College Technology / Conference Center  
1 Seahawk Drive - North East, MD 21901

### Other Locations to be Scheduled:

Northwestern Suburban Washington Area  
Middle Eastern Shore

### **MOE Waiver Penalty Bill Passes Senate**

The Senate passed SB 476, a bill that would waive the multi-million dollar State penalty imposed on two counties for failing to meet its maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement for education. The bill now moves to the House for consideration. This action was the first step taken by the legislature in considering the burdens of counties to fund obligations.

The *Baltimore Sun* reported comments from county officials, reinforcing the urgency of the legislation:

*“Three frustrated county executives testified at the Wednesday hearing that the state school board had set waiver requirements far too high, seemingly making only the total collapse of a tax base as reason enough to grant one.*

*“None of us are proud of ourselves for being here,” said Wicomico County Executive Richard M. Pollitt Jr. “But these are unprecedented times, and we’ve cut our other departments so drastically. We have to open other doors that have been kept closed. We’ve put off cutting education as long as we can.”*

*Because of the school board’s denial, Montgomery County schools are to be docked \$24 million in state funding this year. The Senate last week overwhelmingly approved legislation to waive that penalty, a proposal the House of Delegates is also expected to pass.*

*But MACo Executive Director Michael Sanderson said Montgomery’s experience pointed to the need for a “release valve” in tough economic times such as these. “We know this is going to be another rough year,” he said.”*

Contact: Michele Dinkel

### **MDE Opposes \$18M Shift for Study to Counties**

MDE stated its opposition to a proposed cost shift to local governments of two important ground water studies already underway at a department hearing. The Department contacted MACo directly to inform them of their opposition and requested dissemination of their budget statement, excerpts of which are listed below:

*“The Department does not agree with the recommended reduction. Despite the increasing pressure on the State’s general fund, the Governor recognizes the critical importance of basic scientific information to ensure that Maryland continues to have a sustainable fresh water supply and has elected to maintain level funding for these important studies in FY 2011. These studies are essential to proper management of the State’s current and future water supplies.*

*A reliable source of clean fresh water is a fundamental requirement for both good public health and economic health. Between now and 2030, Maryland’s population and demand for fresh water are projected to increase by 15 to 20 percent State-wide, with higher rates in the faster growing parts of the State. These studies provide critical scientific information to ensure that our State’s fresh water sources are properly managed to maintain adequate supplies to support our existing population and meet the demands of continued economic growth and development.*

*It is not feasible for local governments to pay for these studies. Aquifers cross many boundaries and allocation of expenses would be problematic. Local governments also have no source of funding for this type of scientific assessment work. This is a State responsibility.”*

Contact Les Knapp Jr.

### **Counties Lose First Round in ARRA Cable Aid Funding**

According to the *Baltimore Sun*, two county groups lost out on federal stimulus money for installing broadband fiber-optic cable.

The One Maryland Broadband Plan, representing Carroll, Howard, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Frederick, Prince George’s and Montgomery counties, plus Baltimore City and Annapolis, did not make the final cut for the first round of funding.

Neither did the second group, the Maryland Broadband Cooperative. That group includes rural Maryland counties and is described on its website as a

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“member-owned and operated universal access, fiber optic network designed to deliver an advanced, world-class broadband network across the rural communities of Eastern, Southern and Western Maryland fostering economic development”. The Chairman is Worcester County Commissioner Virgil Shockley.

A spokesman for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, said there were more than 1,800 applications, but just 58 awards in the first round. Another \$2.6 billion is up for grabs in the second round.

Howard County Executive Ken Ulman said “It’s pretty shocking that Maryland was left out.” He said his staff was taken aback since Commerce officials called and e-mailed daily for more information or clarifications.

Coppin State University in Baltimore received \$932,000 from the first round grants.

Contact: *Ellen Clarke*

## How Healthy Is Your County?

NACo reports that the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in collaboration with the Wisconsin Population Health Institute, released a national ranking of health for all U.S. counties. Prince George’s County Health Officer, Donald Shell M.D. recently participated in a County Health Rankings panel to discuss the ranking results and the spotlight it places on Maryland counties. Prince George’s County was ranked amongst Maryland’s least healthy counties.

“Health advocates and state lawmakers in the county, a suburb of Washington, are proposing state legislation to place a moratorium on new fast-food restaurants in areas of the county with a ‘high index of health disparities,’ such as high rates of obesity and diabetes,” said Dr. Shell.

State Senator David C. Harrington added, “We’re saying where there is health data that suggests that there should be interventions, that we should put a stop to permits.”

