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THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DELEGATION

**Montgomery County Delegation 2013 Session
Member Accomplishments**

Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

Senator Jamie Raskin (District 20), Chair, Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

- Was floor leader and a lead sponsor of **SB276, the legislation that abolished the death penalty** in Maryland after centuries of use, which included racial disparities and arbitrary enforcement, the hanging of a witch on the Eastern Shore, no effective penal deterrence, and the placement of innocent people on Death Row, such as Kirk Bloodsworth, the first person convicted of murder and exonerated by DNA evidence in American history.
- **Co-sponsored the Firearm Safety Act of 2013, SB281, one of the strongest pieces of gun safety legislation in America.** The final package included **several stand-alone bills I offered, including:** a ban on the purchase of military-style assault weapons, limit on magazines to 10 rounds of ammunition, and a requirement that people notify law enforcement within 72 hours of discovering that one of their firearms is lost or stolen.
- Introduced the **Mortgage Assistance Relief Act, SB383, which empowers our Commissioner of Financial Regulation, our Attorney General, and other state law enforcement officials to crack down on the continuing scams perpetrated against Marylander homeowners who are under water and other consumers struggling with debt.**
- Introduced **Protecting Medical Marijuana Caregivers, SB580, which establishes that carefully defined medical "caregivers"--people who have no criminal record and are assisting very ill people to use medical marijuana--may avail themselves of a criminal defense if they are criminally prosecuted for handling the drug.**
- Introduced the **Food Allergy Awareness Act, SB390, which will require restaurants to display a poster explaining food allergies and ingredients to their employees so they can better handle questions from customers who have food allergies and establishes a task force to study how to handle food allergies in food service facilities.**

Senator Nancy J. King (District 39), Vice-Chair, Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

- Senator Nancy J. King was the Senate sponsor of two bills which will protect our children. Senate Bill 413 will require informal providers and any adult residing in the home to be fingerprinted for state and federal criminal background checks and Senate Bill 415 will require a cross-check between the sex offender registry and the child care database. These bills will ensure that children are in safe settings and align the requirements with those currently in place for licensed care facilities.

- Protecting and preserving affordable housing in Maryland has been a priority for Senator King for the eleven years she has been in the legislature. This year she sponsored Senate Bill 730 which reduces the amount of recordation and transfer taxes that must be paid when the controlling interest of a Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program property is transferred. This will allow nonprofits and others to continue to operate the properties as much needed affordable housing units.
- Senator King also sponsored bills which will encourage redevelopment, help grow the biotechnology industry, promote job growth, and one that will help expedite the restoration of critical services after a declared emergency. Finally, Senator King sponsored successful legislation that will help foster care children pursue higher education and legislation that will establish a Traumatic Brain Injury Trust fund.

Senator Jennie M. Forehand (District 17):

- Reducing death and traumatic injury in vehicle crashes, especially for teens, by requiring all rear-seat passengers to wear seat belts or face a fine. (SB87)
- Allowing the MVA to show consideration for a widow or widower by eliminating the \$100 fee to retitle their jointly-owned vehicle. (SB25)
- Significantly cutting costs and improving voter turnout for local governments who must stage special elections by allowing them to utilize *vote by mail*. (SB171)

Senator Brian E. Frosh (District 16):

- As Chair of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, led the effort to pass comprehensive gun violence legislation and the repeal of the death penalty.
- Sponsored a bill that removes a major obstacle to mortgage refinancing. It prevents secondary lien holders from using their priority position to prevent homeowners from refinancing their original mortgage. This will allow underwater property owners greater access to refinancing, allowing them to lower their monthly payments and get themselves back on sound financial footing.
- Sponsored two bills that will increase financial assistance to the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, helping MLSC ensure that low-income people continue to have access to the justice system.
- Introduced a bill that bans the possession of shark fins in Maryland. Though shark finning is already outlawed in U.S. waters, illegally harvested shark fins are still brought to Maryland from elsewhere. This small step will help save a species critical to the ecosystems of our oceans and the Chesapeake Bay.

