

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

Legislation Edition: February 2016



Lend your voice to our Legislative process! This newsletter highlights bills currently under consideration by the Howard County Council, the Howard County State Delegation and the Maryland General Assembly. I've provided links to those bills where available.



To promote an engaged citizenry, I encourage you to review this information and submit testimony. For Council bills, testimony can be submitted via email to councilmail@howardcountymd.gov. You may also submit testimony in person during the Council's public hearing, generally held the 3rd Monday of each month. To sign-up in advance to testify, click [here](#).

The 436th session of General Assembly is currently in session and will conclude **April 11, 2016**.

A hearing on Statewide matters is scheduled for **February 11, 2016 at 7:30pm**. Individuals who wish to testify must sign-up the night of the hearing at 7pm. There will be NO advance sign-up and hearing doors will not open until 7pm. For details on legislation passed during the prior General Assembly's session, please contact **Dan Furman** at **410-841-3360** or email hoc1@mlis.state.md.us.

I hope you find this newsletter informative and use this opportunity to become an integral part of our legislative process.

INTRODUCTIONS

All current Council legislation can be found [online](#). All Prefiled legislation can be found online by [clicking here](#).

APPOINTMENTS

[CR12-2016](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Jonathan Bos to the Historic Preservation Commission.

Final Action:

Votes:

[CR13-2016](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Joan Hash to the Human Rights Commission.

Final Action:

Votes:

[CR14-2016](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Peter Hwang to the Human Rights Commission.

Final Action:

Votes:

[CR15-2016](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Stanley Levy to the Board of Social Services.

Final Action:

Votes:

[CR16-2016](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Ivan Montoya to the Alcohol & Drug Abuse Advisory Board.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR17-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Bradley Myers to the Board of Directors of the Howard County Revenue Authority.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR18-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Millicent Nwolisa to the Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR19-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Jason Peay to the Equal Business Opportunity Commission.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR20-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Brandon Robinson to the Public Works Board.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR21-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Matthew Smithson to the Cemetery Preservation Advisory Board.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR22-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment Christopher Tsien of to the Environmental Sustainability Board.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR23-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Michael Willis to the Commission on Aging.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR24-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Bitu Dayoff as a member to the Howard County Local Children’s Board.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR25-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Gwynn Marsh-Armstrong as a student member to the Howard County Local Children’s Board.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR26-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Connie Molter to the Howard County Animal Matters Hearing Board.

Final Action:

Votes:

FINANCIAL

CB6-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving an Assignment of Amended Agreement between Howard County, Maryland, the Central Maryland Regional Transit Corporation and the Center for Transportation and the Environment for an assignment of an amended Consulting Agreement for the Electric Bus Project and ratifying the County’s approval of the Assignment.

Final Action:

Votes:

GENERAL

CB7-2016

Introduced by: Jennifer Terrasa and Calvin Ball

AN ACT authorizing the Howard County Police Department to enforce parking restrictions related to plug-in vehicle recharging stations; and generally related to parking control in Howard County.

Final Action:

Votes:

CB8-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT adopting the National Fire Protection Association 1, Fire Code, 2015 Edition as the Howard County Fire Prevention Code, which sets certain fire safety requirements for structures in order to protect life and property; making certain local amendments to the Fire Code; clarifying the duties of the Department of Fire and Rescue Services; amending certain definitions in the Fire Code; requiring certain registration of fire suppression systems; enhancing requirements for certain bulk tire storage; requiring certain inspections of mobile food vending platforms; requiring certain permits for certain actions taken with certain hazardous materials; providing for certain abatement when approved by the Authority Having Jurisdiction; updating fire lanes designation; and generally relating to fire safety requirements and fire prevention in Howard County.

Final Action:

Votes:

CB9-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT pursuant to Section 1.111(e) of the Howard County Code, approving provisions in a collective bargaining agreement between Howard County and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Howard County Local 1810, Council 67, AFL-CIO that are in conflict with the provisions of Title 1 "Human Resources" of the Howard County Code or the Employee Manual; and providing for the application of this Act.

Final Action:

Votes:

CB10-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT amending the Pay Plan for Howard County; adding steps to the pay scales for members of a certain collective bargaining unit that were recently negotiated in a collective bargaining agreement; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the Pay Plan for Howard County.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR27-2016

Introduced by: Jon Weinstein and Jennifer Terrasa

A RESOLUTION proposing to amend Section 611 "Lapsed Appropriations" of the Howard County Charter and add Section 907 "Citizen Funded Campaigns" to the Howard County Charter; and submitting this amendment to the voters of Howard County for their adoption or rejection in accordance with Article X of the Howard

County Charter and Article XIA of the Maryland Constitution.

