



Legislative Alert

March 14, 2022 – LA2022-03 – 303 Charles St., Suite 100, La Plata, MD 20646

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Legislative Alert Introduction

Dear Chamber Members:

It is that time of the year when the Maryland General Assembly is in session and our own Legislative Committee is on the job, meeting weekly to review proposed bills in both houses to assure that our members' interests are well served and our businesses are protected.

This is our Legislative Alert which will be issued periodically during the 2022 Maryland General Assembly Session and will be sent as an e-blast using Constant Contact.

The Legislative Committee works diligently and intensely on your behalf during the session and throughout the year. The Legislative Alert keeps you up to the minute on what is going on in government that affects your business and your family.

It's worth your time to read it regularly.

Legislative Committee Structuring

Please take note of the listing below, and if you have any questions about any of the bills listed within the Legislative Alert, or if you have concerns of your own, do not hesitate to contact either the appropriate sub-committee person, the Legislative Committee Chair or the Chamber at 301-932-6500. Bonnie Grady is the Chamber staff to the Legislative Committee. Email her at bgrady@charlescountychamber.org

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Bill Descriptions and Chamber Positions

For full text and additional information on any bill, click on the title of the bill number below or go to <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgaweb site> and input the bill number in the "Search" field.

Bills reviewed since the last Legislative Alert are noted as "NEW" in red below. Bills from previous Legislative Alerts follow the new bills.

NEW House Bills

NEW HB0307 - ENVIRONMENT - PACKAGING MATERIALS - PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY

Requiring the Department of Environment to conduct a statewide recycling needs assessment every 10 years; requiring, by April 1, 2024, producers of certain packaging materials to individually or as part of a producer responsibility organization submit a producer responsibility plan to the Department for approval; prohibiting, on or after October 1, 2024, a producer of certain packaging materials from selling or distributing the packaging materials unless the producer has an approved producer responsibility plan; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

NEW HB1428 - CODE COUNTIES - LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE - NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

Altering the notice requirements in code counties for bill hearings and passage of bills.

POSITION: OPPOSE

NEW HB1440 - INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – MILITARY RETIREMENT (TAX RELIEF FOR MILITARY RETIREES ACT OF 2022)

In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations

Altering for certain taxable years a certain limitation on a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain military retirement income; providing the subtraction for the tax year beginning after December 31, 2021, but before January 1, 2023, is the greater of \$15,000 or 50% of the amount of military retirement income received during that taxable year; and providing that for a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2022, all military retirement income received can be subtracted.

POSITION: SUPPORT

NEW HB1454 - LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE VIOLATIONS - PENALTIES

Altering the criminal penalties for a conviction for certain unemployment insurance-related offenses.

POSITION: SUPPORT

NEW HB1457 - REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS - PROSPECTIVE BUYER COMMUNICATIONS - PERSONAL INFORMATION

Prohibiting a seller's agent from providing to a seller certain communications from a prospective buyer containing personal information or characteristics of the prospective buyer; and providing the Act is intended to prevent a seller from selecting a buyer on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, familial status, or disability in violation of the Federal Fair Housing Act.

POSITION: FYI TO REALTORS

NEW HB1458 - STATE PROCUREMENT - SMALL BUSINESS RESERVE PROGRAM

Altering the definition of "small business" for the purposes of the Small Business Reserve Program by adding a requirement that the principal office of the business must be located in the State; increasing from 15% to 30% the minimum percentage of a unit's procurements that, to the extent practicable, are to be made directly from small businesses; and altering the intervals within which the standards and guidelines for participation in the Small Business Reserve Program are to be established to at least every 5 years.

POSITION: SUPPORT

NEW HB1468 - INCOME TAX SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT INCOME

Allowing a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for individuals who are at least 55 years old for the first \$15,000 of income from a certain employee retirement system that is attributable to the individual's employment as a public safety employee; and providing that retirement income of public safety employees that is included in the subtraction allowed under the Act may not be taken into account for purposes of a Maryland income tax subtraction modification for certain retirement income.

POSITION: SUPPORT

NEW Senate Bills

NEW SB0789 - PUBLIC UTILITIES – UNDERGROUND FACILITIES – ONE-CALL SYSTEM

Requiring a person notifying the one-call system before performing an excavation or demolition to select a specific start work date; altering the information that must be provided to a one-call system; requiring the ticket generated by the one-call system to include a response date and time that corresponds with the work date selected by the person; altering the time frame during which a ticket is valid; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

NEW SB0974 - DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES' REAL PROPERTY - EXCHANGE WITH PRIVATE REAL PROPERTY - REQUIREMENT

Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to exchange real property owned by the Department with private real property if the real property owned by the Department has an appraised value equal to or less than \$100,000 and the private real property is a certain size, is in a certain location, and has an appraised value equal to or less than \$100,000 and an appraised value equal to or greater than the appraised value of the real property owned by the Department.

POSITION: FYI TO AFFECTED MEMBERS

House Bills

HB2 - INCOME TAX – WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT

Allowing employers that claim the federal work opportunity credit to claim a credit against the State income tax for certain wages paid to individuals with barriers to employment; requiring the Department of Legislative Services to prepare a tax credit evaluation of the credit on or before December 31, 2028; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021, but before January 1, 2029.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB8/SB275 - LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE INSURANCE PROGRAM – ESTABLISHMENT (TIME TO CARE ACT OF 2022)

Establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program in the Maryland Department of Labor to provide certain benefits to individuals who take leave from employment for certain purposes; establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring, beginning January 1, 2023, certain employees, employers, and self-employed individuals to contribute to the Fund in a certain manner; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB9 - VETERANS OF THE AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ CONFLICTS SCHOLARSHIP - ELIGIBILITY FOR STEPCHILDREN

Altering the eligibility requirements for the Veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq Conflicts Scholarship to include stepchildren of veterans, active duty and reserve members of the United States armed forces, and members of the Maryland National Guard who served in, or were activated as a result of, the Afghanistan or Iraq conflict.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB11 - RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD – TIER 1 RENEWABLE SOURCE – ALTERATIONS (RECLAIM RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2022)

Altering the definition of "Tier 1 renewable source" for purposes of excluding energy derived from qualifying biomass, methane from the anaerobic decomposition of organic materials, certain fuel cells, poultry litter-to-energy, waste-to-energy, refuse-derived fuel, and thermal energy from a thermal biomass system from being eligible for inclusion in the renewable energy portfolio standard.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB19: EDUCATION - SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION - PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLANS (SAFE WALK TO SCHOOL ACT)

Requiring certain county boards of education seeking State funds for the construction of a new school, or the renovation of or an addition to an existing school that would increase the capacity by more than 100 students, to submit a pedestrian safety plan to the Interagency Commission on School Construction; and requiring the Interagency Commission to review the pedestrian safety plans in consultation with the State Highway Administration.

POSITION: REFER TO BOE

HB24: CYBERSECURITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – ALTERATIONS AND MARYLAND

Altering certain criteria for the Cybersecurity Public Service Scholarship Program, including increasing the number of years a recipient may hold an award, expanding the qualifying positions for a scholarship recipient to fulfill a work obligation, and establishing criteria for part-time students to be eligible for the scholarship, hold an award, and fulfill a work obligation; establishing the Maryland Cybersecurity Loan Assistance Repayment Program; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB26 - REAL PROPERTY - REGULATION OF COMMON OWNERSHIP COMMUNITY MANAGERS

Creating the State Board of Common Ownership Community Managers in the Maryland Department of Labor to oversee the licensing of community managers who provide management services for common ownership communities; providing that certain provisions of the Act do not prohibit certain persons from providing certain services under certain circumstances; requiring an individual to be issued a license by the Board before providing management services for a common ownership community under certain circumstances; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO CONDO/CO-OP/HOA PROPERTY MANAGERS

HB40 - CONDOMINIUMS – DISCLOSURES TO UNIT OWNERS AND PROHIBITED PROVISIONS IN INSTRUMENTS

Clarifying that certain provisions of law related to closed-door meetings of a board of directors of a condominium do not allow the board to withhold or agree to withhold the terms of certain legal agreements from the unit owners; and making unenforceable a provision of a certain agreement that prohibits the disclosure to unit owners or certain purchasers of any term of the agreement.

POSITION: FYI TO CONDO PROPERTY MANAGERS

HB41 - SALES AND USE TAX - TAX-FREE PERIOD - WINTER WEATHER SHOPPING FOR STUDENTS

Establishing a tax-free period of 14 days beginning the first Sunday after Thanksgiving Day each year during which the purchase of winter weather clothing, footwear, and accessories is exempt from the sales and use tax, subject to certain limitations.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB58 - INCOME TAX - CREDIT FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY UPGRADES - PASSIVE HOUSES

Allowing a credit against the State income tax for certain costs, paid or incurred after July 1, 2022, by an owner of certain residential property for certain energy efficiency upgrades; requiring the owner to obtain a tax credit certificate from the Maryland Energy Administration; and prohibiting a taxpayer from claiming the tax credit for a taxable year during which the Governor declares a state of emergency.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB60 - ENVIRONMENT – NEW MOTOR VEHICLES – POLLUTION FEE

Establishing a certain pollution fee to be charged by the Department of the Environment and collected by the Comptroller on certain new motor vehicles sold or registered in the State based on certain pollution ratings; exempting certain motor vehicles from the fee; and requiring the fee to be deposited in the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund and used for certain purposes.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB69 - STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION – REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS AND APPEALS

Requiring the State Department of Assessments and Taxation to publish on its website certain information in plain language relating to the assessment process and methodology used by the Department in determining the value of real property; and allowing certain authorities to consider certain criteria when hearing an appeal that relates to the valuation of real property.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB71 - MANUFACTURED HOMES – CONVERSION TO REAL PROPERTY AND SALE OF MANUFACTURED HOUSING COMMUNITIES (MANUFACTURED HOUSING MODERNIZATION ACT)

Authorizing an owner of a manufactured home who does not own the land on which the home is affixed to convert the home to real property; providing that the conversion to or severance from real property of a manufactured home does not affect rights and duties of the landowner; and requiring the owner of a manufactured housing community to comply with certain requirements when selling the manufactured housing community, including providing homeowners the opportunity to purchase the manufactured housing community.