Senator Rob Garagiola (District 15):

- **Further Facilitated Electric Vehicle Integration.** Successfully sponsored an initiative (SB 600) to extend the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council through June 2015, extend the ability for qualified plug-in EVs to use Maryland's HOV lanes until 2017, and expands the definition of plug-in EV to include conventional automobiles that have been converted to an EV.
- **Promoted Smoother Transition from Welfare to Work.** SB 686 creates an Earned Income Disregard (EID) Pilot Program. A family on temporary cash assistance that begins to work is barely – if at all – better off than if they did not work. The majority return to welfare in the first year. The step-down EID process helps families settle into their jobs, meet up-front work expenses, and pay any past-due bills that may have accrued when they were not working.

- **Provided Scholarship Funding for Maryland's firefighters.** SB 365 establishes a scholarship fund for Maryland's career and volunteer firefighters and ambulance and rescue squad members.
- **Championed Transportation Funding Package.** Sponsored legislation in 2010 (SB 299) that established the Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding, and began a multi-year campaign to enact a transportation funding package. As a result, HB 1515-13 will replenish Maryland's transportation fund that is rapidly running out of money for highway construction and long-planned mass-transit projects.

Senator Richard Madaleno (District 18):

- **Investment in Education:** As Chairman of the Education, Business, and Administration Subcommittee, Senator Madaleno assisted in securing record investments in our public education system. Over \$6 billion is earmarked for Maryland's #1 ranked public school system, \$300 million for public school construction and renovation, and over \$1.3 billion is committed to higher education funding. Additionally, \$25 million is secured for public school security upgrades and a new Center for School Safety operated under Maryland State Police.
- **Gender-Identity Anti-discrimination:** As a champion of equal rights and lead sponsor of the *Fairness for All Marylanders Act*, Senator Madaleno let the fight to secure passage of legislation prohibiting discrimination against transgender Marylanders. Having laid the groundwork for this historic legislation, he is hopeful that the General Assembly will vote to secure basic civil rights for transgender persons in the 2014 Legislative Session.
- **Budget:** As a member of the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee, Senator Madaleno pushed for a balanced approach in crafting Maryland's comprehensive budget package. The operating budget as passed protects essential state services, maintains Maryland's AAA bond rating, and virtually eliminates the structural deficit. The capital budget invests over \$1.5 billion in funding for higher education, public safety, the environment and school construction.
- **College and Career Readiness:** Working together, Senator Madaleno and Delegate Kaiser secured passage of legislation solidifying Maryland's reputation as a national leader in higher education readiness and completion. The *College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act of 2013* establishes a cutting edge framework promoting student completion of higher education degree programs, strengthening institutional accountability of student performance and ensuring workforce readiness.

Senator Roger Manno (District 19):

- **CIVIL RIGHTS TAX RELIEF ACT (SB639/HB1169):** This important civil rights legislation, introduced by Delegate Tom Hucker and I, allows litigants in civil rights cases to collect non-economic damages for harm they suffered from being discriminated against or otherwise denied their civil rights.
- **MARYLAND PESTICIDE REPORTING AND INFORMATION WORKGROUP (SB675):** A key environmental priority for 2013, SB675 creates a workgroup to study and make recommendations regarding the establishment of a pesticide use database for the State of Maryland.
- **ADVANCE DIRECTIVE REGISTRY (SB790):** This legislation requires the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to establish an Advance Directive Registry, setting forth the medical wishes of patients who are incapacitated, by October 1, 2014.

- **SECURITY CLEARANCE TAX CREDIT – EXPANSION (SB482):** Expands the Security Clearance Tax Credit, which I authored in 2012, in order to increase the number of high-paying, highly-tech jobs through the federal procurement process. The 2013 expansion covers locations of sensitive facilities in the State.

Senator Karen S. Montgomery (District 14):

- **SB 42- State Government - Commemorative Days - Maryland Emancipation Day:** This bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim November 1 as Maryland Emancipation Day in recognition of the emancipation of the slaves in the State. On November 1, 1864, Maryland adopted a new constitution that abolished slavery, making it the first state with slaves to voluntarily free its slaves by popular vote. Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 had only freed slaves in rebel states, of which Maryland was not one.
- **SB 512- Health Care Practitioners - Identification Badge:** This bill requires a health care practitioner to wear a badge or other form of identification when providing health care to a patient. The badge or other form of identification must display the health care practitioner's name and the title or role of the health care practitioner to avoid confusion for the patient and insure that trained and licensed persons will be providing healthcare.
- **SB 690- Maryland Board of Physicians - Failure to Renew a License or Misrepresentation as a Licensed Person – Penalties:** This bill establishes that a person who misrepresents to the public that the person is authorized to practice medicine or a licensee who fails to renew a license is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to a fine of up to \$10,000 and/or imprisonment for up to five years and subject to a civil fine.
- A number of matching grants were awarded to local organizations. We have successfully secured funding for all our bond bills this session. Those receiving funds are: Falling Green at OBGC Park, Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Station, Olney Theatre Center and West Fairland Local Park. In addition, local groups including Sandy Spring Museum, Our House Youth Home and Odd Fellows Hall received extensions on prior grants.