Final Action:

Votes:

CR28-2016

Introduced by: Greg Fox at the request of Friends of Haviland Mill Road

A RESOLUTION approving an amendment to the Howard County Inventory of Scenic Roads which adds Haviland Mill Road, a rural, historically significant road to the Inventory.

Final Action:

Votes:

CB11-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT reorganizing the Executive Branch of County Government pursuant to Section 403 of the Howard County Charter; removing the Office of Transportation within the Department of County Administration and transferring that function to the Department of Planning and Zoning; removing certain positions from the list of positions appointed by the Chief Administrative Officer, clarifying certain duties; making certain technical corrections; and generally relating to the Executive Branch of County Government.

Final Action:

Votes:

CB12-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT reorganizing the Executive Branch of County Government pursuant to Section 403 of the Howard County Charter; transferring certain functions currently performed by the Department of Housing and Community Development to the Department of Citizen Services; creating a new Office of Housing and Community Partnerships within the Department of Citizen Services; correcting the positions that are appointed by certain appointing authorities; amending the duties and responsibilities of certain offices; renaming the Department of Citizen Services to be the Department of Community Resources and Services; renaming the Office on Aging to be the Office on Aging and Independence; renaming the Office of Consumer Affairs to be the Office of Consumer Protection; renaming the Office of Children's Services to be the Office of Children and Families; renaming the Commission on Aging to the Commission on Aging and Independence; renaming the Advisory Board on Consumer Affairs to be the Advisory Board on Consumer Protection; providing that certain employees of the Howard County Housing Commission are members of the County Retirement Plan and eligible for

Other Post-Employment Benefits; providing for certain legal representation of the Howard County Housing Commission; making certain technical corrections; and generally relating to the Executive Branch of County Government.

Final Action:

Votes:

FINAL CONSIDERATION

APPOINTMENTS

CR4-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment Kelly Hensing of to the Environmental Sustainability Board.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

CR5-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Martin A. H. Jones, P.H.D. to the Commission on Disability Issues.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

CR6-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Steven A. Joss to the Equal Business Opportunity Commission.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

CR7-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Robin Steele to the Board of Social Services.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

CR8-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Barry Curtis to the Equal Business Opportunity Commission.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

CR9-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Jennifer Facticeau to the Alcohol & Drug Abuse Advisory Board.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

CR10-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment Olivia Farrow of to the Environmental Sustainability Board.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

CR11-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Stephen Rivers to the Commission on Disability Issues.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

FINANCIAL

CB4-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT for the purpose of defining certain terms; establishing a Clean Energy Loan Program for commercial property owners; establishing the scope of and eligibility for the Clean Energy Loan Program; providing for qualifying criteria; establishing a calculation of the clean energy loan surcharge; providing for a recorded agreement and certain notices; providing for the collection of loan payments; establishing default procedures; providing for financing of a loan under the Program; providing for the application of this Ordinance; and generally related to the Clean Energy Loan Program and real property taxes.

Final Action: Passed (4-0-1; Abstain – Greg Fox)

CB5-2016

AN ACT extending the life of the tax credit for high performance buildings until June 30, 2018; providing that applications for the credit received by a certain date will be eligible to receive the credit the full four years of the credit; allowing for credits to be issued until a certain date; and generally related to tax credits for high performance buildings.

Final Action: Passed (4-0-1; Abstain – Greg Fox)

CB52-2015

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive and Cosponsored by Greg Fox

AN ACT amending the existing Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee to include the rates in the Howard County Code; reducing the rates of the fee beginning on July 1, 2016; providing for the application of this Act; providing for the abrogation of certain provisions of the Howard County Code related to the fee, as of July 1, 2017; and generally relating to the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee.

Final Action: Council voted to extend life of bill (5-0); Tabled (5-0)

[CR181-2015](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive and Cosponsored by Greg Fox

A RESOLUTION amending schedules for various charges related to the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee; removing certain fees because they are being transferred to the County Code; providing for an effective date of certain changes; providing for certain changes to be effective in Fiscal Year 2018.

Final Action: Tabled (5-0)

[CR182-2015](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive and Cosponsored by Greg Fox

A RESOLUTION approving a financial assurance plan for funding Howard County's stormwater management program for a two-year period, in accordance with Section 4-202.1 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Final Action: Tabled (5-0)

GENERAL

[CB51-2015](#)

Introduced by the Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT providing that the Design Advisory Panel will provide advice on projects in certain Zoning Districts consistent with the Zoning Regulations; adding that the Panel will review and provide advice for projects that are subject to the Clarksville Pike Streetscape Plan and Design Guidelines; reorganizing the Panel's purpose and applicability sections; removing redundant language; clarifying certain principles of review; making certain technical corrections; and generally related to the Design Advisory Panel in Howard County.