POSITION: FYI TO MOBILE HOME PARK OWNERS/MANAGERS.

HB0076 - COMMUNITY SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEMS - EXEMPTION FROM ENERGY AND PROPERTY TAXES

Exempting certain community solar energy generating systems from local energy taxes and personal property taxes.

POSITION: FYI TO SOLAR BUSINESSES

HB78 - DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT - REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR APPLICANTS WITH DISABILITIES

Prohibiting an employer from failing or refusing to make a certain accommodation for a known disability of an otherwise qualified applicant for employment; and establishing that an employer is not required to accommodate an applicant for employment's disability under certain circumstances.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB79 – COURTS - PROHIBITED INDEMNITY AND DEFENSE LIABILITY AGREEMENTS

Prohibiting a provision in a contract with a design professional for professional services that requires the design professional to indemnify or hold harmless certain parties unless the design professional is at fault for causing the loss, damage, or expense indemnified; and prohibiting a provision in a contract with a design professional for professional services that requires the design professional to defend certain parties against liability or certain claims.

POSITION: FYI TO DEVELOPERS, ARCHITECTS, INTERIOR DESIGNERS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, GENERAL CONTRACTORS

HB85 - INCOME TAX – HEALTHY INDOOR AIR QUALITY TAX CREDIT

Allowing certain persons to claim a credit against the State income tax for certain costs incurred during the taxable year to purchase and install certain indoor air quality equipment in a certain home, rental dwelling unit, or commercial building; requiring the Comptroller, in consultation with the Maryland Energy Administration, to publish on the Comptroller's website a list of approved indoor air quality equipment on or before September 30 each year; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB86 - LANDLORD AND TENANT – RESIDENTIAL LEASES – TENANT RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS (TENANT PROTECTION ACT OF 2022)

Requiring a landlord to make a certain disclosure to prospective tenants if the landlord uses a ratio utility billing system; making a certain lease provision unenforceable if the landlord fails to make the disclosure; requiring a landlord to document a bill for certain utilities; providing that a tenant organization has the right of free assembly during reasonable hours and on reasonable notice to the landlord; expanding certain provisions of law regarding the rights of certain tenants to include certain victims of stalking; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB88 - PUBLIC UTILITIES - ENERGY DISTRIBUTION PLANNING AND REQUIRED LABOR STANDARDS

Establishing the Distribution System Planning Workgroup to study issues related to energy distribution planning and implementation; requiring the Public Service Commission to adopt regulations on or before January 1, 2024, related to energy distribution planning and implementation; requiring the Commission and the Maryland Energy Administration to coordinate efforts with utilities to apply for certain federal funds; and establishing labor standards for contractors and subcontractors participating in certain projects.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB98 - MILITARY INSTALLATIONS - EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT

Requiring the Maryland Military Installation Council to identify certain opportunities and enhancements for State military installations; authorizing the State Treasurer at the request of the Governor to issue certain bonds for military installation improvements in the State, not exceeding in aggregate a total of \$177,000,000; and requiring, on or before May 1 of each year, the Council to submit a report to the General Assembly on each bond issued.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB101 - LANDLORD AND TENANT - REPOSSESSION FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENT - LEAD RISK REDUCTION COMPLIANCE

Requiring as part of a complaint for repossession for failure to pay rent that a landlord provide registration or licensing information for a property for which registration or licensing is required under local law and to state whether a property is an affected property under certain lead-based paint abatement laws; requiring a rental property in Baltimore City to be in compliance with lead-based paint abatement requirements before a landlord may file a complaint for repossession of the property for failure to pay rent; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO LANDLORDS

HB102 - SPECIAL REQUEST- VEHICLE LAWS - RACE AND SPEED CONTESTS - PENALTIES

Synopsis - Altering a certain penalty and the points assessments for certain motor vehicle violations related to participation in a race or speed contest; establishing that a person charged with violations related to participation in a race or speed contest must appear in court and may not prepay the fine; and authorizing the towing and impounding of a vehicle involved in certain motor vehicle violations related to participation in a race or speed contest.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB103 - PROPERTY TAX CREDIT FOR DISABLED VETERANS - ESTABLISHED

Requiring the governing body of a county or of a municipal corporation to grant a tax credit against the property tax imposed on the dwelling house of certain disabled veterans; establishing a tax credit against the State property tax on the dwelling house of certain disabled veterans; providing for the calculation of the credit; requiring certain disabled veterans to provide certain documents when applying for the credits under the Act; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after June 30, 2022; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB107 - COOPERATIVE HOUSING CORPORATIONS, CONDOMINIUMS, AND HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS - RESERVE STUDIES - STATEWIDE

Requiring the governing body of certain cooperative housing corporations, condominiums, or homeowners associations to have a reserve study conducted of the common elements of the cooperative housing corporation, condominium, or homeowners association and to update the study every 5 years; imposing certain requirements relating to the annual budget of a cooperative housing corporation, condominium, or homeowners association; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB112 - HEALTH OCCUPATIONS - SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND MILITARY SPOUSES - TEMPORARY LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION, AND PERMITTING

Requiring health occupations boards to issue a temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit to a service member, veteran, or military spouse who meets certain requirements; and prohibiting a health occupations board from issuing a certain temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit if the issuance would pose a risk to public health, welfare, or safety.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB117- COOPERATIVE HOUSING CORPORATIONS AND CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATIONS – EVIDENCE OF INSURANCE

Authorizing a cooperative housing corporation to require through its governing documents that members maintain an insurance policy on their unit and mandating that governing documents with the requirement also require the member to provide evidence of the insurance on request of the governing body; and requiring the governing documents of a condominium association that require a unit owner to maintain insurance on their unit to require the unit owner to provide evidence of the insurance on the request of the counsel of unit owners.

POSITION: FYI TO CONDO PROPERTY MANAGERS

HB124 - INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR VETERANS

Allowing a \$3,000 subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain veterans who are discharged or released under honorable circumstances from active military, naval, or air service of the United States.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB133 – ENVIRONMENT – COAL TAR SEALANT PRODUCTS – PROHIBITIONS (SAFER SEALANT ACT OF 2022)

Prohibiting, on or after October 1, 2023, a person from supplying, selling, or offering for sale a high-PAH coal tar sealant product for application to a driveway or parking area in the State; prohibiting, on or after October 1, 2023, a person from supplying, selling, offering for sale, or manufacturing a coal tar sealant product for application to a driveway or parking area in the State unless the product is labeled in accordance with standards adopted by the Department of the Environment; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO AFFECTED MEMBERS

HB134 - FAILURE TO PAY RENT PROCEEDINGS - PROHIBITION ON RENT INCREASES AND SEALING OF COURT RECORDS

Prohibiting a landlord from increasing a tenant's rent because a judgment was entered against the tenant in a failure to pay rent action; requiring the District Court to seal all court records within 60 days after the final resolution of a failure to pay rent proceeding under certain circumstances; requiring the District Court to seal all courts records relating to a failure to pay rent proceeding, on motion by a tenant, under certain circumstances; requiring the Maryland Judiciary to publish on its website a certain form; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO LANDLORDS

HB135 - ENVIRONMENT – SINGLE-USE PLASTICS – RESTRICTIONS

Prohibiting, beginning January 1, 2023, a food service business from providing certain single-use food or beverage products to a customer ordering carryout or delivery from or dining inside the food service business unless the customer requests or accepts an offer for the single-use products; requiring a food service business to maintain a limited stock of single-use plastic straws for certain customers; and authorizing a food service business to submit a request to a governmental entity for a waiver of up to 3 months.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB144 - MOTOR FUEL TAX RATES - CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ADJUSTMENT - REPEAL

Repealing a requirement that certain motor fuel tax rates be adjusted in future years based on growth in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB145 - STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT - PREVAILING WAGE - STOP WORK ORDERS

Authorizing the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to issue a stop work order for each work site where the Commissioner has made an initial determination that a contractor or subcontractor may have violated the prevailing wage requirements; authorizing a prime contractor to terminate the contract of a subcontractor without incurring certain liability if the subcontractor has a stop work order issued against them; authorizing the Commission to impose a penalty of up to \$5,000 for each day a stop work order is violated; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB178 - PUBLIC HEALTH – COTTAGE FOOD BUSINESSES – ANNUAL REVENUES

Altering the definition of "cottage food business" for the purpose of increasing from \$25,000 to \$100,000 the cap on the annual revenue from the sale of cottage food products that a cottage food business may earn.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB195 – MARINE CONTRACTOR LICENSE – PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES – LICENSING REQUIREMENTS AND FEES

Exempting an individual employed by a county or municipality in the State who performs marine contractor services while in the performance of the duties of their employment from paying a fee for the issuance or renewal of a marine contractor license or a test administered by the Marine Contractors Licensing Board; and authorizing a certain individual to perform marine contractor services without having to obtain a marine contractor license under certain circumstances.

POSITION: FYI TO MARINE CONTRACTORS

HB197 - COOPERATIVE HOUSING CORPORATIONS - PROPERTY INSURANCE DEDUCTIBLES - MEMBER RESPONSIBILITY

Requiring a member of a cooperative housing corporation to pay up to \$10,000 of the corporation's property or liability insurance deductible if damage to a common element originated in the member's unit; requiring the governing body to inform each member in writing annually of the member's responsibility regarding the insurance deductible and the amount; and applying the Act prospectively.

POSITION: FYI TO CONDO PROPERTY MANAGERS.