Montgomery County House Delegation:

Delegate Anne R. Kaiser (District 14), Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation:

- As chair of the Montgomery County Delegation in the House of Delegates, I worked with Senate Delegation Chair Jamie Raskin and County Executive Ike Leggett and my colleagues from Montgomery County to secure much needed state funding for transportation projects thereby meeting our #1 goal of our delegation. Revenue generated by a phased-in increase to the gas tax will move us closer to the implementation of projects such as the Purple Line, the Corridor Cities Transitway and improvements to our Ride On bus services as well as to road projects such as the Watkins Mill Interchange.
- As chair of the Ways and Means influential subcommittee on Education, I shepherded more than 20 of the state's top education priorities through the legislative process. I was proud to be prime sponsor of three bills that will be signed into law: 1) a bill to enhance the state's Longitudinal Data System; 2) legislation to create a task force to examine how we can better create post-secondary educational opportunities for the developmentally disabled; and 3) the College and Career Readiness and Completion Act of 2013, which will prepare students for college and help more college students graduate with a degree appropriate for our workforce needs.

- As a proud progressive, I enthusiastically voted in favor of, and advocated for, the top two social issues of the legislative session: 1) Ending the death penalty: It is costly, racially biased, and has no place in a civilized society. 2) Strengthening our gun laws: The steps to license and fingerprint all new handgun purchases, will reduce the odds of handguns being purchased illegally and decrease the number of illegal guns on our streets over time.
- Along with my colleagues from District 14, I worked to ensure over \$13 million in school construction funds. Additionally, we secured an unprecedented \$475,000 for local projects at the Olney Theatre, West Fairland Local Park, the Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Station and the Olney Boys and Girls Club.

Delegate Susan C. Lee (District 16), Vice-Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation:

- **Cyber Security & Medical Records Identity Theft:** As Maryland Cyber Security Innovation & Excellence Commission Co- Chair & House Lead Sponsor, passed law to protect our citizens' medical records against a myriad of identity theft HB 942/SB 624; and helped pass Maryland's first government agencies Data Breach law to protect our citizens' personal information and notify them when there is a breach SB 676/HB 959
- **Telemedicine Task Force and Telemedicine Medicaid:** House Lead sponsor of two laws to move forward Maryland Telemedicine Task Force to develop policies & laws to yield the full benefits of Telemedicine, which has a proven track record of saving lives, improving outcomes and cutting costs HB 934/SB776; and law to reimburse emergency heart attack & stroke care via telemedicine in underserved communities SB 496/ HB 931
- **Human Trafficking:** Lead sponsor of law passed to ban defendants from using mistake of a minor's age in a human trafficking case to effectively deter and prosecute this 21st century form of human slavery and sexual exploitation HB 933
- **Wasserman Residence:** House Lead sponsor of bill to obtain state funding for essential renovations and updates for the Wasserman Residence, home to elderly residents HB 939/SB 402; **Growlers:** House Lead sponsor of law passed to enable Montgomery County residents to purchase a wide array of local beers in reusable, environmentally friendly "Growlers" HB 649

Delegate Sam Arora (District 19):

- **Mortgage Refinance Streamlining to Become Law:** The General Assembly passed Delegate Arora's HB 88 to streamline the refinance process of many mortgages, which will help thousands of Maryland homeowners save money and avoid foreclosure. Many homeowners have been trapped in higher rates because second-mortgage lenders often delay the refinance process for first mortgages. This bill streamlines the process and helps homeowners stay in their homes.
- **Protection from Financial Abuse through Government Processes:** A frightening movement of anti-government extremists calling themselves "sovereign citizens" has exploited legal processes to financially abuse Marylanders. The passage of HB 941, sponsored by Delegate Arora and Senator Raskin, will protect Marylanders from fraudulent liens being placed on their property and destroying their credit.
- **Protecting First Responders:** A measure to prohibit the shining of laser pointers at pilots of aircraft in flight (a bizarre but growing phenomenon that often targets police and MedEvac helicopters and

temporarily blinds and disorients pilots), sponsored by Delegate Sam Arora and Senator J.B. Jennings, will become law with the strong support of law enforcement and labor.