[CB55-2015](#)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Mary Kay Sigaty, Greg Fox

AN ACT establishing the temporary BRX/BR Interim Development Act; temporarily prohibiting applications for proposed rezonings to the BRX and BR zoning districts; finding that such applications, if approved under the current Zoning Regulations, could lead to development incompatible with surrounding residential uses; finding that the potential incompatibility represents a current threat to the public health, safety and welfare; providing that the purposes of this Act are to provide the Department of Planning and Zoning with time to study the deficiencies in the BRX and BR districts, investigate alternatives and make recommendations for improvement and give the County Council time to act on the recommendations; providing that this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect after a certain period; and generally relating to zoning and land use.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

[CR169-2015](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION adopting the Clarksville Pike Streetscape Plan and Design Guidelines which will apply to new development or redevelopment in the Clarksville Pike/Route 108 corridor.

[CR2-2016](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of several Emerson Development LLCs

A RESOLUTION to close a portion of Whiskey Bottom Road, as shown in Exhibits A and B, in accordance with Section 18.204 of the Howard County Code.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

[CR3-2016](#)

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION declaring that a total of approximately 0.010 acres of real property owned by Howard County and identified as a portion of Whiskey Bottom Road is no longer needed for a public purpose and authorizing the County Executive to waive the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code in order to convey the property to the owner of the adjacent property; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to convey the property if he finds that the land may have a further public use.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

[CB1-2016](#)

Introduced by: Calvin Ball, Chairperson

AN ACT amending the Solicitors and Peddlers provisions for Howard County; amending certain limitations on the time of day solicitors and peddlers may operate; and generally relating to solicitors and peddlers.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

[CB2-2016 \(ZRA-156\)](#)

Introduced by the Chairperson at the request of ATAPCO Howard Square I Business Trust

AN ACT amending the Howard County Zoning Regulations' CAC (Corridor Activity Center) Zoning District to allow for the reduction of the commercial space requirement in residential developments, if determined appropriate by the Department of Planning and Zoning; and generally relating to CAC developments.

Final Action: Passed (5-0)

[CB3-2016](#)

Introduced by: Jon Weinstein, Councilmember

AN ACT to prohibit certain vehicles and devices from sidewalks and pathways in a portion of historic Ellicott

City; and generally related to bicycles, play vehicles, and similar devices in Howard County.

Final Action: Passed as amended (5-0)

THE PROCESS

The County Council is responsible for adopting the laws of the County. The legislative process generally follows a monthly cycle:

- 1st Monday - New legislation is introduced; legislation from prior month is given final consideration
- 3rd Monday - Public hearing on legislation introduced that month
- 4th Monday - Legislative work session, if needed
- 1st Monday - New legislation is introduced; legislation from prior month is given final consideration

Council bills must be signed or vetoed by the County Executive within 10 days of the Council's presentation of passed legislation.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, the County Council will hold its meetings in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD. The next meetings are as follows:

- Monday, February 1, 2016 at 7:00 pm; Legislative Session
- Monday, February 8, 2016 at 8:30 am; Monthly Meeting
- Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 7:00 pm; Legislative Public Hearing
- Monday, February 29, 2016 at 4:30 pm; Legislative Work Session

* Please note these dates are subject to change. To access the most up-to-date calendar of meetings, click [here](#).

Can't attend a meeting but still want to stay involved? You can stream the Council's sessions [online](#) and click on the meeting you would like to watch. The Council's sessions are also streamed in real time on this website.



Howard County State Delegation Legislation

The 436th session of General Assembly is currently in session and will conclude **April 11, 2016**.

The Howard County Delegation will hold a Work/Voting session on **Wednesday, February 3rd 2016, at 9:00am** in Room 218 (the Howard County Delegation Room) of the House of Delegates Office Building, 6 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401.

Hearing on Statewide matters is scheduled for **February 11, 2016 at 7:30pm**. Individuals who wish to testify must sign-up on the night of the hearing at 7pm. There will be NO advance sign-up. Hearing doors will not open until 7pm. For details on legislation passed during the prior General Assembly's session, please contact **Dan Furman** at **410-841-3360** or email hoc1@mlis.state.md.us. Full text of most of the proposed Howard County bills can be accessed via the website: <http://howardcountymd.gov/statedelegation.htm>.

The Howard County Delegation of the Maryland General Assembly, chaired by Delegate Shane Pendergrass and Senator Guy Guzzone.

Any individual may speak for up to 3 minutes as long as they are signed up. Signup will begin at 6.45pm in the Banneker room and will close at 7.20pm. Advance sign up is not available. The delegation encourages you to bring written copies of your testimony (preferably 15) to distribute to us, though it is not a requirement to speak.