HB215 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX - DEPRECIATION OF ASSESSED VALUE

Establishing, in the assessment of personal property, the original cost of the personal property shall be depreciated using the same method provided under the Internal Revenue Code for the same type of property.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB268 - PROPERTY TAX - EXEMPTIONS FOR BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY - ALTERATIONS

Altering eligibility for exemptions from the personal property tax for personal property of a home business or personal property with a total original cost below \$20,000; and prohibiting the State Department of Assessments and Taxation from collecting personal property information or requiring the submission of a personal property tax return from certain businesses that qualify for certain personal property tax exemptions.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB257 - RESIDENTIAL ELEVATORS - INSPECTIONS

Establishing that, beginning January 1, 2023, an elevator installed in a privately owned single-family residence is subject to certain provisions of law requiring elevator inspections.

POSITION: FYI TO ELEVATOR/CONSTRUCTION/CONTRACTORS

HB258 - EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS - SEATING FOR EMPLOYEES (RIGHT TO SIT ACT OF 2022)

Establishing requirements of employers related to the provision of seating for employees by employers; and establishing certain enforcement mechanisms, including by creating a private right of action.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB268 - PROPERTY TAX - EXEMPTIONS FOR BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY - ALTERATIONS

Altering eligibility for exemptions from the personal property tax for personal property of a home business or personal property with a total original cost below \$20,000; and prohibiting the State Department of Assessments and Taxation from collecting personal property information or requiring the submission of a personal property tax return from certain businesses that qualify for certain personal property tax exemptions.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB270 - BUSINESS REGULATION - INNKEEPERS - MAINTENANCE OF GUEST RECORDS AND EMPLOYEE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAINING AND POLICY

Requiring an innkeeper to establish and maintain a computerized record-keeping system for guest transactions and receipts; requiring the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services and the Maryland Department of Labor to approve educational training programs for the accurate and prompt identification and reporting of suspected human trafficking; and requiring an innkeeper to take certain actions to provide employees with training on the prevention, identification, and reporting of human trafficking.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB285 - PROPERTY TAX CREDIT - DISABLED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND RESCUE WORKERS - FEDERAL POLICE AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS

Expanding the definition of "disabled law enforcement officer or rescue worker" for purposes of certain county or municipal corporation property tax credits to include an individual who became disabled as a result of or in the course of employment as a certain police officer, detective, or investigator for a federal government agency; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB295 - COMMERCIAL LAW - CONSUMER PROTECTION - ONLINE MARKETPLACE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS (INFORM CONSUMERS ACT OF 2022)

Establishing certain requirements related to the disclosure of bank account, contact, and other information by high-volume third-party sellers to and on online marketplaces; and prohibiting a political subdivision from requiring an online marketplace to verify information from a high-volume third-party seller or disclose any information to a consumer.

POSITION: FYI TO AFFECTED MEMBERS

HB298 - LANDLORD AND TENANT - EVICTION ACTIONS - FILING SURCHARGE AND PROHIBITED LEASE PROVISIONS

Increasing, from not more than \$8 to not more than \$73, the surcharge that the District Court is required to assess per civil case for summary ejectment, tenant holding over, and breach of lease that seeks a judgment for possession of residential property against a residential tenant; requiring the District Court to assess the surcharge against a landlord and prohibiting the court from awarding or assigning the surcharge against a residential tenant; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB303 - PUBLIC SAFETY - MARYLAND SWIMMING POOL AND SPA STANDARDS - ADOPTION

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to adopt by regulation the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code as the Maryland Swimming Pool and Spa Standards; providing for the implementation of the Standards by local jurisdictions, counties, and municipalities; requiring the Department to consult with the Maryland Department of Health on the implementation of the Standards in relation to the regulation of the operation and maintenance of swimming pools and spas; and requiring the Department to maintain a certain central automated database.

POSITION: FYI TO AFFECTED MEMBERS

HB315 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - MILITARY RETIREMENT INCOME

Increasing the amount of a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain military retirement income for individuals who are at least 55 years old from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB317 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - MILITARY RETIREMENT INCOME

Phasing in, over a period of 4 years, an increase in a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax to allow for a subtraction of all military retirement income.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB343 - RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTIES AND MOBILE HOME PARKS - SECURITY DEPOSITS - RATE OF INTEREST

Altering the calculation of simple interest on security deposits held by a residential landlord or a mobile home park owner and owed to a residential tenant or mobile home park resident by repealing the requirement that interest be calculated at a rate of 1.5% per year if that percentage exceeds the U.S. Treasury yield curve rate.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB358 - MARYLAND CONDOMINIUM ACT - AMENDMENTS TO THE DECLARATION - INTEREST IN COMMON ELEMENTS

Authorizing the council of unit owners of a condominium to alter, by a vote of at least 60% of the eligible voters, the undivided percentage interest in the common elements of any unit; repealing a prohibition on changing the undivided percentage interest in the common elements of any unit without the written consent of every unit owner and mortgagee.

POSITION: FYI TO RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL CONDO OWNERS

HB367 - LANDLORD AND TENANT – REPOSSESSION FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENT – RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Requiring a landlord of residential property to follow certain processes and procedures concerning rental assistance programs in the State prior to filing a complaint to repossess for failure to pay rent against a tenant experiencing financial hardship, either directly or indirectly due to or during the COVID-19 pandemic.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB389 - PROCUREMENT - MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES - REVISIONS

Requiring a procurement officer, in an invitation for bids or a request for proposals, to include a certain summary of the factors used to determine the expected degree of minority business enterprise participation for the contract; authorizing certain entities to retain certification as a minority business enterprise if the entity participates as a mentor in a certain mentorship program and under certain circumstances; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB392 - LANDLORD AND TENANT - FAILURE TO REPAIR SERIOUS AND DANGEROUS DEFECTS - TENANT REMEDIES (TENANT JUSTICE ACT)

Authorizing a single tenant to seek remedies on behalf of a group of tenants or a tenants' organization for a landlord's failure to repair serious and dangerous defects on the leased premises; authorizing a tenant to bring a civil action for money damages if a landlord fails to repair certain defects within a certain time period; and requiring the award of reasonable attorney's fees to a tenant who prevails in a certain action.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0407 - HEALTH OCCUPATIONS - HEALTH CARE STAFFING SHORTAGE EMERGENCY - DECLARATION AND LICENSING AND PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS (HEALTH CARE HEROES ACT OF 2022)

Authorizing the Secretary of Health to declare a health care staffing shortage emergency in the State; requiring each health occupations board to establish processes for the issuance of initial licenses, temporary licenses, and temporary practice letters on an expedited basis during a health care staffing shortage emergency; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB409 - CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS - ANNUAL REPORTS - FEES FOR ELECTRONIC FILINGS

Eliminating filing fees paid by corporations and other business entities to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for certain annual reports due on or after April 15, 2023, that are filed electronically.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0414 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - PROJECT RESTORE PROGRAM AND FUND

Establishing the Project Restore Program within the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide financial incentives for small businesses and commercial developers to revitalize certain vacant retail and commercial space; authorizing the award of certain grants to certain businesses and developers under certain circumstances; establishing the Project Restore Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund in the Department; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB418 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – MORE JOBS FOR MARYLANDERS PROGRAM – EXTENSION AND ALTERATIONS

Altering the circumstances under which and the period of time for which the Department of Commerce may provide a qualified business entity a certificate certifying that an eligible project is enrolled in the More Jobs for Marylanders Program; and requiring the Comptroller to transfer, from the More Jobs for Marylanders Tax Credit Reserve Fund to the General Fund, an amount equal to the amount stated in the final tax credit certificate issued, rather than that stated in the initial tax credit certificate.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB420 - RETIREMENT TAX ELIMINATION ACT OF 2022

Allowing, subject to certain limitations, a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for up to a certain amount each year for certain individuals who are receiving certain benefits under the Social Security Act or who are at least 65 years old and are not employed full time; prohibiting income included in certain subtraction modifications from being included under the subtraction modification; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB439 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION – OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE PRESUMPTIONS – 9-1-1 SPECIALISTS

Providing that a 9-1-1 specialist who is diagnosed by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist with post-traumatic stress disorder is presumed to have an occupational disease that was suffered in the line of duty or course of employment and is compensable under the workers' compensation law.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB457 – CORPORATE INCOME TAX - THROWBACK RULE AND COMBINED REPORTING

Requiring that certain sales of tangible personal property be included in the numerator of the sales factor used for apportioning a corporation's income to the State under certain circumstances; requiring affiliated corporations to compute Maryland taxable income using a certain combined reporting method; authorizing certain corporations, subject to regulations adopted by the Comptroller, to determine certain income using the water's edge method; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB470 - MARYLAND PEOPLE'S FUND – ESTABLISHMENT

Synopsis - Establishing the Maryland People's Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; requiring the interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; exempting the Fund from a certain provision of law requiring interest earnings on State money to accrue to the General Fund of the State; and requiring the Comptroller to distribute to the Fund 25% of the Maryland estate tax.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB473 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - MILITARY RETIREMENT INCOME

Allowing a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for the first \$20,000 of military retirement income received by an individual during the taxable year if the individual has received a determination of a 100% service-connected disability from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB491 - PROPERTY TAX - TAXATION OF BUSINESS PROPERTY - TAX RATES, EXEMPTIONS, AND CREDITS

Prohibiting the county tax rate and municipal tax rate applicable to business personal property from exceeding \$2 for each \$100 of assessment; exempting business personal property from the property tax imposed by a county or municipal corporation, subject to certain exceptions; authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to grant, by law, a certain property tax credit against the county or municipal corporation property tax imposed on business property; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0496 - LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT - FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE INSURANCE PROGRAM - ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program in the Maryland Department of Labor to provide certain benefits to individuals who take leave from employment for certain purposes; establishing the Division of Family and Medical Leave Insurance in the Department to administer the Program; establishing the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; applying the Act prospectively; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB506 - CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - BEER AND WINE LICENSES - RETAIL GROCERY ESTABLISHMENTS