Delegate Charles Barkley (District 39):

- **STRIDE Gas Companies – Rate Regulation – Infrastructure Replacement Surcharge.** The Senate cross-file of HB 89 (SB 8) passed. This bill will enable gas companies to accelerate the replacement of aging distribution pipelines.
- **HB 978 Alcoholic Beverages – Winery Off-Site Permit and Wine Festival Permit.** This bill establishes a winery off-site permit and a wine festival permit and establishes a \$100 fee for each.
- **HB 674 Montgomery County – Board of Education – Compensation.** This bill increases the annual salaries of Montgomery County Board of Education members for the first time in ten years.

Delegate Kumar P. Barve (District 17):

HB 380 Income Tax – Joint Returns – Married Couples:

- This legislation recognizes Maryland’s same-sex marriage for the purpose of State income tax filing by allowing these married couples to file as joint or married filing separate.

HB 386 Tax Credit – Qualified Research and Development Expenses – Credit Amounts and Small Business Refund

- Increases the research and development credit and makes the credit refundable for small businesses.

HB 1017 Income Tax Credit – Wineries and Vineyards

- This legislation encourages the development of Maryland wineries and vineyards by establishing a tax credit of 25% of capital expenses to a Maryland winery or vineyard.

Delegate Bonnie Cullison (District 19):

- HB 1062—Hospitals - Notice to Patients - Outpatient Status and Billing Implications requires hospitals to inform patients who are in a hospital overnight if they are considered an “inpatient” or “outpatient”. This status is important since there is different insurance coverage for each status. This requirement will help patients to understand their subsequent bills and related services.
- HB 0963—Jean B. Cryor Memorial Scholarship Program will provide funding for the surviving children and spouse of educators who are killed while working in a Maryland school. We learned from the Newtown massacre how far educators will go to protect their students and this program is recognition of that willingness to sacrifice themselves under these horrific circumstances.
- HB 1356/SB 512 Health Care Practitioners—Identification Badge requires that any health care professional in a doctor’s office, urgent care center or ambulatory care center should be wearing a badge or something which tells their name and position. It will provide greater information to patients and help to build relationships that are important in making health care decisions.
- As the Board of Physicians has updated its regulations and procedures, several statutory changes were required. Delegate Cullison worked with the Board to pass several bills that will facilitate the hiring of good physicians from outside Maryland, the standards for consulting physicians and improvements in the investigations of complaints.

Delegate Kathleen M. Dumais (District 15):

Vice Chair, Judiciary Committee

- **HB 713 – Seizure and Forfeiture – Property Used in Human Trafficking** – allows law enforcement to seize certain property upon the arrest of individuals for human trafficking crimes and for the forfeiture of the property upon conviction for the crime. Over 75 members of the House co-sponsored this bill with me to ensure passage this year. Law enforcement, and particularly Detective Stack from Montgomery County, testified that this is perhaps the best tool to undermine the profits behind this crime and stop the exploitation of children and adults for profit...*Status: Awaiting the governor's signature.*
- **HB 563 – Adoption – Payment of Expenses** – current law provided little flexibility for adoption agencies to meet short-term or emergency needs of birth mothers. As a result, birth mothers were turning to the internet and facilitators in other States for services and these facilitators were not always constrained by licensing regulations. This bill allows adoption agencies in Maryland to provide Maryland women who are in crisis with reasonable expenses for food, clothing, and shelter or transportation for medical purposes. ...*Status: Awaiting the governor's signature*
- **HB 687 – Commission on Child Custody Decision Making** – establishes a commission to study and make recommendations on the practice, principles, and process for courts making child custody decisions in Maryland, with the goal of establishing a protocol for initial child custody orders and the modification of such orders that are more uniform, fair and equitable and that maximize the involvement of both parents in a child's life, as appropriate...*Status: Awaiting the governor's signature.*
- **HB 838/SB640 – Maryland Legal Services Corporation Fund (MLSC) – Surcharges – Repeal of Termination Date & HB 1303/SB 809 – Maryland Legal Services Corporation Fund (MLSC) – Abandoned Property Funds** – these bills provide for continued funding for MLSC, which provides grants for the provision of legal services to low-income Marylanders. Most of Maryland's legal services providers, including domestic violence clinics and Legal Aide, receive a large portion of their funding from MLSC. HB838/SB640 repeals the termination date on circuit and district court filing fees, and summary ejectment cases surcharges. ...*Status: Governor O'Malley signed it on April 9.* HB 1303/SB 809 – requires the Maryland Comptroller to distribute \$1.5 million from abandoned property funds to MLSC annually, providing it with an increased, more stable source of funding. ...*Status: Awaiting the governor's signature.*