Creation of a State Debt – Howard County – Vantage House Retirement Community Renovations Ho. Co. 1-16

By: Senator Kasemeyer

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Columbia Vantage House Corporation for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

Creation of a State Debt – Howard County – Environmental Education Center Renovation and Expansion Ho. Co. 2-16

By: Senator Kasemeyer

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Howard County Conservancy, Inc. for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

Creation of a State Debt – Howard County - South Branch Park Ho. Co. 3-16

By: Senator Guzzone (By Request Howard County Administration)

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$100,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

Creation of a State Debt – Howard County - Huntington Park Ho. Co. 4-16

By: Senator Guzzone (By Request Howard County Administration)

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$150,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

Creation of a State Debt – Howard County - Solomon's Lodge #121 Ho. Co. 5-16

By: Senator Guzzone

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$19,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Solomon's Lodge # 121 A.F. & A.M. for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the

encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

Creation of a State Debt – Howard County – Community Action Council Food Bank Facility Ho. Co. 6-16

By: Senator Guzzone

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$300,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Community Action Council of Howard County, Maryland, Inc. for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

Howard County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class D Licenses Ho. Co. 7-16

By: Senator Guzzone

FOR the purpose of making a Class D (on- and off-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license part of certain groups of alcoholic beverages licenses that the Board of License Commissioners for Howard County may issue to an individual or for the use of a partnership, a corporation, or an unincorporated association; making certain technical changes; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Howard County.

Howard County – County Income Tax – Maximum Rate Ho. Co. 8-16

By: Delegate Miller

FOR the purpose of altering the maximum rate for the county income tax that Howard County may set for certain taxable years; repealing obsolete language; and generally relating to the county income tax.

Howard County Public School System – Access to Public Information Ho. Co. 9-16

By: Delegate Miller

FOR the purpose of requiring a certain notice provided by the custodian of a public record for the Howard County Public School System be made in writing under penalty of perjury; requiring the custodian to provide written notice to an applicant regarding the right to file a certain complaint with the State Public Information Act Compliance Board; requiring the custodian, under certain circumstances, to petition the Public Access Ombudsman concerning a request to inspect a public record; providing that the custodian may deny inspection of an intra-agency letter or memorandum only after a declaration by a court under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the Howard County Public School System and access to public information.

Howard County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class D Beer, Wine and Liquor Licenses Ho. Co. 10-16

By: Delegate Lam

For the purpose of requiring an applicant for a certain Class D beer, wine and liquor license to attest to a certain proportion of future food and alcoholic beverages sales based on gross receipts before obtaining the license; requiring an applicant for renewal of a certain Class D beer, wine and liquor license to attest to a certain proportion of food and alcoholic beverages sales based on gross receipts before renewing the license; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Howard County.

Workers' Compensation – Permanent Partial Disability – Howard County Deputy Sheriffs Ho. Co. 11-16

By: Senator Guzzone

FOR the purpose of altering the circumstances under which Howard County deputy sheriffs are eligible for enhanced workers' compensation benefits for certain permanent partial disability claims; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to workers' compensation benefits for Howard County deputy sheriffs.

Howard County Board of Education – Elected School Board Ho. Co. 12-16

By: Delegate Atterbeary

FOR the purpose of requiring that, beginning with a certain election, certain members of the Howard County Board of Education be elected by districts and certain members be elected at large; providing that a member elected to the county board from a certain geographic area but whose district boundaries are subsequently altered may remain as a member of the county board for a certain period; providing that in making an appointment to fill a vacancy on the county board the County Executive of Howard County shall endeavor to ensure that the county board reflects certain characteristics of the county population; providing for the termination of the terms of certain members of the county board; providing for the application of this Act; providing for a delayed effective date; and generally relating to the election of the members of the Howard County Board of Education.

Howard County – Practice of Massage – Regulation Ho. Co. 13-16

By: Delegate Flanagan

FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Howard County to adopt ordinances or regulations relating to the massage establishments and the practices of certain individuals requiring the governing body of Howard County to provide that the Howard County Health Officer and the Howard County Police Department have certain authority to carry out certain

provisions of ordinances or regulations; and generally relating to the practice of massage in Howard County.

Howard County – Alcoholic Beverages – Luxury Restaurants and Farm Breweries - Licenses Ho. Co. 14-16

By: Delegate Miller

FOR the purpose of altering the number of Class BLX (luxury restaurant) (on-sale) beer, wine and liquor licenses the Board of License Commissioners may issue for separate premises to an individual or for the use of a partnership, corporation, or unincorporated association in Howard County; altering the maximum number of Class B beer, wine and liquor licenses the holder of a Class 8 farm brewery license may hold in Howard County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Howard County.