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland to establish that, on or after July 1, 2024, a retail grocery establishment in the State may obtain a license authorizing the retail grocery establishment to sell beer and wine to individuals who are at least 21 years old; and submitting the amendment to the qualified voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2022.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB514 - CHARLES COUNTY - NATURAL RESOURCES - SUNDAY HUNTING

Authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to allow a person in Charles County to hunt any game bird or game mammal on a Sunday during the open season for that game bird or game mammal.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB521- LANDLORD AND TENANT - REPOSSESSION FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENT - SHIELDING OF COURT RECORDS

Authorizing certain individuals to petition a court to remove from public inspection certain records relating to an action for repossession of residential property for failure to pay rent; establishing certain procedures and requirements for the consideration of a petition to shield records under the Act; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB533 - OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS - LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND REGISTRATION - IMMIGRANTS

Prohibiting a State occupational or professional licensing board or other government agency in the State from denying an occupational or professional license, certification, or registration to an immigrant if the individual meets certain requirements.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0548 - GENERAL PROVISIONS - COMMEMORATIVE DAYS - MONTFORD POINT MARINES COMMEMORATION DAY

Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim July 1 as Montford Point Marines Commemoration Day.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0551 - REAL PROPERTY - RESIDENTIAL LEASES - RENT INCREASE RESTRICTIONS

Prohibiting a landlord from increasing rent on a certain restricted rental unit by more than 2% each year for a lease of a year or more and by more than 1% every 6 months for a month-to-month lease, subject to certain exceptions; providing additional restrictions on rent increases during and following a state of emergency; and providing that rent restrictions for restricted rental units do not apply once rent reaches at least \$2,250 each month.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0553 - CONDOMINIUMS – MANDATORY INSURANCE COVERAGE – ALTERATIONS

Providing that certain property insurance requirements are applicable to certain elements and units under certain circumstances; providing that for detached units, the requirement that each unit owner is an insured person under a certain insurance policy with respect to certain liability applies only to common elements; providing that a loss for attached or multifamily dwelling units covered by a certain policy be adjusted with the council of unit owners in a certain manner; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO CONDO & HOA OWNERS/MANAGERS

HB0577 - MOTOR FUEL TAX AND SALES AND USE TAX - TAX HOLIDAY

Requiring the Comptroller to reduce certain motor fuel tax rates that would otherwise be imposed during a certain period of time by 15 cents and announce the reduced motor fuel tax rates for that period; and providing that the sales and use tax rate imposed on certain retail sales and the use of certain property and services purchased during a certain period of time shall be 0%.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0597 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATIONS FOR MILITARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT INCOME (HONORING THEIR SACRIFICE ACT OF 2022)

Lowering, from 55 to 50, the age at which residents are eligible for a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain military retirement income and certain retirement income attributable to the resident's employment as a correctional officer, a law enforcement officer, or a fire, rescue, or emergency services personnel; and increasing, from \$15,000 to \$30,000, the amount of the subtraction modifications for certain military and public safety retirement income.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0598 - HIGHER EDUCATION - TRANSFER PLATFORM - ESTABLISHED (TRANSFER WITH SUCCESS ACT 2.0)

Requiring each community college and 4-year institution that receives State funds to participate in a transfer platform that the Maryland Higher Education Commission establishes to facilitate the transfer of students from community colleges to 4-year institutions of higher education; and altering a certain report that public institutions of higher education must submit.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0614 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION – MEDICAL CANNABIS – COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Altering the circumstances under which a covered employee or a dependent of a covered employee is not entitled to compensation or benefits under the workers' compensation law to include circumstances related to the use of medical cannabis; including medical cannabis in the medicine that an employer or its insurer is required to provide to a covered employee except under certain circumstances; and applying the Act prospectively.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0623 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - ESSENTIAL HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Allowing, for taxable years 2021 and 2022, a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax in the amount of \$2,000 for essential health care workers; and defining "essential health care worker" as a licensed physician, a licensed practical nurse, a registered nurse, or an emergency medical services provider who performed a duty or work responsibility during a state of emergency declared by the Governor and that could not be performed remotely.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0648 - MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION OUTREACH AND COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM - FUNDING

Requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill, beginning in fiscal year 2024, an appropriation of \$7,000,000 for the Maryland Higher Education Outreach and College Access Program.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0688 - REAL PROPERTY - RESIDENTIAL CONTRACT OF SALE - BUYER IDENTIFICATION

Authorizing a buyer who executes a residential contract of sale for a single family residential real property with a real estate broker to mask the buyer's identity; and applying the Act prospectively.

POSITION: FYI REAL ESTATE BROKERS

HB0698 - LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT - STATE MINIMUM WAGE RATE - INCREASE

Increasing the State minimum wage rates in effect for certain periods of time; and repealing the authority of the Board of Public Works to temporarily suspend an increase to the State minimum wage rate.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0708 - COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Requiring the State to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions through the use of various measures, including the alteration of statewide greenhouse gas emissions goals, the establishment of a net-zero statewide greenhouse gas emissions goal, requiring gas companies and electric companies to provide certain programs and services, and requiring electric companies to increase their annual incremental gross energy savings through certain programs and services; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0709 - MARYLAND HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE - SMALL BUSINESS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH INSURANCE SUBSIDIES PROGRAM

Establishing a Small Business and Nonprofit Health Insurance Subsidies Program in the State to provide subsidies to small business and nonprofit employers and their employees for the purchase of qualified health benefit plans on the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0739 - WORKGROUP TO STUDY THE FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL VIABILITY OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHARLES COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Establishing a Workgroup to Study the Fiscal and Operational Viability of Public-Private Partnerships for Charles County Public Schools; and requiring the Workgroup to report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Charles County Commissioners, the Charles County Board of Education, The Interagency Commission on School Construction, and the members of the Charles County Delegation of the General Assembly.

POSITION: SUPPORT WITH RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE TWO BUSINESS REPS REACH OUT TO DELEGATION, SCHOOLS, COMMISSIONERS

HB0781 - GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANIES - DEPOSIT CHARGES AND TERMINATION OF SERVICE

Prohibiting a gas company or an electric company from imposing a deposit requirement on customers who are at least 65 years old and have an annual income at or below 300% of the federal poverty level, or terminating gas service or electric service to the customer for failure to pay all or part of a deposit under certain circumstances.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0787 - RETIREE INCOME TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2022

Including payments received under the Social Security Act, payments received as benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act, and certain income within a certain subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for individuals who are at least 65 years of age, who are disabled, or whose spouse is disabled; altering a certain limitation on the maximum amount of the subtraction modification; and providing for an increase of the maximum limitation amount for certain taxable years by a certain cost-of-living adjustment.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0831 - REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS - COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

Requiring the Department of the Environment to establish building emissions standards for certain commercial and residential buildings; establishing the Building Energy Transition Implementation Task Force to study certain matters and develop a plan for funding the retrofit of certain buildings; and requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to update the Maryland Building Performance Standards.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0835 - RETAIL SERVICE STATIONS – NEW CONSTRUCTION – SETBACKS AND ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS

Establishing certain requirements for approval of construction of a new retail service station on or after October 1, 2022, including a setback requirement and the construction of a certain number of electric charging stations; and requiring approving bodies to adopt regulations to carry out the Act on or before January 1, 2023.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0841 - INCOME TAX - EXPENSING OF BUSINESS PROPERTY - RECOUPLING WITH FEDERAL LAW (MARYLAND MANUFACTURING TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2022)

Repealing Maryland income tax modifications for certain deductions for the cost of business property that is treated as an expense for federal income tax purposes; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0849 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE JOB CREATION INCENTIVES

Prohibiting a certain entity from qualifying for a certain State job creation incentive unless certain positions created or maintained by the entity satisfy certain standards; requiring an entity that receives a State job creation incentive to report certain information on wages, benefits and taxes to the unit of State government that administers the incentive at least once per year; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0852 - CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS - ANNUAL REPORTS - FILING FEES

Altering the filing fees paid by certain business entities to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for certain annual reports filed electronically; eliminating the filing fee paid by certain business entities for certain annual reports; requiring the Department to waive the filing fee for an annual report filed by certain family farms; and applying the Act to annual reports due on or after April 15, 2023.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0854 - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – MARYLAND ALCOHOL MANUFACTURING AND PROMOTION

Repealing the Maryland Wine and Grape Promotion Fund and the Advisory Commission on Maryland Wine and Grape Growing; establishing the Advisory Commission on Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing in the Department of Commerce as the successor to the Advisory Commission on Maryland Wine and Grape Growing; establishing the Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing Promotion Fund to provide grants that promote the advantages and attributes of State breweries, distilleries, and wineries and their products; etc

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0858 - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - CLASS A LICENSES - RETAIL GROCERY ESTABLISHMENTS

Establishing a certain exception to the prohibition against issuing Class A beer or beer and wine licenses for use in conjunction with or on the premises of certain grocery establishments; establishing that a certain prohibition against being issued or using more than one license does not apply to a license issued under the authority of the Act; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0881 - LANDLORD AND TENANT - RESIDENTIAL LEASES AND HOLDOVER TENANCIES - LOCAL JUST CAUSE TERMINATION PROVISIONS