Delegate Brian J. Feldman (District 15):

Parliamentarian

- Gained passage of a bill which allows Marylanders to vote on a Constitutional Amendment in November, 2014 that would create a "lockbox" to protect the Transportation Trust Fund from being used for non-transportation purposes;
- Introduced and gained passage of five (5) bills that update, clarify and modernize our laws in several important areas ranging from the bio-tech industry to corporate governance. These updates will allow Maryland businesses to compete more effectively with businesses located in other states;
- Introduced and gained passage of consumer protection legislation providing additional enforcement authority in combating fraud in the mortgage relief area;
- Successfully collaborated with Delegate Sam Arora on legislation that will assist Marylanders in refinancing their homes and with Delegate Tom Hucker on a bill which requires all public swimming pools to own an automated external defibrillator (AED) and to train their employees to use it.

Delegate C. William Frick (District 16):

- Lead Sponsor of legislation (**HB 1213**) designed to streamline and improve state government operations.
- Lead Sponsor of legislation (**HB 1212**) to give consumers protection from abuse through unexpected charges levied through fraudulent marketing schemes.
- Co-sponsored important legislation to combat human trafficking in our State.
- As Chairman of the Revenues Sub Committee of the Ways and Means Committee, led the passage of legislation to give seniors and retired military personnel partial relief from state income taxes.
- Together with District 16 colleagues, helped secure bond money for the Wasserman Residence Phase 2 Renovations, part of the Charles E. Smith Communities.

Delegate Jim Gilchrist (District 17):

- This session, to update last year's towing law, the General Assembly passed my legislation to protect consumers from paying unneeded mailing costs if their vehicle is picked up within 48 hours.
- Updated the Maryland Condominium Act to allow contract negotiations to be discussed in a closed meeting. The provisions for closed meetings will now be the same for both Condominiums and Home Owners Associations.

Delegate Ana Sol Gutiérrez (District 18):

- Two of my gun control proposals were incorporated into the Governor's Firearm Safety Act, SB 281. My bill, HB 107, reduces the maximum capacity for firearms from 20 to 10 rounds. My second bill, HB 1092, requires reporting of a lost or stolen fire arm to a local law enforcement agency within 72 hours.
- My bill, HB 911, proposed extending the current validity of driver's licenses for undocumented immigrants who were grandfathered in 2009 for one 8-yr renewal term. This extension is incorporated into the broader MD Highway Safety Act, SB 715, granting access to licenses to all MD residents regardless of immigration status.
- My bill, HB 928, proposing free tuition for low-income, dual-enrollment high school students is incorporated into the College Readiness and Completion Act, SB740. HS students who are not old enough to apply for federal deferred action benefits will now qualify for in-state tuition at local colleges regardless of immigration status.
- I was happy to co-sponsor over 90 progressive legislative proposals, some of which were approved after a long, 10-years wait, e.g., repeal of the death penalty, gun control, access to medical marijuana, new transportation funding, expanded voting sites/days, access to driver's licenses regardless of immigration status, among others.

Delegate Sheila E. Hixson (District 20):**Chair, Ways and Means Committee**

- Education has been one of Sheila Hixson's main focuses for the past 37 years and this session was no exception. Her bills concerning education this year were: HB 964 which removes the cap of the grant for English for speakers of other languages programs at community colleges, HB 983 which studies

public schools emergency management plans, HB 1131 which creates a taskforce to establish a Maryland Educators Service Memorial, HB 1168 which studies ways to recruit minority teachers in the state, HB 1176 which guarantees that online courses will be accessible to students with disabilities especially those that are blind. She also introduced HB 667 which requires each local board of education and the employee organizations to negotiate on a fee to be charged to employees of the public schools that are not members of these employee organizations.