Maryland State General Assembly Legislation

House Bill 0412

Education - Administration of Assessments - Provision of Information

Introduced by: Delegate Kaiser

Requiring each county board of education to provide information relating to each assessment administered in a local school system that includes the title, purpose, grade level tested, subject area, testing window, time to complete, loss of instruction time, and accommodations for students with special needs; requiring this information to be updated annually, posted online, and included in the county board's comprehensive master plan updates; etc.

Status: First Reading Ways and Means

House Bill 0413

Open Meetings Act - Minutes - Video and Audio Streaming

Introduced by: Delegate Carr

Providing that a public body need not prepare written minutes of an open session under the Open Meetings Act if live and archived video streaming is available, the live and archived video streaming is closed-captioned or a written transcript of the video streaming is available on request, and an electronic index that allows an individual to navigate directly to the relevant agenda item or portion

of the meeting accompanies the archived video streaming.

Status: First Reading Health and Government Operations

House Bill 0428

Property Tax - Interest on Refunds

Introduced by: Delegate Sophcleus

Altering the rate of interest at which specified money is required to be refunded to a taxpayer on a final determination of an appeal concerning a county or municipal corporation property tax or taxing district property tax to equal the rate of interest equivalent to the historical rate of return for the county or municipal corporation, as certified by the State Treasurer.

Status: First Reading Ways and Means

House Bill 0429

Task Force to Combat Habitual Student Truancy

Introduced by: Delegate Patterson

Establishing the Task Force to Combat Habitual Student Truancy; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving specified compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding specified matters relating to habitual student truancy; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before July 1, 2017; etc.

Status: First Reading Ways and Means

House Bill 0430

Education - Student Data Privacy Council

Introduced by: Delegate Kaiser

Establishing the Student Data Privacy Council; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Council; prohibiting a member of the Council from receiving specified compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Council to study and make recommendations regarding the development and implementation of the Student Data Privacy Act of 2015; requiring the Council to report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2017.

Status: First Reading Ways and Means

House Bill 0435

Electric Companies - Vegetation Management - Local Law, Rule, Regulation, or Other Action

Introduced by: Delegate Tarlau

Repealing a prohibition against a county or municipal corporation taking specified actions that interfere with, or materially increase costs of, compliance with specified vegetation management standards under specified circumstances; requiring an electric company to attempt to work out a specified agreement with a county or

municipal corporation to mitigate the impact of a local law, rule, regulation, or other action on efforts to comply with specified other vegetation management standards; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m.

House Bill 0436

Vehicle Laws - Speed Monitoring, Work Zone Speed Control, and Traffic Control Signal Monitoring Systems – Repeal

Introduced by: Delegate Miller, W.

Repealing the authority of counties and municipalities in the State to use speed monitoring systems to enforce highway speed laws; repealing the authority to use work zone speed control systems to enforce highway speed laws within work zones; repealing the authority to use traffic control signal monitoring systems to enforce traffic control signal laws; etc.

Status: First Reading Environment and Transportation

House Bill 0442(SB0303)

Counties - Transportation Adequate Public Facility Law - State Highway Intersection

Introduced by: Delegate Bromwell

Prohibiting a county from amending or repealing a transportation adequate public facility law in effect on January 1, 2016; requiring that the level of traffic congestion at a State highway intersection be determined by the State Highway Administration for the purpose of determining whether development is allowed under a county transportation adequate public facility law.

Status: First Reading Environment and Transportation

House Bill 0450 (SB0386)

Tax Credits - Manufacturing Empowerment Zones

Introduced by: Speaker

Establishing the Manufacturing Empowerment Zone Program to encourage business entities engaged in manufacturing outside the State to invest in manufacturing facilities within the State; authorizing the Secretary of Commerce to designate specified areas of the State as manufacturing empowerment zones; authorizing a county or municipal corporation to grant specified property tax credits; authorizing specified business entities to claim a specified credit against the State income tax; etc.

Status: First Reading Ways and Means

House Bill 0464 (SB0376)

Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) Schools Act of 2016

Introduced by: Speaker

Establishing a specified number of Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) schools in the State; requiring the State to provide a specified grant to P-TECH schools beginning in a specified fiscal year for specified costs; providing that the grant may not exceed a

specified amount in specified fiscal years; requiring a county board to pay for dual enrollment costs for P-TECH students; etc.

Status: First Reading Ways and Means and Appropriations

House Bill 0412

Education - Administration of Assessments - Provision of Information

Introduced by: Delegate Kaiser

Requiring each county board of education to provide information relating to each assessment administered in a local school system that includes the title, purpose, grade level tested, subject area, testing window, time to complete, loss of instruction time, and accommodations for students with special needs; requiring this information to be updated annually, posted online, and included in the county board's comprehensive master plan updates; etc.