Contact: *Emily Hollis*

## Bill Status - March 8

- **SB 476-MOE Waiver Penalty**  
*Passes Senate 44-3. House must act before March 28 before Comptroller begins to withhold monies. MACo supports bill.*
- **HB 474-Smart, Green, and Growing – Sustainable Growth Commission**  
*Passed House in amended form 110-28. Senate EHE Committee heard bill 3-3. MACo supports with amendments.*
- **HB 58-State Government – Open Meetings Act – Definition of Public Body**  
*Unfavorable in House HGO Committee. MACo opposed the bill.*
- **HB 493-Land Use – Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreements**  
*Unfavorable in House ENV Committee. MACo opposed the bill.*
- **SB 99-Junk Dealers and Scrap Metal Processors-Required Records**  
*Passed Senate in Amended form 47-0. House ECM Committee heard bill 2/16. MACo supports with amendments.*
- **SB 156- Environment – Recycling – Apartment Buildings and Condominiums**  
*Unfavorable-Senate EHE Committee. MACo opposed bill.*
- **SB 174- Counties – Local Laws – Digital Copies**  
*Favorable with Amendments- Senate EHE Committee 42-0. Moving to Senate floor for vote. MACo supports with amendments.*
- **SB 257- Vehicle Laws – Disposition of Traffic Citations**  
*Unfavorable in Senate JPR Committee. Bill withdrawn.*

Contact: *Michele Dinkel*

### Bill Hearings This Week

#### **SB 141 - (BRFA) Counties Cut Deeply**

MACo leaders testified last Wednesday in the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee on the Administration's Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA), SB 141.

MACo First Vice President, Charles County Commissioner Wayne Cooper and Executive Director Michael Sanderson offered testimony acceding to the slate of cuts presented as part of the budget plan, but warning against additional reductions.

Commissioner Cooper told the Committee that, "we're just not going to be able to handle any more cuts . . . we just can't." MACo also submitted testimony on two other broad budget-reconciling bills, SB 840 and SB 1004.

#### **HB 1318 - Death Benefits Bill**

MACo Associate Director Les Knapp and county attorneys were the sole opposition against HB 1318 in the House Economic Matters Committee on March 3. The bill, sponsored by Delegate Carolyn Krysiak, alters the death benefit paid to a surviving spouse, child, or other dependent of an employee covered by workers' compensation who dies due to an occupational disease or work-related accident.

MACo panelists expressed concern that while the bill tried to make the death benefits system fairer and less costly for most payors, counties may end up paying more due to the fact that counties are often self-insured and employ more high-risk personnel, such as police and firefighters, who enjoy broad presumptions about compensable diseases assumed to be related to their occupation. Delegate Krysiak agreed to consider amendments that would address MACo's concerns.

#### **HB 1280 - Firefighter Workers' Compensation Presumptions**

MACo Associate Director Les Knapp and county attorneys and health officers testified in opposition to HB 1280 before the House Economic Matters Committee on March 3. The bill, sponsored by Delegate Brian Feldman, would greatly expand the number of cancers and diseases subject to a workers compensation presumption for firefighters and rescue workers.

MACo panelists argued that the cancers and diseases covered by the bill had numerous causes that were

beyond a county's control to manage and impose a significant fiscal burden on county governments when counties are struggling with their own budget challenges. The panel also noted that Maryland's burden of proof regarding presumptions is much higher than in other states, making it very difficult for a county to challenge or rebut.

#### **SB 225 - Library Collective Bargaining**

MACo Associate Director Les Knapp and library associations testified in opposition to SB 225 before the Senate Finance Committee on March 4. The bill, sponsored by Senator Nancy King, would authorize non-management library employees to form employee organizations and engage in collective bargaining. The bill also includes mediation and limited binding arbitration provisions.

Mr. Knapp stated that the bill imposed a costly and unnecessary mandate on both the counties and public library systems when they are facing significant State aid reductions and budgetary challenges. He described how counties have been recently criticized for giving multi-year pay raises that they are legally bound to provide under a collective bargaining agreement.

The Maryland Library Association and other county library association representatives argued that the decision to organize should be left up to each individual jurisdiction and that process should not be forced on them.

The bill's cross-file, HB 881, is set for a March 9 hearing before the House Appropriations Committee.

#### **HB 1155 - Expanding Benchmarks in CTP**

MACo Executive Director Michael Sanderson offered testimony in opposition to HB 1155 in the House Ways and Means Committee last week. The bill would require counties that request major capital projects in the Consolidated Transportation Plan (CTP) to provide a purpose and need statement that includes a rigorous list of priorities and factors to be considered when ranking major capital projects. This would include describing how the project addresses climate action plan goals and potential land use changes.