- Being the Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, Sheila is very interested in issues that face businesses and consumers throughout Maryland. This year her bills that dealt with this issue include: HB 1190 which separates the personal property tax rate from the inventory tax rate or the real property tax rate and also sets the personal property tax rate at no more than 2.5 times the county real property tax rate, HB 1236 which changes the tax transfers of controlling interest in low income housing projects based on the actual amount paid for the property instead of the value of the real estate, and HB 1513 removes the requirement for out-of-state workers to file Maryland income tax returns if they are working in the state to restore infrastructure for 60 days or less after the end of the declared state disaster or emergency.
- Sheila also sponsored HB 9 which establishes a task force to study the best way for food establishments in Maryland to become food allergy aware for their customers. It also requires that a poster be on display in the staff area of the food establishment relating to food allergy awareness that includes information regarding the risk of an allergic reaction.

Delegate Tom Hucker (District 20):

- Connor's Law - Connor's Law is named after a Crofton boy named Connor Freed who needlessly drowned in a public pool because lifeguards were not trained on how to use the Automated External Defibrillator on premises. Connor's Law requires every public swimming pool to have an (AED) to save the lives of drowning victims. In addition, each facility must develop an AED training program for its staff.
- Pregnant Worker Protection Act - In Maryland, pregnant workers can be fired just for asking for simple on the job accommodations such as needing to carry a water bottle, or sit on a stool. This bill makes it illegal for employers to fire them for asking, and sets conditions that the employer and employee can explore to keep the worker on the job.
- Insurance Bundling Ban – In other states, insurance companies are threatening homeowners to purchase car insurance, or their homeowner's insurance won't be renewed - putting mortgages at risk. This legislation ensures that insurance companies will never be able to strong-arm Marylanders into buying insurance they don't want or need.
- Civil Rights Tax Relief Act – Victims of employment discrimination or sexual harassment can suffer emotional stress for years. If they finally win damages to make them whole, those damages shouldn't be taxed as if they were wages. This bill will now help make victims of discrimination whole by removing the tax on awarded damages in legal cases.

Delegate Ariana Kelly (District 16):

- As lead sponsor, passed two mental health parity bills **HB1216** and **HB1252**. One provides consumers with greater access to information about their rights under the Federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, and helps them obtain documents to enforce those rights.

- Introduced legislation **HB 1331** which would have provided six weeks of unpaid leave for the birth or adoption of a child to workers in businesses too small to be covered by the Family Medical Leave Act.
- Worked with the Autism Technical Advisory group established by my legislation last year to come up with the appropriate manner in which to cover children with Autism Spectrum Disorder within the Department of Mental Health and Hygiene.

Delegate Aruna Miller (District 15):

- As a bi-partisan effort, I introduced a bill to increase the maximum speed limit in Maryland from 65 mph to 70 mph as well to increase the Inter-County Connector (ICC) from 55 mph to 70 mph. The ICC speed limit was increased to 60 mph and the Maryland General Assembly approved raising the maximum speed limit in the State from 65 to 70mph.
- House Bill 136 requires Maryland to establish a statewide telework policy with a goal of 15% of eligible employees to telecommute from home or elsewhere. Telework can have substantial economic, environmental and quality of life benefits for Maryland. It can save taxpayers money, reduce our carbon footprint, and improve employee retention.
- House Bill 1462 establishes a Task Force to investigate starting Maryland Public Schools after 8am. Schools that have switched to later start times consistently see less tardiness, reduced absenteeism, improved grades, increased graduation rates, improved behavior and can also help close the unacceptable high achievement gap in our state. While the bill passed the House unanimously, it failed to reach a floor vote in the Senate.
- Out of 181 nations, 4 do not provide paid maternity leave; Lesotho, Papua New Guinea, Swaziland and the United States. In an effort to modernize women's workplace disadvantages, and to support family values in the work place, I introduced HB1335 to provide six weeks paid maternity leave whereby participating employers would receive an income subtraction modification. While it did not pass in committee, I will reintroduce this bill in the 2014 session.