Status: First Reading Ways and Means

House Bill 0290

Labor and Employment - Apprenticeship Career Training in Our Neighborhoods (ACTION) Program – Establishment

Introduced by: Delegate McCray

Altering and renaming the Construction Apprenticeship Assistance Program to establish the Apprenticeship Career Training in Our Neighborhoods (ACTION) Program; altering the purpose and method for administering the Program; requiring the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to administer the Program; establishing specified standards under which specified employers may be eligible to receive grants; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/02 at 1:00 p.m.

House Bill 0082

Stormwater Management - Assessment of Local Fees, Charges, and Excise Taxes - Leasehold Interests

Introduced by: Delegate Carr

Requiring a leasehold or other limited interest in property that is owned by the federal government, the State, a county, a municipality, or an agency or instrumentality of the federal government, the State, a county, or a municipality to be assessed a specified stormwater remediation fee, a specified stormwater management charge, or a specified stormwater management excise tax by a county or municipality under specified circumstances.

Status: Hearing 2/03 at 1:00 p.m.

House Bill 0090

On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Operation and Maintenance Costs - Low-Income Homeowners

Introduced by: Delegate Lafferty

Requiring the Department of the Environment to assist, with money from the Bay Restoration Fund, low-income homeowners with the cost, up to 50%, of 3-year operation and maintenance contracts for on-site sewage disposal systems that utilize nitrogen removal technology; and requiring the Department or a local government to determine applicant eligibility and the amount of assistance to be provided.

Status: Hearing 2/03 at 1:00 p.m.

House Bill 0108

Capital Budget - Construction Projects - Apprenticeship Requirements

Introduced by: Delegate McCray

Requiring a contractor or subcontractor that performs work on a construction project that receives funding from the State capital budget in the amount of \$100,000 or more to be affiliated with, and to use apprentices from, an apprenticeship program that is registered with the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation or the United States Department of Labor, or requiring the contractor or subcontractor to make specified payments to the State Apprenticeship Training Fund or to specified apprenticeship programs; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/03 at 3:00 p.m.

House Bill 0387

Clean Energy Loan Program - Residential Property - Repayment of Loans Through Surcharge

Introduced by: Delegate Barkley

Authorizing a county or municipality to collect specified loan payments for a loan to specified owners of residential property under the Clean Energy Loan Program, and specified costs, through a surcharge on the property owner's property tax bill; authorizing a private lender to provide capital for a loan provided to a residential property owner under the program; requiring that specified provisions relating to liens apply to the liens created under the Act; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/04 at 1:00 p.m.

House Bill 0085

Education - Children With Disabilities - Support Services - Parental Notification

Introduced by: Delegate Luedtke

Requiring specified school personnel to provide the parents of a child with a disability written information that the parents may use to contact early intervention and special education family support services staff members and a brief description of the available services; requiring specified school personnel to provide a translator at a meeting for parents who require information to be translated into the parents' native language; requiring a

local school system to publish specified contact information on its Web site; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/04 at 2:00 p.m.

House Bill 0086

Special Education - Translations of Individualized Education Programs or Individualized Family Service Plans - Native Language

Introduced by: Delegate Luedtke

Authorizing the parents of a child with a completed individualized education program or a completed individualized family service plan to request the document to be translated into the parents' native language if that language is spoken by more than 1 percent of the student population in the local school system; requiring appropriate school personnel to provide a parent with a translated document within 30 days after the date of the request; and defining specified terms.

Status: Hearing 2/04 at 2:00 p.m.

House Bill 0109

Public Schools - Health and Safety - Food Transparency

Introduced by: Delegate Fennell

Requiring specified local school systems to include specified information relating to items sold a la carte on monthly dining menus; requiring a specified monthly menu to include specified information under specified circumstances; and requiring specified local school systems to create an individual monthly a la carte menu for each school under specified circumstances; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/04 at 2:00 p.m.

House Bill 0115

Education - Robotics Grant Program - Establishment

Introduced by: Delegate Reznik

Establishing the Robotics Grant Program to provide grants to public schools in the State to support and expand existing robotics programs; establishing eligibility requirements for the Program; requiring the Governor to include in the State budget an appropriation of at least \$500,000 to the Program; requiring the State Department of Education to implement and administer the Program; and authorizing the Department to adopt specified regulations.

Status: Hearing 2/04 at 2:00 p.m.

House Bill 0136 (SB0314)

State Government - Financial Education and Capability Commission - Composition

Introduced by: Delegate Stein

Altering the composition of the Financial Education and Capability Commission to include one representative of a nonprofit organization in the State that provides financial assistance and free financial education to State residents for postsecondary education.

Status: Hearing 2/04 at 2:00 p.m.

House Bill 0144 (SB0337)

Libraries - Regional, State, and County - Funding

Introduced by: Delegate Hixson

Altering the calculation of specified funding for each participating regional resource center, the State Library Resource Center, and each county public library system for specified fiscal years.