Mr. Sanderson testified, "Although MACo does see value in ensuring that projects meet broader statewide goals, HB 1155 goes too far in replacing a productive and collaborative process with one deeply enmeshed in one-size-fits-all indicators and ill-fitting criteria."

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### **HB 805 - Extending Homestead Credit to Seniors with Second Properties**

MACo Associate Director Andrea Mansfield offered opposing testimony on HB 805 last week. The bill would extend the Homestead Property Tax Credit (Credit) to the second home of a homeowner who is at least 65 years old. The second home cannot be rented to or occupied by someone other than the homeowner, and the second home cannot be used for establishing residency to receive State, county, or municipal services.

Ms. Mansfield testified that this would depress the property tax base, by providing an inappropriate advantage to homeowners who can afford second homes. MACo believes this action is unfair to other taxpayers, whose responsibilities to pay for public services would only increase as a result.

### **HB 829 - Traffic Ticket**

MACo Associate Director Les Knapp joined a broad coalition of State, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies in support of HB 829 before the House Judiciary Committee on March 3. The bill, sponsored by Delegate Sally Jameson, would require a person receiving a payable traffic citation to affirmatively request a trial date in District Court, rather than having one be automatically scheduled.

Mr. Knapp noted that Maryland is the only state that still automatically schedules court dates for traffic tickets. He stated the bill would result in significant savings for both the State and local governments by not having police officers waiting in court for people who do not show up. Instead, law enforcement resources could be directed towards more important public safety concerns.

### **HB 817 - Heavy Equipment Gross Receipts Tax**

MACo Associate Director Andrea Mansfield and the Chief of Treasury from Prince George's County, Stan Willis, testified before the House Ways and Means Committee on HB 817. The bill would grant a personal property tax exemption for heavy equipment used for short-term lease or rental, and would grant local governments the option to enact a new gross receipts tax on the use of that equipment.

While widely described as "revenue neutral," the bill as introduced completely repeals a current tax but, in return, only offers counties an option to pass local

legislation to levy a new, explicitly capped, tax with largely uncertain net effect.

Ms. Mansfield testified that MACo could only support the bill if amended to make it a true local option and truly revenue neutral. Mr. Willis agreed with this position and added that amendments also need to clarify the business entity to which the gross receipts tax applies, the entity renting the equipment or the entity holding the equipment.

### **HB 1120 - Towing Bill Preemption**

MACo Associate Director Andrea Mansfield offered testimony on HB 1120 before the House Environmental Matters Committee. The bill would implement the recommendations from the Task Force to Study Motor Vehicle Towing Practices.

MACo amendments offered at the hearing would ensure that the bill does not preempt counties that regulate towers and removes a section that refers to a licensing process. This could be problematic because a number of jurisdictions do not have a licensing process in place for towers.

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## Upcoming Conferences

August 18 - 21, 2010

**Annual Summer Conference**

Convention Center, Ocean City

January 5 - 7, 2011

**Annual Winter Conference**

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Cambridge

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The Maryland Association of Counties  
& The Maryland Municipal League  
*through grant funding from the*  
Maryland Mediation & Conflict Resolution Office



presents

**A Regional Training Series for Local Government Officials**

## Dealing with Angry People

This workshop is designed to help local government officials become more effective in conflict situations where anger and intense emotions can otherwise derail meetings and the important day-to-day business of governing. Choose one of five (5) locations on the Registration Form below.



### ELECTIVE CREDIT

Municipal &  
County Tracks

Class size is  
limited to 20  
persons each.

### Our Instructors

**Richard Alper** is an attorney with extensive experience facilitating and training in conflict resolution & consensus building skills and methods.

**Phil Favero** is an economist who created a Leadership Development Program at the University of Maryland and has facilitated conflict resolution efforts at both county and municipal levels.

### Registration Form— Keep A Copy for Your Records

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email (for confirmation) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Choose **ONLY** One Location: All Locations - Fridays—11:30 am to 4:00 pm & working lunch

La Plata - March 12     Easton - April 16     Bel Air - April 30

Hanover - May 14     Hagerstown - May 21

Optional \$10 Box Lunch  *Sorry, no refunds.*

Payment for Box Lunch Only: check/PO # \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card (Choose One)  Visa  Master Card (*Sorry, we don't take AMX*)

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ MACo Use Only: Date Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Paid \_\_\_\_\_

### Email Confirmation

Your Email Confirmation will include an "Anger Management Self-Evaluation" to be completed & returned to the instructors, along with driving directions to your workshop.