Authorizing a county to adopt by local law or ordinance provisions prohibiting a landlord of residential property from failing to renew a lease or from terminating a holdover tenancy without just cause; and establishing certain requirements for a local law or ordinance adopted in accordance with the Act.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0895 - UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK CAMPUS - STUDENT FEES - ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Prohibiting the University of Maryland, College Park Campus from using more than 12% of revenues derived from student fees for the athletic department in fiscal year 2023; beginning in fiscal year 2024, requiring the University of Maryland, College Park Campus to reduce the percentage of revenues derived from student fees for the athletic department by 0.5% each year; and beginning in fiscal year 2047, prohibiting the University of Maryland, College Park Campus from using any revenue derived from student fees for the athletic department.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0923 - PROPERTY TAX - EXEMPTION FOR DWELLINGS OF SURVIVING SPOUSES OF DISABLED VETERANS - APPLICATION

Altering the application requirements for a certain property tax exemption for a dwelling house owned by the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0934 - GASOLINE-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS - SALE, OFFERING FOR SALE, AND USE - PROHIBITION

Requiring a person that sells or offers for sale a gasoline-powered leaf blower in the State to notify the purchaser or potential purchaser that, beginning January 1, 2025, a person may not use a gasoline-powered leaf blower in the State; prohibiting the sale or offering for sale of gasoline-powered leaf blowers in the State beginning January 1, 2024; and prohibiting the use of gasoline-powered leaf blowers in the State beginning January 1, 2025.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB0966 - HIGHER EDUCATION - ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING EXAMINATIONS - POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Requiring each public institution of higher education, on or before October 1, 2022, to develop and implement policies and procedures for awarding academic credit for prior learning examinations; and requiring each public institution of higher education and the Maryland Higher Education Commission to post the policies and procedures on their websites.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB0985 - EDUCATION - PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS - FINANCIAL LITERACY CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Requiring the State Board of Education to develop curriculum content for a half-semester-long course in financial literacy; requiring each county board of education to implement the financial literacy curriculum content in every public high school in the county; and requiring students to complete a course in financial literacy in order to graduate from a public high school.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1000 - MARYLAND EARN AND LEARN ACT OF 2022 - ESTABLISHMENT

Requiring a professional or occupational licensing board to issue a license to an individual who completes an apprenticeship working with a person licensed in the profession or occupation for which the applicant is seeking licensure, passes a board required examination, and pays applicable fees; authorizing a board to develop a standard apprenticeship program and to set the minimum requirements for an apprentice to obtain licensure; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1060 - RESIDENTIAL OWNERS IN COMMON OWNERSHIP COMMUNITIES BILL OF RIGHTS

Establishing a bill of rights for unit owners of a condominium, members of a cooperative housing corporation, and lot owners of a homeowners association.

POSITION: FYI TO CONDO/HOA/PROPERTY MANAGERS

HB1096 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT PROGRAMS – QUALIFIED POSITION AND QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE – DEFINITIONS

Altering the definition of "qualified position" for purposes of eligibility for and the calculation of benefits under the One Maryland and More Jobs for Marylanders economic development programs; altering the definition of "qualified employee" for purposes of eligibility for and calculation of the credit against the income tax for certain business entities located in an enterprise zone; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB1147 - REAL PROPERTY - COOPERATIVE HOUSING CORPORATIONS, CONDOMINIUMS, AND HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS - VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Requiring a person conducting a meeting of a cooperative housing corporation, condominium, or homeowners association by telephone conference, video conference, or similar electronic means, to provide a participant a reasonable opportunity to participate in the meeting; and requiring certain participants in a meeting of a cooperative housing corporation, condominium, or homeowners association to have equal access to any available chat function.

POSITION: FYI TO CONDO/HOA/COOPERATIVE HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS.

HB1173 - ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT

Providing that multiple thefts committed by the same person in multiple counties under one scheme or continuing course of conduct may be joined and prosecuted in a certain county; providing that certain misdemeanor charges may not be aggregated to constitute a felony; and establishing requirements for a court to make a finding as to whether a theft meets a definition of organized retail theft for purposes of reporting to the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1194 - CONDOMINIUMS - ASSESSMENT LATE FEES AND LIENS - NOTICE AND TIMING

Requiring the council of unit owners of a condominium to provide a certain notice to a unit owner at least 30 days before imposing a lien on a condominium unit; and altering the number of days an assessment or installment must be delinquent before a late fee may be imposed or before a council of unit owners may demand payment of the remaining annual assessment coming due within that fiscal year if a unit owner fails to pay an installment when due.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB1198 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - RETIREMENT INCOME (FAIRNESS IN TAXATION FOR RETIREES ACT)

Including income from certain retirement plans within a certain subtraction modification allowed under the Maryland income tax for certain retirement income.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1203 - LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT - PRIVATE-SECTOR EMPLOYERS - RIGHT TO WORK

Prohibiting a private-sector employer from requiring, as a condition of employment or continued employment, an employee or a prospective employee, under certain circumstances, to join or remain a member of a labor organization, pay charges to a labor organization, or pay a certain amount to a third party; establishing certain penalties for a violation of the Act; and requiring the Attorney General to take steps necessary to ensure effective enforcement of the Act.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1273 - INCOME TAX - CREDIT FOR TRAVEL, HOSPITALITY, AND ENTERTAINMENT

Allowing an individual to claim a credit against the State income tax for certain travel, hospitality, and entertainment expenses paid or incurred in the State by the individual during taxable years 2022 and 2023 under certain circumstances; providing that the credit may not be allowed for certain travel expenses for which the individual claimed a certain federal deduction; requiring the Department of Commerce, on application by an individual, to issue a tax credit certificate in a certain amount; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1278 - PUBLIC SAFETY - INTERJURISDICTIONAL POLICING GRANT PROGRAM

Establishing the Interjurisdictional Policing Grant Program to provide counties with grants to defray costs associated with establishing and supporting interjurisdictional policing agreements; and requiring the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services to administer the Program and establish certain requirements for the Program.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1282 - PROPERTY TAX - AGRICULTURAL USE ASSESSMENT - IMPROVEMENTS

Requiring that certain improvements on land that qualifies for agricultural use assessment be assessed as agricultural property; providing for the retroactive application of the Act; and authorizing the payment of tax refunds under certain circumstances.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1284 - INCOME TAX – CREDIT FOR CYBERSECURITY MEASURES UNDERTAKEN BY SMALL BUSINESSES

Authorizing a credit against the State income tax for a certain small business that employs 50 or fewer employees for costs incurred by the small business during the taxable year for certain cybersecurity measures undertaken by the small business; and making the credit refundable.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1309 - LANDLORD AND TENANT – REPOSSESSION FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENT – PROCEDURES

Authorizing a landlord to repossess property for failure to pay rent in a certain manner under certain circumstances; requiring the landlord to provide a certain notice to a certain tenant in a certain manner; establishing a certain rebuttable presumption; requiring a sheriff to notify the District Court if the sheriff reasonably believes certain notice has not been provided and prohibiting the sheriff from executing the warrant of restitution under certain circumstances; etc.

POSITION: POSITION: OPPOSE

HB1322 - OPERATING BUDGET - CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM AND UNANTICIPATED FEDERAL FUNDS

Requiring the financial forecast that supports the Consolidated Transportation Program to include a reserve of \$35,000,000 for certain changes in certain revenue sources; prohibiting the expenditure of certain money from the federal government by amendment of an appropriation in the fiscal year 2022 or 2023 State budget unless the money is used for certain purposes; and providing that the prohibition does not apply to the amendment of an appropriation if the Board of Public Works makes a certain determination.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1326 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - RENTAL REAL ESTATE ACTIVITIES

Allowing a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for a certain amount of passive activity loss attributable to certain rental real estate activities.

POSITION: FYI TO LANDLORDS

HB1330 - PARTNERSHIP RENTAL HOUSING PROGRAM - MIXED-INCOME HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS (MORE HOMES FOR MARYLANDERS ACT)

Establishing that the Partnership Rental Housing Program operated by the Department of Housing and Community Development include goals with regard to, and conditions that apply to, households of middle income; requiring the Department to prioritize funding for projects that a political subdivision or housing authority agrees to maintain as mixed-income housing development for at least 75 years; and establishing qualifications for initial occupancy for households of lower and middle income under the Program; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1331 - COAL ASH - USE, RECYCLING, AND MANAGEMENT (COAL ASH RECYCLING ACT OF 2022)

Requiring that certain materials used in the State include coal ash as a component of the material; requiring certain offshore wind projects to give preference to certain cement materials beginning on June 1, 2022; requiring all contractors licensed in the State to use and give preference to materials that include coal ash; requiring any person utilizing materials in the State that include coal ash to give preference to certain materials, hire local employees for certain work, and submit certain information; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1345 - SALES OF RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY - OFFERS TO PURCHASE AND TRANSFER TAX

Authorizing a person who offers certain residential real property for sale to a third party, for the first 30 days, to accept only an offer to purchase the property made by certain persons; and altering the rate of the State transfer tax payable for an instrument of writing for a sale of certain residential real property under certain circumstances.

POSITION: OPPOSE

HB1384 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - INDUSTRY 4.0 TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM (MARYLAND MANUFACTURING INNOVATION ACT OF 2022)

Establishing the Industry 4.0 Technology Grant Program in the Department of Commerce to provide grants to small and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises to assist those manufacturers with implementing new Industry 4.0 technology or related infrastructure for certain purposes; and requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$5,000,000 to the Program.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1415 - GRADING AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLANS - AGRICULTURAL LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES - DEFINITION

Defining "agricultural land management practices" as it relates to exemptions from the requirement to develop and adhere to a grading and sediment control plan under certain circumstances.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1416 - CHARLES COUNTY - PROPERTY TAX - CREDIT FOR VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

(Chas. Co. Delegation)

Authorizing the governing body of Charles County to grant, by law, a tax credit against the property tax imposed on the owner-occupied residence of certain emergency responders and their surviving spouses.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1417 - RECORDATION AND TRANSFER TAXES - FIRST-TIME MARYLAND HOME BUYER - PAYMENT AND EXEMPTIONS

Altering the criteria for qualifying as a first-time Maryland home buyer to mean an individual who has not, either individually or jointly, owned or purchased in the last 7 years residential real property in the State that has been the individual's principal residence; and applying the criteria for purposes of payment of and exemptions from recordation and transfer taxes.