Status: Hearing 2/04 at 2:00 p.m.

House Bill 0141

Education – Education Accountability Program – Limits on Testing

Introduced by: Delegate Luedtke

Requiring the State Board of Education to adopt regulations limiting the amount of time in the aggregate that may be devoted to federal, State, and locally mandated tests for each grade to 2% of the specified minimum required annual instructional hours; and prohibiting time devoted to teacher-selected classroom quizzes and exams, portfolio reviews, or performance assessments from being counted toward the specified testing time limits.

Status: Hearing 2/11 at 1:00 p.m.

State Bill 0395

Ethics - Local Government - Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure

Introduced by: Senator Conway

Requiring that specified authorized modifications of local conflict of interest and financial disclosure laws and regulations be made in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Ethics Commission and consistent with specified intent; and authorizing rather than requiring a county or municipal corporation to modify specified local financial disclosure laws under specified circumstances.

Status: First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Bill 0395

Ethics - Local Government - Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure

Introduced by: Senator Conway

Requiring that specified authorized modifications of local conflict of interest and financial disclosure laws and regulations be made in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Ethics Commission and consistent with specified intent; and authorizing rather than requiring a county or municipal corporation to modify specified local financial disclosure laws under specified circumstances.

Status: First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Bill 0395**Ethics - Local Government - Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure**

Introduced by: Senator Conway

Requiring that specified authorized modifications of local conflict of interest and financial disclosure laws and regulations be made in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Ethics Commission and consistent with specified intent; and authorizing rather than requiring a county or municipal corporation to modify specified local financial disclosure laws under specified circumstances.

Status: First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Bill 0395**Ethics - Local Government - Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure**

Introduced by: Senator Conway

Requiring that specified authorized modifications of local conflict of interest and financial disclosure laws and regulations be made in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Ethics Commission and consistent with specified intent; and authorizing rather than requiring a county or municipal corporation to modify specified local financial disclosure laws under specified circumstances.

Status: First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Bill 0395**Ethics - Local Government - Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure**

Introduced by: Senator Conway

Requiring that specified authorized modifications of local conflict of interest and financial disclosure laws and regulations be made in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Ethics Commission and consistent with specified intent; and authorizing rather than requiring a county or municipal corporation to modify specified local financial disclosure laws under specified circumstances.

Status: First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Bill 0406**Public Safety - Maryland Freestate Challenge Academy – Funding**

Introduced by: Senator Guzzone

Requiring the Governor to appropriate general funds to the Maryland Freestate Challenge Academy in an amount equal to 25% of a specified target per pupil foundation amount for specified cadets beginning in fiscal year 2018; requiring a county board of education to reimburse a specified fund a specified amount for specified cadets; requiring the Comptroller, in consultation with the Military Department and the State

Department of Education, to establish a specified process; etc.

Status: First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Bill 0166 (HB0243)**Land Use Actions - Legislative Bodies - Judicial Review**

Introduced by: Senator Conway

Authorizing a specified person, who has been aggrieved by a land use decision, who is a taxpayer, or is an officer or unit of a local jurisdiction, to file a request for judicial review by a circuit court of a land use action of a legislative body; specifying persons that have standing to bring and maintain a specified action in a circuit court to allow judicial review of a land use action of a legislative body; and applying a provision of law to a charter county and to Baltimore City.

Status: Hearing 2/02 at 1:00 p.m.

State Bill 0182**Public Safety - Rental Dwelling Units - Carbon Monoxide Alarms**

Introduced by: Senator Mathias

Altering specified requirements relating to carbon monoxide alarms as the requirements apply to rental dwelling units; requiring specified rental dwelling units, on or after April 1, 2018, to have a specified carbon monoxide alarm installed in a specified manner, subject to a specified exception; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/02 at 1:00 p.m.

State Bill 0183**School Vehicles - Seat Belts – Requirements**

Introduced by: Senator Brochin

Prohibiting specified persons from allowing pupils to stand in a school vehicle while the school vehicle is in motion; requiring school vehicles in the State to be equipped with seat belts; prohibiting a person from operating a specified school vehicle unless the person and each occupant under 16 years old are restrained by a seat belt; providing for a delayed effective date; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/02 at 1:00 p.m.

State Bill 0407 (HB0141)**Education - Education Accountability Program - Limits on Testing**

Introduced by: Senator Manno

Requiring the State Board of Education to adopt regulations limiting the amount of time in the aggregate that may be devoted to federal, State, and locally mandated tests for each grade to 2% of the specified minimum required annual instructional hours; and prohibiting time devoted to teacher-selected classroom quizzes and exams, portfolio reviews, or performance assessments from being counted toward the specified testing time limits.