Make Check or Purchase Order payable to: MACo, 169 Conduit Street, Annapolis, MD 21401. Contact: Leslie Velasco at (410) 269-0043 or (301) 261-1140 if you have payment questions. FAX: (410) 268-1775. Faxed or mailed registrations will only be processed if accompanied by payment, if applicable.

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## Legislative Committee Action Report March 3, 2010

### **TAXES AND REVENUES**

HB 1209 - PROPERTY TAX – SEMIANNUAL PAYMENT FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY (Delegate Ross) (Ways and Means) – OPPOSE

SB 929 - ESTATES AND TRUSTS – TRANSFERS – RECORDATION AND TRANSFER TAXES (Senator Kasemeyer) (Senate Rules) – SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

### **FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT**

HB 1159/ SB 840 - BUDGET REDUCTION ACT (Delegate Costa, et al) (Appropriations) (Senator Reilly) (Budget and Taxation) – OPPOSE

HB 1182 - BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (Delegate Ivey, et al) (Environmental Matters) – OPPOSE

HB 1214 - EQUITY IN EDUCATION FUNDING ACT OF 2010 (Delegate Ross, et al) (Ways and Means) – NO POSITION

HB 1325 - STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT – BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES – PREFERENCE FOR STATE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (Delegate Frick, et al) (Health and Government Operations) – OPPOSE

HB 1350 - REAL PROPERTY – RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ABANDONED PROPERTY REGISTRY (Delegate Ramirez, et al) (Environmental Matters) – NO POSITION

HB 1446 - BONDS SUPPORTED BY THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (Delegate Heller (Chair, Joint Committee on the Management of Public Funds), et al) (House Rules and Executive Nominations) – SUPPORT

SB 1004 - BUDGET RECONCILIATION AND BALANCING ACT (Senators Brinkley and Pipkin) (Senate Rules) – OPPOSE

### **EDUCATION**

HB 334/ SB 256 - PUBLIC SCHOOLS – PHYSICAL EDUCATION FACILITIES (Delegates Walker and Ivey) (Ways and Means) (Senator Harrington, et al) (Budget and Taxation) – NO POSITION

SB 1014 - EDUCATION – MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT REQUIREMENT – WAIVER AND APPEAL PROCESS (Senator Stoltzfus) (Senate Rules) - SUPPORT

### **BUSINESS AFFAIRS**

HB 1261 - JUNK DEALERS AND SCRAP METAL PROCESSORS – REQUIRED RECORDS (Delegate Sophocleus, et al) (Economic Matters) – SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

### **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND RELATIONS**

HB 1272 - MARYLAND FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT (Delegate Mizeur, et al) (Economic Matters) – OPPOSE

HB 1401 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING REFERENDUM – LOCAL ORDINANCE PROHIBITION (Delegate DeBoy, et al) (Appropriations) – NO POSITION

SB 959 - STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – LOCAL EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS – EDUCATORS AND EDUCATIONAL STAFF (Senator Miller) (Senate Rules) – OPPOSE

### **ENVIRONMENT**

HB 813 - AGRICULTURE – SLUDGE – TIMING OF WINTER APPLICATION (Delegate O'Donnell, et al) (Environmental Matters) – NO POSITION

### **GOVERNMENT LIABILITY & COURTS**

HB 1318/ SB 953 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION – DEATH BENEFITS – DEPENDENCY (Delegate Krysiak, et al) (Economic Matters) (Senator Exum, et al) (Senate Rules) - OPPOSE

### **PLANNING & ZONING**

HB 1344 - CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT – PERMITS AND APPROVALS – EXPIRATION DATES (Delegate Beidle, et al) (Environmental Matters) – OPPOSE

HB 1377 - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – LOCAL DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS – COMMENTS (Delegate Lafferty) (Ways and Means) – OPPOSE

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION & ETHICS**

HB 1301 - STATE GOVERNMENT – ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS – ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS (Delegate Carr, et al) (Health and Government Operations) – SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT.