POSITION: FYI TO REAL ESTATE AGENTS/BROKERS

HB1423 - CHARLES COUNTY - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - MULTIPLE CLASS B LICENSES

Authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Charles County to allow a person to obtain a direct or indirect interest in, in addition to certain other licenses, not more than a certain number of Class B-H (hotel), Class B-R (restaurant), or Class B-RB (restaurant/bar) on-sale beer, wine, and liquor licenses.

POSITION: SUPPORT

HB1428 - CODE COUNTIES - LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE - NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

(Chas. Co. Delegation)

Altering the notice requirements in code counties for bill hearings and passage of bills.

POSITION: SUPPORT

Senate Bills

SB9 - Procurement - Minority Business Enterprises - Qualification and Certification

Requiring the Board of Public Works to adopt regulations to require the certification of a business as a minority business enterprise without requiring the business to file any additional paperwork other than evidence of certification under the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program and evidence that the business remains certified under the federal program.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB10 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION - COVID-19 OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE PRESUMPTION

Establishing that first responders, public safety employees, and health care workers are presumed to have an occupational disease that is compensable under workers' compensation law after a positive test or diagnosis for COVID-19; and applying the Act retroactively.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB36 - WILLS AND TRUST INSTRUMENTS – ELECTRONIC EXECUTION

Authorizing a person to execute an electronic will or remotely witnessed will without a notary public if the supervising attorney creates a certified will that contains a certain form attached or annexed to the will; prohibiting a supervising attorney from being a witness to an electronic will or remotely witnessed will if the will is executed without a notary public; and authorizing a notary public located in the State to perform a notarial act using communication technology for a remotely located individual for a trust instrument.

POSITION: FYI TO ATTORNEYS AND LAW FIRMS

SB37 – HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – STATE BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY EXAMINERS – REQUIRING LICENSE TO PRACTICE AND OTHER REVISIONS

Requiring the State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners to maintain on the Board's website an electronic roster of individuals registered and licensed to practice massage therapy; phasing out the option for an individual to be registered by the Board to practice massage therapy in a setting that is not a health care setting; altering the educational requirements for licensure or registration as a massage therapist to include 750 contact hours in a certain approved curriculum; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO AFFECTED MEMBERS

SB52 - REAL PROPERTY - SATISFACTION OF A MORTGAGE - REQUIRED HOMEOWNER'S INSURANCE (CASSIDY'S LAW)

Requiring an owner of residential real property in the State that is not subject to a mortgage to maintain homeowner's insurance coverage on the property with liability coverage of at least \$100,000 for bodily or personal injury occurring on the property.

POSITION: FYI TO LANDLORDS

SB72 - MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES INDUSTRY – STUDY

Requiring the Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs to conduct a study of the participation of minority-owned businesses in the alcoholic beverages industry in the State; requiring the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Transportation to provide staff for the study; and requiring the Office to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2023.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB91 - BUSINESS REGULATION - INNKEEPERS - MAINTENANCE OF GUEST RECORDS AND EMPLOYEE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAINING AND POLICY

Requiring an innkeeper to establish and maintain a computerized record-keeping system for guest transactions and receipts; requiring the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services and the Maryland Department of Labor to approve educational training programs for the accurate and prompt identification and reporting of suspected human trafficking; and requiring an innkeeper to take certain actions to provide employees with training on the prevention, identification, and reporting of human trafficking.

Effective Date(s): October 1, 2022

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB93 - TAX CREDITS - EMPLOYMENT OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Altering the amount of a credit against certain State taxes for certain wages paid and certain child care or transportation expenses incurred by certain business entities with respect to qualified employees with disabilities.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB117 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - POLICE AUXILIARIES AND RESERVE

Increasing, from \$5,000 to \$7,000, a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for an individual who is a qualifying police auxiliary or reserve volunteer.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB122 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Increasing, from \$7,000 to \$10,000, the amount of a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain qualifying volunteer fire, rescue, and emergency medical services members beginning in tax year 2023.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB123 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - RETIREMENT INCOME

Including income from an individual retirement account or a certain annuity within a certain subtraction modification for certain retirement income if contributions to the individual retirement account or annuity consist entirely of the tax-free rollover of distributions from an employee retirement system; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB130 - INCOME TAX SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – MILITARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT INCOME

Increasing from \$15,000 to \$20,000 the amount of certain subtraction modifications under the Maryland income tax for individuals who are at least 55 years of age for certain retirement income received as a result of the individual's military service or attributable to the individual's employment as a correctional officer, a law enforcement officer, or a fire, rescue, or emergency services personnel.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB131 - PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – RATE SUSPENSION PROCEEDINGS

Authorizing the Public Service Commission to extend rate suspension proceedings for up to an additional 120 days if the filing is for an alternative form of ratemaking for an electric company, a gas company, an electric and gas company, or a telephone company.

POSITION: FYI TO GENON

SB136 - COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND - CHARLES COUNTY CAMPUS - TRANSITION TO CHARLES COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Establishing the Charles County Community College and the Board of Community College Trustees for Charles County by transitioning the College of Southern Maryland Charles County campus to the Charles County Community College; removing Charles County from certain provisions of law relating to the College of Southern Maryland; exempting the Charles County Community College from certain provisions of law for the 2023-2024 academic year; altering the number of members of the Board of Trustees for the College of Southern Maryland; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB142 - STATE AIRPORTS - COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY - RENTAL VEHICLES AND PEER-TO-PEER CAR SHARING

Establishing certain standards and requirements governing the provision of services and the granting of privileges by the Maryland Aviation Administration with respect to commercial activity undertaken by rental vehicle companies and peer-to-peer car sharing programs at State airports; establishing that the Administration's authority over commercial activity at Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport extends to a commercial zone that is within a 7-mile radius of the main terminal; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB167 - MARYLAND INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION - ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY - PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Authorizing the Maryland Insurance Commissioner to require an insurer that holds a certificate of authority to fulfill the holder's obligations or pay a claim or an amount due instead of, or in addition to, suspending or revoking the certificate; and authorizing the Commissioner, on a finding of a violation of certain provisions of law, to require an insurer, a nonprofit health service plan, or a health maintenance organization to provide a payment that has been improperly denied.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB170 – TITLE INSURANCE – INSURERS AND INSURANCE PRODUCERS – REQUIREMENTS

Altering certain requirements on title insurers relating to the review of underwriting, claims, and escrow practices and policy-issuing processes of title insurance producers appointed by the title insurers; and altering the manner by which title insurance producers are required to send a certain notice to the Maryland Insurance Commissioner and any insurer with whom the title insurance producer holds an appointment.

POSITION: FYI TO ATTORNEYS AND TITLE COMPANIES

SB210 - TAX CREDITS - EMPLOYER-PROVIDED COMMUTER BENEFITS - EXPANSION

Expanding the types of commuter benefits for which a business entity may claim a tax credit to include a certain carpool program, telework program, active transportation program, and multimodal commuter program.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB215 - INCOME TAX – ENERGY STORAGE TAX CREDIT – ALTERATIONS AND EXTENSION

Increasing, from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000, the total amount of tax credit certificates that the Maryland Energy Administration may issue in a taxable year for the costs of installing an energy storage system; authorizing, under certain circumstances, a taxpayer to claim a refund of the credit; and extending, from December 31, 2022, to December 31, 2024, the date by which an energy storage system is required to be installed for purposes of eligibility for the credit.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB246 - ENVIRONMENT - SALT APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM - ESTABLISHMENT

Requiring the Department of the Environment to establish a Salt Applicator Certification Program to encourage efficient winter maintenance of roadways, parking lots, and sidewalks through the use of salt or salt alternatives; requiring each commercial applicator to participate in the Program, be certified on or before October 1, 2024, and maintain a valid certification; and requiring each certified commercial applicator to maintain certain records of each salt application and submit an annual report to the Department.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB254- COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND - VICE PRESIDENT OF EQUITY AND INCLUSION - FUNDING AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Requiring the Vice President of Equity and Inclusion at the College of Southern Maryland to report to the President of Equity and Inclusion and to provide adequate resources to students to prepare for admissions testing; and requiring the Board of Trustees of the College of Southern Maryland to include funding in the annual budget of the College for no fewer than five support staff positions for the Vice President, including a Director of Multicultural Affairs and an Equity and Inclusion Coordinator at each college campus.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB259 - PROCUREMENT - PREVAILING WAGE - APPLICABILITY

Applying the Prevailing Wage Law to a certain contract for the construction of a public work by expanding the definition of "construction" to include services provided under a mechanical systems service contract.