Status: First Reading Budget and Taxation

State Bill 0410

Distillery License Holders - Sale of Product to Participants in Guided Tours

Introduced by: Senator Ferguson

Repealing a specified provision of law that limits a distillery license holder selling product and related merchandise to an individual on a guided tour only if the license holder manufactures not more than 27,500 gallons of products annually.

Status: First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Bill 0057 (HB0031)

Community Cleanup and Greening Act of 2016

Introduced by: Senator Ramirez

Prohibiting a store from distributing plastic disposable carryout bags free of charge to a customer at the point of sale; requiring a store to charge and collect a 10-cent fee for each paper disposable carryout bag the store provides to a customer; authorizing the store to pay a customer a credit of at least 5 cents for each bag provided by the customer; requiring a store to remit to the Comptroller the money retained by the store for specified purposes; establishing a maximum penalty of \$100 for a violation of the Act; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/02 at 1:00 p.m.

State Bill 0155

Public Bodies - Use and Retention of E-Mail – Requirements

Introduced by: Senator Reilly

Prohibiting an employee of a public body from creating or maintaining government e-mail by using a personal e-mail account; requiring an employee of a public body, under specified circumstances, to forward government e-mail to the official e-mail account of the employee within 5 days after the government e-mail is received; requiring each public body to retain government e-mail for a minimum of 7 years or, under specified circumstances, permanently; requiring the State Archivist to adopt specified regulations; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/03 at 1:00 p.m.

State Bill 0224 (HB 0039)

Education - Orange Ribbon for Healthy School Hours – Establishment

Introduced by: Senator Simonaire

Establishing the Orange Ribbon for Healthy School Hours certification within the State Department of Education beginning in the 2017-2018 school year; providing that the purpose of the Orange Ribbon for Healthy School Hours certification is to recognize local school systems that create, implement, and enforce school start times that are consistent with the school start times recommended by the Department, the Department

of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the American Academy of Pediatrics; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/03 at 1:00 p.m.

State Bill 0267

Public Schools - Voluntary Nonsectarian Prayer at School-Sponsored Student Events

Introduced by: Senator Salling

Requiring specified county boards of education to allow nonsectarian student-initiated voluntary prayer during mandatory and voluntary school-sponsored student events; providing that the Act does not diminish specified rights of specified individuals relating to free speech and the free exercise of religion; providing that the exercise of specified rights may not be construed as a specified support, approval, or sanction of the contents of a specified prayer; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/03 at 1:00 p.m.

State Bill 0269

Education - Public School Holidays - Veterans' Day

Introduced by: Senator Salling

Requiring Veterans' Day to be a public school holiday.

Status: Hearing 2/03 at 1:00 p.m.

State Bill 0002

Real-Time Transparency Act of 2016

Introduced by: Senator Young

Requiring a political committee to file a contribution report within 48 hours after receiving a single contribution, transfer, or loan of \$1,000 or more during the year of an election in which the political committee is participating; requiring contribution reports to include specified information; providing that contribution reports filed by a political committee are in addition to specified other reports filed by a political committee; providing for a \$10 fee for each day or part of a day a contribution report is overdue; etc.

Status: Hearing 2/04 at 3:00 p.m.

State Bill 0261 (HB 0225)

Election Law - Write-in Candidates

Introduced by: Senator Kelley

Providing that a candidate who is defeated for the nomination for a public office in a primary election is not eligible to file a certificate of candidacy as a write-in candidate for that office at the next succeeding general election; and providing that a candidate who is defeated for the nomination for a public office at a primary election may not be a write-in candidate for that office at the next succeeding general election.

Status: Hearing 2/04 at 3:00 p.m.

State Bill 190 (HB 150)

Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2017)

Introduced by: The President and the Speaker

AN ACT for the purpose of making the proposed appropriations contained in the State 4 Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, in accordance with Article III, 5 Section 52 of the Maryland Constitution; and generally relating to appropriations 6 and budgetary provisions made pursuant to that section.

Status: First Reading Budget and Taxation

State Bill 191 (HB151)

Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2016, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015

Introduced by: The President

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$1,002,385,000, the proceeds to be used for specified necessary building, construction, demolition, planning, renovation, conversion, replacement, and capital equipment purchases of the State, for acquiring specified real estate in connection therewith, and for grants to specified subdivisions and other organizations for specified development and improvement purposes, subject to specified requirements; etc.

Status: First Reading Budget and Taxation

I encourage our residents to stay tuned in if these topics are of interest to you. As always, I hope you have found this information insightful, and I encourage you to share this newsletter with your neighbors.

All the best,



Dr. Calvin Ball
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"Changing the world is up to us. If each of us tries, the next generation may see a happier, more peaceful world emerge." ~ Dalai Lama