Delegate Heather Mizeur (District 20):

- **Main Street Employer Tax Rebate (HB1158):** Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and a personal property tax rebate would put more money in the hands of these proven job creators. Businesses with 25 or fewer employees would pay their personal property taxes and then apply to a new special state fund for a rebate. Revenue in the rebate fund would be generated by changing the way corporate income tax is assessed in Maryland – requiring out of state companies to use combined reporting when calculating corporate income. By requiring combined reporting to fund this rebate, this bill would bring a measure of fairness to the business tax code while keeping business revenue in the business community.
- **Modernizing Maryland composting regulations (HB 1440):** Maryland households generate 650 pounds of compostable materials every year. Instead of contributing to landfills, many families and businesses are willing to compost. Delegate Mizeur championed legislation that created the composting-specific regulations that will lead Maryland into the budding commercial composting industry.
- **Strengthening wage protections for trades workers (HB1283):** Maryland's prevailing wage law is designed to ensure trades workers receive an honest wage for a day's work. Unfortunately, a lack of resources at the state Department of Licensing, Labor, and Regulation (DLLR) has prevented the agency from properly enforcing the prevailing wage law, even though Maryland public works projects have

nearly doubled since 2008. Introduced and championed by Delegate Mizeur, the Prevailing Wage Enforcement Act would have required any penalties collected due to prevailing wage infractions to be committed to DLLR to improve oversight and enforcement (rather than the funds being dedicated to the state's General Fund).

Delegate Kirill Reznik (District 39):

- **HB 585 - Subcontractor's Equal Access to Bonding Act of 2013** will guarantee that small business subcontractors have their surety bonds accepted by prime and general contractors on State procurement projects. This is a great step in helping to remove artificial barriers keeping small businesses from participating in State projects.
- **HB 1009 - Cosmetic Surgical Facilities - Regulation.** After recent, tragic events in which cosmetic procedures were performed at unlicensed and unregulated facilities, I sponsored this bill to ensure that all facilities in the state that offer any kind of cosmetic surgical procedure, be regulated by the Secretary of Health and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. This will promote patient safety and ensure that no facility in Maryland is offering procedures it has not been approved to perform.

Delegate Jeff Waldstreicher (District 18):

- As Chair of the Estates and Trusts Subcommittee, Delegate Waldstreicher sponsored and passed three bills (House Bills 857, 858, 859) to reduce bureaucracy and make estate planning easier for middle-class families.
- An outspoken advocate for our District 18 municipalities, Delegate Waldstreicher authored a bill to allow towns to post legal notices on a town website instead of in a newspaper. The high cost of newspaper ads is a huge financial burden for small municipalities. The House will study the proposal in-depth this summer with the intent to adopt the proposal in 2014.
- As the House of Delegates' appointee to the Task Force on Prisoner Reentry, Delegate Waldstreicher led the charge on significant reforms to reduce recidivism, promote public safety, and save taxpayer dollars.
- A longtime advocate for the safety of Maryland's children, Delegate Waldstreicher was a leader in the effort to pass common-sense gun safety measures. These reforms will save lives by removing deadly assault weapons from our communities and increasing treatment for the mentally ill, while protecting 2nd amendment rights for law-abiding citizens.

Delegate Craig Zucker (District 14):

- House Bill 1119- Sponsored legislation that creates a pilot internship program for youth in the foster-care system. As youth age out of the foster-care system, they are left without a solid support system. The goal of this internship program is to provide these youth with the training and experience that will prepare them for future employment, schooling, and successful careers.
- House Bill 1297- Protects foster youth against identity theft with the passage of the Foster Youth Credit Security Freeze. Foster youth are particularly vulnerable to having their identities stolen. Close to ten percent of foster youth are victims of identity theft. This legislation will protect more than 7,000 foster youth throughout the State of Maryland

- House Bill 1315- Was a lead sponsor of the Maryland Jobs Development Act of 2013, which provides a tool to help track the State's economic development projects throughout the state. This bill helps sustain local small businesses.
- As a member of the Capital Budget Subcommittee on the House Appropriations Committee, I worked with the rest of the District 14 team to secure funding for several community initiatives, including the Olney Boys and Girls Club, the Laytonsville Volunteer Fire Department, the Olney Theatre Center, and West Fairland Park.

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