POSITION: FYI TO AFFECTED MEMBERS – HVAC, ELEVATOR/ESCALATOR CONTRACTORS

SB261 - CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS - LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES AND PARTNERSHIPS - OPERATING AGREEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

Authorizing the operating agreement of a limited liability company to provide for the transfer or assignment of an interest in the company to a certain person on the occurrence of certain events regardless of whether the person is a member; authorizing a member of a limited liability company to retain the member's noneconomic interest in the company on assignment of all of the member's economic interest in the company under certain circumstances; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO ATTORNEYS

SB272 - DISCLOSURE OF TAX INFORMATION - FRAUD IDENTIFICATION, PREVENTION, OR RESPONSE

Authorizing, subject to certain limitations, the disclosure of tax information to certain persons or governmental entities authorized by the Comptroller in writing to receive the tax information for the purpose of identifying, preventing, or responding to fraud.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB310 - SMALL, MINORITY, AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES ACCOUNT - LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

Expanding the eligible uses of the Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account to include the provision of grants and the conversion of certain loan amounts into grants in areas declared a local state of emergency; and limiting to \$50,000 the amount of certain grants and loan amounts converted to grants that may be provided to a single business or nonprofit organization.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB314 - INCOME TAX – MECHANICAL INSULATION INSTALLATION TAX CREDIT

Allowing a credit against the State income tax for certain qualified expenses paid or incurred by a taxpayer for the installation of certain mechanical insulation in a certain manner on certain types of property; requiring the taxpayer to obtain a tax credit certificate from the Maryland Energy Administration; prohibiting the Administration from issuing tax credit certificated amounts in the aggregate totaling more than \$5,000,000; applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB320 - MOLD INSPECTIONS AND REMEDIATION - STANDARDS, REPORTING, PENALTIES, AND TAX CREDIT

Requiring the Department of the Environment, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Department of General Services, to adopt certain regulations on or before June 1, 2024, establishing uniform standards for mold assessment and remediation; authorizing a tenant to deposit the tenant's rent in an escrow account under certain circumstances; authorizing a tax credit for taxpayers of certain residential properties who incur mold remediation costs; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB322 - GAS PRICE GOUGING ACT

Altering the information about a certain measurement of certain gasoline that must be stated on a sign on the premises of a retail service station dealer to require that the highest price, or the cash price and the credit price, be stated in a clear and visible manner; and authorizing a certain sign to state the highest price for a certain measurement of certain other motor fuel products.

POSITION: FYI TO GAS STATION OPERATORS

SB334 - ELECTRICITY - STANDARD OFFER SERVICE - RENEWABLE ENERGY

Requiring an electric company to contract for renewable energy credits and electricity generated from certain Tier 1 renewable sources to meet a portion of the renewable energy portfolio standard for the electric company starting in 2023; authorizing an electric company to receive annual remuneration for contracts; authorizing an electric company to account for the purchase of contracts as a regulatory asset, but prohibiting the collection of an additional return on the regulatory asset; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB344 - RETIREMENT TAX REDUCTION ACT OF 2022

Allowing individuals with less than \$100,000 of federal adjusted gross income a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax if the individual is receiving old age or survivor Social Security benefits or is at least 65 years old and not employed full-time; providing that the subtraction modification may not include income that is included under another subtraction modification; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB346 - STATE POLICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM - DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PROGRAM - ALTERATIONS

Increasing the maximum number of years of eligibility service that certain members of the State Police Retirement System may have to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) from 30 to 32; increasing the number of years that certain members of the State Police Retirement System may participate in the DROP from 5 to 7; and authorizing certain individuals, subject to certain limitations and requirements, to elect to extend their participation in the DROP.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB360 - CORPORATE TAX FAIRNESS ACT OF 2022

Requiring that certain sales of tangible personal property be included in the numerator of the sales factor used for apportioning a corporation's income to the State under certain circumstances; requiring certain corporations to compute Maryland taxable income using a certain combined reporting method; authorizing certain corporations, subject to regulations adopted by the Comptroller, to determine certain income using a certain method; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB361 - INCOME TAX - CARRIED INTEREST - ADDITIONAL TAX

Synopsis - Imposing a tax of 17% on the Maryland taxable income attributable to certain investment management services of an individual or a corporation or the distributive share of a pass-through entity; providing that the tax does not apply to investment management services if at least 80% of the specified assets consists of real estate; and terminating the Act if certain federal legislation is enacted into law.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB374 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION - OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE PRESUMPTIONS - 9-1-1 SPECIALISTS

Providing that a 9-1-1 specialist who is diagnosed by a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist with post-traumatic stress disorder is presumed to have an occupational disease that was suffered in the line of duty or course of employment and is compensable under the workers' compensation law.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB378 - TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL FOR SOUTHERN MARYLAND - FUNDING FOR SOUTHERN MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Requiring the Governor to appropriate \$900,000 to the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland from the Cigarette Restitution Fund in fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter; and requiring the funds appropriated under the Act to be used for the purpose of funding the activities of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0418 - ENERGY GENERATION, TRANSMISSION, AND STORAGE PROJECTS – REQUIRED COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT AND LABOR STANDARDS

Requiring the Public Service Commission to condition the approval of a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction of a certain generating station or qualified generator lead line and an exemption from the requirement for a certificate of public convenience and necessity on the requirement that the developer of the project take all reasonable actions to enter into a community benefits agreement and adhere to certain labor standards and reporting requirements; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB424 - REAL ESTATE - REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE SERVICES AND TERMINATION OF RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE CONTRACTS (THE ANTHONY MOORMAN ACT)

Requiring a real estate broker or an escrow agent, if a purchaser terminates a certain transaction under certain circumstances, to distribute trust money to the purchaser within 30 days after a certain written notice of the termination is sent; requiring a holder of trust money who makes a certain distribution to notify the seller and purchaser of the distribution within a certain period of time; establishing that a holder of trust money may not be held liable for a certain decision to distribute the trust money; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO BROKERS & ESCROW AGENTS

SB425 - REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATE BROKERS AND SALESPERSONS - COMPENSATION - PAYMENT FROM TITLE INSURANCE PRODUCER

Authorizing a licensed title insurance producer to pay compensation for the provision of real estate brokerage services to associate real estate brokers, real estate salespersons, or certain business entities on behalf of a real estate broker in accordance with written disbursement authorization provided by the real estate broker.

POSITION: FYI TO BROKERS

SB428 - CONSUMER PROTECTION - AUTOMOTIVE GLASS REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT - ADVANCED DRIVER ASSISTANCE SYSTEM RECALIBRATION

Establishing consumer protections related to the repair or replacement of automotive glass on motor vehicles equipped with an advanced driver assistance system; and prohibiting an insurer from being charged more than a fair and competitive value for the local market for the recalibration of an advanced driver assistance system.

POSITION: FYI TO AUTO GLASS REPAIR COMPANIES, INSURERS

SB433 - LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT - WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS - FEES FOR LEGAL SERVICES

Authorizing the Workers' Compensation Commission, if there is no compensation other than a medical benefit payable to a covered employee, to order that a fee of not more than \$2,000 for legal services rendered on behalf of the covered employee be payable by the covered employee, an employer or its insurer, a self-insured employer, or the Uninsured Employers' Fund; and exempting the ordered fee from the requirement that a fee approved by the Commission be a lien on compensation awarded.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB450 - HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT - DEFINITIONS - EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION TRAINING

Altering the definition of "harassment" for purposes of certain provisions relating to discrimination in employment to include sexual harassment and certain unwelcome and offensive conduct; and altering the definition of "sexual harassment" for purposes of certain provisions relating to State government sexual harassment prevention training.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB453 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – MARYLAND MAKERSPACE INITIATIVE PROGRAM

Establishing the Maryland Makerspace Initiative Program in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to encourage the establishment of makerspaces throughout the State; authorizing the Corporation to partner with a certain entity to provide technical assistance to certain nonprofit entities and to award certain financial assistance to local governments, certain designees of local government, and certain nonprofit entities for the establishment of makerspaces in the State; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB473 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - MARYLAND E-INNOVATION INITIATIVE PROGRAM - QUALIFYING DONATIONS

Altering the minimum threshold for a qualified donation or pledge made to a research endowment of a nonprofit institution of higher education for purposes of the Maryland E-Innovation Initiative Program if the nonprofit institution of higher education has an annual unrestricted current funds budget of less than \$250,000,000.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0494 - MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION - ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY STANDARDS - ALTERATIONS

Altering the application of certain testing, certification, and enforcement requirements for certain efficiency standards; requiring the Maryland Energy Administration to review certain efficiency standards on or before January 1, 2023; prohibiting the sale, offering for sale, and installation of certain products in the State under certain circumstances beginning on a certain date; requiring the Administration to adopt regulations on efficiency standards for certain products on or before January 1, 2023; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB0528 - CLIMATE SOLUTIONS NOW ACT OF 2022

Requiring the State to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions through the use of various measures, including the alteration of statewide greenhouse gas emissions goals, the establishment of a net-zero statewide greenhouse gas emissions goal, the development of certain energy efficiency and electrification requirements for certain buildings, and requiring electric companies to increase their annual incremental gross energy savings through certain programs and services; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB0530 - MARYLAND FAIR SCHEDULING ACT

Requiring an employer who employs individuals in a food service facility or retail establishment to pay certain employees at a certain rate of pay for certain shifts of work, except under certain circumstances; and providing that certain employees employed in a food service facility or retail establishment have the right to decline to work hours that occur during the 11 hours following the end of a shift; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB0536 - INCOME TAX - FILM PRODUCTION ACTIVITY TAX CREDIT - DIGITAL ANIMATION PROJECTS

Expanding eligibility for the credit against the State income tax for certain film production activities to include certain digital animation projects; defining "digital animation project" as the creation, development, and production of computer-generated animation content for distribution or exhibition to the general public; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0552 - ENVIRONMENT - CLIMATE CRISIS PLAN - REQUIREMENT (BETTER TOGETHER TO SAVE OUR WEATHER ACT OF 2022)

Requiring each county to prepare a climate crisis plan to address the effects of climate change in the county; requiring each county to submit its plan to the Department of the Environment for review and feedback on or before June 1, 2023; requiring the Department to provide feedback to each county on or before November 1, 2023; requiring each county to finalize its plan on or before January 1, 2024; and requiring each county to review and update its plan once every 3 years.

POSITION: FYI TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SB0563 - REAL PROPERTY - ACTIONS TO REPOSSESS - JUDGMENT FOR TENANTS AND PROOF OF RENTAL LICENSURE

Authorizing the District Court to find in favor of the tenant and award costs and expenses in an action to repossess residential rental property for a certain breach of lease assertion made in bad faith or without substantial justification; requiring a landlord to submit to the clerk of the court evidence of compliance with certain local rental property licensure requirements and prove in court by a certain evidentiary standard that the landlord is compliant with the licensure requirements; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO LANDLORDS

SB0564 - LANDLORD AND TENANT AND WRONGFUL DETAINER ACTIONS - EVICTION PREVENTION SERVICES

Requiring the court to grant a recess or a continuance in certain landlord and tenant actions and actions for wrongful detainer for certain purposes, including for the purpose of obtaining eviction prevention services.