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### Statewide Hearings Ahead

#### **TUESDAY, MARCH 9**

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 683 - PROPERTY TAXES – HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX CREDIT

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 685 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX – HEAVY EQUIPMENT

1:00 p.m. FIN – MSB 3E – SB 720 - CLEAN ENERGY LOAN PROGRAMS

1:00 p.m. FIN – MSB 3E – SB 911 - UNDERGROUND FACILITIES – DAMAGE PREVENTION

12:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 475 - SMART, GREEN, AND GROWING – SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT OF 2010

1:00 p.m. APP – House 120 – HB 881 - LIBRARIES – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

1:00 p.m. ECM – House 230 – HB 1014 - CLEAN ENERGY LOAN PROGRAMS

1:00 p.m. ECM – House 230 – HB 1290 – UNDERGROUND FACILITIES – DAMAGE PREVENTION

1:00 p.m. JUD – House 100 – HB 1335 - MENTAL HEALTH – LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES – INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

#### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10**

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 534 - PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – FALLEN SECURITY GUARD

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 551 - EDUCATION – PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION – PROCUREMENT – PREFERENCE FOR LOCAL BUSINESS ENTITIES

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 630 - PROPERTY TAXES – HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – NOTIFICATION AND RECOUPMENT

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 657 - RECORDATION TAXES AND STATE TRANSFER TAX - DEBT FORGIVEN IN “SHORT SALE”

1:00 p.m. W&M – House 130 – HB 243 - FAIRNESS IN NEGOTIATIONS ACT

1:00 p.m. ECM – House 230 – HB 670 - JOINT COMMITTEE ON WORKERS’ COMPENSATION BENEFIT & INSURANCE OVERSIGHT – MEMBERSHIP

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 903 - ENVIRONMENT – ROAD SALT MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

1:00 p.m. HGO – House 240 – HB 959 - PROCUREMENT – SINGLE MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CERTIFICATION AGENCY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 982 - SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT – RECYCLING – REQUIREMENTS

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 1125 - STORMWATER MANAGEMENT – DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – REDEVELOPMENT AND PRELIMINARY PLAN APPROVAL

#### **THURSDAY, MARCH 11**

1:00 p.m. EHEA – MSB 2W – SB 656 - ENERGY PERFORMANCE RATINGS – STATE, COUNTY, AND MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

1:00 p.m. W&M – House 130 – HB 892 - PROPERTY TAXES – HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX CREDIT

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 1182 - BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

1:00 p.m. W&M – House 130 – HB 1209 - PROPERTY TAX – SEMI-ANNUAL PAYMENT FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

#### **TUESDAY, MARCH 16**

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 777 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS – REDEPOSIT INTO INSURED ACCOUNTS

#### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17**

1:00 p.m. JPR – MSW 2E – SB 779 - STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION – UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS ON HIGHWAY RIGHTS-OF-WAY

1:00 p.m. JPR – MSW 2E – SB 788 - MOTOR VEHICLES – TOWING PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

1:00 p.m. FIN – MSB 3E – SB 953 - WORKERS’ COMPENSATION – DEATH BENEFITS – DEPENDENCY

1:00 p.m. ECM – House 230 – HB 1174 - JUNK DEALERS AND SCRAP METAL PROCESSORS – REQUIRED RECORDS

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## Courthouse News

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March 8, 2010

1:00 p.m. ECM – House 230 – HB 1261 - JUNK DEALERS  
AND SCRAP METAL PROCESSORS – REQUIRED RECORDS

1:00 p.m. HGO – House 240 – HB 1301 - STATE  
GOVERNMENT – ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS –  
ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

1:00 p.m. HGO – House 240 – HB 1325 - STATE AND LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT – BANKING AND  
FINANCIAL SERVICES – PREFERENCE FOR STATE  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 1377 - DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION – LOCAL DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS –  
COMMENTS

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 18**

1:00 p.m. FIN – MSB 3E – SB 879 – PUBLIC SAFETY – POOL  
PERSONNEL – REGULATION (CONNOR'S LAW)

8:00 a.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 959 - STATE RETIREMENT  
AND PENSION SYSTEM – LOCAL EMPLOYER  
CONTRIBUTIONS – EDUCATORS AND EDUCATIONAL  
STAFF

1:00 p.m. ECM – House 230 – HB 1272 - MARYLAND FAMILY  
AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

1:00 p.m. ENV – House 250 – HB 1344 - CONSTRUCTION  
AND DEVELOPMENT – PERMITS AND APPROVALS –  
EXPIRATION DATES

### **TUESDAY, MARCH 23**

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 922 - HOMESTEAD PROPERTY  
TAX CREDIT FOR HOUSING UNITS AT INDEPENDENT  
LIVING RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

1:00 p.m. B&T – MSB 3W – SB 929 - ESTATES AND TRUSTS –  
TRANSFERS – RECORDATION AND TRANSFER TAXES

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 25**

1:00 p.m. EHEA – MSB 2W – HB 68 - DEPARTMENT OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT – GRANTS – SMALL BUSINESSES AND  
CERTIFIED MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

## MACo Annual Summer Conference

# *Pride of Maryland*



**August 18-21, 2010**  
**Ocean City Convention Center**