POSITION: FYI TO LANDLORDS

SB0594 - WINERY AND VINEYARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Establishing the Winery and Vineyard Economic Development Grant Program within the Department of Commerce; authorizing certain individuals and corporations to receive a grant equal to 25% of the qualified capital expenses incurred in connection with establishing new wineries or vineyards or completing capital improvements at existing wineries and vineyards; requiring the Governor each year to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of at least \$1,000,000 to be used for grants under the Program; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0604 - MARYLAND ELECTRICIANS ACT – REVISIONS

Requiring that the State Board of Electricians credit an applicant's work as part of certain apprenticeships for the experience required for certain electrician licenses; requiring the State Board to waive the examination requirements for certain applicants for a journeyman electrician license; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to examine certain memoranda of understanding; requiring the Department to attempt to renegotiate certain memoranda of understanding in certain circumstances; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO ELECTRICIANS

SB0620 - HIGHER EDUCATION – ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS AND TRANSFER PROCEDURES – WORKGROUP STUDY (MARYLAND ARTICULATION AND TRANSFER ACT)

Establishing the Workgroup on Articulation Agreements and Transfer Procedures of Institutions of Higher Education in the State to study obstacles encountered by students transferring between community colleges and four-year institutions of higher education in the State; and requiring the Workgroup to make recommendation to remedy any identified obstacles and report its findings to the Governor and the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House by January 1, 2023.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0622 - INCOME TAX - CREDIT FOR TRAVEL, HOSPITALITY, AND ENTERTAINMENT

Allowing an individual to claim a credit against the State income tax for certain travel, hospitality, and entertainment expenses paid or incurred in the State by the individual during taxable years 2022 and 2023 under certain circumstances; providing that the credit may not be allowed for certain travel expenses for which the individual claimed a certain federal deduction; requiring the Department of Commerce, on application by an individual, to issue a tax credit certificate in a certain amount; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0623 - INCOME TAX - SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION - INCOME OF HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Allowing, for tax years 2021 and 2022, a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for the first \$25,000 of income attributable to an individual's work as a health care worker during the taxable year.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0681 - REAL PROPERTY - RESIDENTIAL LEASES - FEE IN LIEU OF DEPOSIT

Authorizing a landlord to offer the payment of a fee in lieu of a security deposit in a residential lease, subject to certain requirements; requiring a landlord to purchase certain insurance coverage using a fee in lieu of a security deposit; establishing certain procedural requirements for a landlord and an insurer relating to certain insurance claims; authorizing a tenant to dispute certain claims by a landlord; providing that claims by a landlord or an insurer are void under certain circumstances; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO LANDLORDS

SB0685 (ELLIS) - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - MARYLAND STADIUM AUTHORITY - CHARLES COUNTY MULTICULTURAL RECREATIONAL AND AMPHITHEATRE FACILITIES

Authorizing the Maryland Stadium Authority to review certain matters and make certain recommendations relating to the Charles County Multicultural Recreational and Amphitheatre Facilities; authorizing the Authority to acquire and finance by certain means a Charles County Multicultural Recreational and Amphitheatre Facilities site or an interest in the site; and establishing the Charles County Multicultural Recreational and Amphitheatre Facilities Fund as a continuing, nonlapsing fund.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0687 - DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT – ZERO-EMISSION MEDIUM AND HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLES – REGULATIONS (ZERO-EMISSION TRUCK ACT OF 2022)

Requiring the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations on or before December 1, 2022, establishing requirements for the sale of new zero-emission medium and heavy-duty vehicles in the State.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB0723 - SALES AND USE TAX - DIGITAL PRODUCT - DEFINITION

Altering the definition of "digital product" for purposes of the application of the sales and use tax to exclude certain products where the purchaser has a certain property interest and certain types of computer software.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0726 - TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY USER REVENUES – REVENUE AND DISTRIBUTION

Altering, beginning in fiscal year 2020, the amounts of capital grants calculated based on highway user revenues that are required to be appropriated to Baltimore City, counties, and municipalities.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0735 - REPEAL THE NETFLIX TAX ACT OF 2022

Repealing the application of the sales and use tax to certain digital codes and digital products.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0736 - REAL LOCAL TAX RELIEF FOR WORKING FAMILIES ACT OF 2022

Altering the calculation of a certain grant to certain counties under certain circumstances; decreasing, from 2.25% to 1%, the minimum tax rate that a county is required to impose on an individual's Maryland taxable income; and applying the Act to all taxable years Beginning after December 31, 2022.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0741 (JACKSON) - CHARLES COUNTY - BLIGHTED PROPERTY - SPECIAL PROPERTY TAX RATE

Authorizing the governing body of Charles County to set a special property tax rate that is 12.5% greater than the tax rate that is generally applicable to real property for a class of real property that is defined as blighted by local law; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2022.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0753 - LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT - WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - CYBERSECURITY

Establishing the Cybersecurity Workforce Accelerator Program at the University of Maryland Baltimore County to increase the cybersecurity workforce in the State, increase the investment of the State in cybersecurity workforce programs and educational programs at certain institutions, and for other purposes related to the cybersecurity workforce in the State; requiring the Department of Commerce and the Maryland Department of Labor to assist in administering the Accelerator Program as necessary; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0791 - NATURAL RESOURCES - LAND CONSERVATION - ESTABLISHMENT OF GOALS AND PROGRAMS (MARYLAND THE BEAUTIFUL ACT)

Establishing certain goals and programs related to land conservation; establishing the Local Land Trust Revolving Loan Program to provide loans to certain land trusts to purchase land for conservation purposes; establishing a Land Preservation Rapid Response Advisory Committee to review loan applications and make recommendations on which projects to fund; establishing the Local Land Trust Revolving Loan Fund; requiring the Governor to include \$10,000,000 in the fiscal year 2024 budget bill for the Fund; etc.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB0795 - COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – FUNDING

Requiring certain funding to be provided to community colleges in fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter; and requiring certain funding to be provided to private nonprofit institutions of higher education in fiscal year 2024 and in fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0799 - COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUITION AND RESIDENCY WAIVERS - FUNDING

Requiring the Governor, beginning in fiscal year 2024, to include in the annual State budget for the Maryland Higher Education Commission an appropriation of \$10,000,000 to fund State-mandated community college tuition and residency waivers.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0800 - SALES AND USE TAX - ELECTRICITY FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES - EXEMPTION

Exempting from the sales and use tax the sale of electricity used for agricultural purposes under certain circumstances.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0813 - INCOME TAX – CALCULATION OF TAXABLE INCOME – INVESTMENTS IN SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Allowing a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for certain capital gains invested in or realized from a certain sustainable materials management project under certain circumstances; and requiring certain taxpayers to add certain capital gains previously excluded from income to determine Maryland adjusted gross income or Maryland modified income under certain circumstances.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0826 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - MARYLAND WATERMEN'S MICROLOAN PROGRAM - ESTABLISHMENT

Establishing the Maryland Watermen's Microloan Program in the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation to provide loans to qualified commercial fishermen to continue commercial operations in the State; providing, beginning July 1, 2025, that generational watermen, beginner watermen, and seafood processing businesses are eligible to receive loans under the Program; requiring a loan made under the Program to be at least \$7,000 and not more than \$15,000.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0827 - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE - COMPUTATION OF EARNED RATE OF CONTRIBUTION - APPLICABLE TABLE OF RATES

Requiring that the earned rate of contributions for calendar year 2023 be calculated using Table B of the Table of Rates if the Unemployment Insurance Fund balance on September 30, 2022, allows for the earned rate of contributions to be calculated using either Table A or Table B of the Table of Rates.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0845 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION - RURAL BUSINESS INNOVATION INITIATIVE FUND

Establishing the Rural Business Innovation Initiative Fund in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation as a special, nonlapsing fund to provide assistance to start-up and small technology-based businesses in the rural areas of the State; requiring the Governor in fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter, to include \$500,000 in the annual budget bill for the Fund.

POSITION: SUPPORT

SB0853 - MARYLAND REAL PROPERTY TRANSFER-ON-DEATH (TOD) ACT

Altering the Maryland Uniform Disclaimer of Property Interests Act to provide for the disclaimer of nonprobate transfers at death; providing for the creation, revocation, recordation, and effects of a transfer-on-death deed for real property; requiring the Administrative Office of the Courts to develop an informational sheet regarding transfer-on-death deeds for use at courthouses and on the website for the Maryland courts; providing example forms for the creation and revocation of a transfer-on-death deed; etc.

POSITION: FYI TO ATTORNEYS

SB0855 - BUSINESS REGULATION - HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS - DEPOSITS BY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Authorizing a person to receive a deposit for more than one-third of a home improvement contract price before or at the time of the execution of the home improvement contract if the full amount of the deposit is being financed by a financial institution supervised under the Financial Institutions Article.

POSITION: FYI TO HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS

SB0927 - Business Occupations and Professions – Professional Engineers – Examination

Requiring a certain applicant for a license to practice engineering to pass a certain examination in the fundamentals of engineering before passing a certain examination in the principles and practice of engineering.

POSITION: OPPOSE

SB0946 - Transportation - Highway User Revenues - Distribution

Altering the purposes for which certain county transportation bonds may be issued to include providing local participating funds for State-aided transportation projects and to provide for certain local capital improvement projects; altering the amount of revenue credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account that may be used for certain purposes; altering the percentage of highway user revenues required to be distributed to Baltimore City, counties, and municipalities; etc.

POSITION: SUPPORT

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