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THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DELEGATION

**Montgomery County Delegation 2016 Session
Member Accomplishments**

Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

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

- Senator Nancy J. King was the lead Senate sponsor of legislation to dedicate an additional \$20 million annually in public school construction funding to school systems that have grown more than 150% of the statewide average enrollment growth over the past five years. This \$20 million dollars is on top of the \$20 million that Senator King was successful in securing last year and is in addition to current Capital funds. Montgomery County is one of five school systems that qualify for these additional funds.
- Maryland has been at the forefront in prekindergarten education programs in our country and as such, was awarded \$15 million under the federal Preschool Development Grant Program. Senator King sponsored legislation that requires the Governor to honor the state's commitment of future matching funds when it applied for the grant and prevent the loss of federal funds. Thousands of Maryland four-year-olds will benefit from the enactment of this legislation.
- Illegal child care poses serious threats to the health, safety, and development of young children. Between 2010 and 2014, at least 13 children died in illegal child care programs in Maryland, and over that same period, the number of illegal care complaints increased. Senator King sponsored legislation to address the problem in part by requiring a public awareness campaign to help educate parents and requiring providers to list their license numbers in advertisements to help parents differentiate between legal and illegal providers.
- Along with several other initiatives, including legislation that creates a Commission to study public school funding, Senator King was successful in restoring capital funding for the Universities at Shady Grove Biomedical Sciences and Engineering Education facility which had been removed in the Governor's Capital Budget. And in concert with her colleagues, Senator King worked tirelessly to ensure that the Watkins Mill Road Interchange project which had been stalled by the Dept. of Transportation, will once again move forward.

Senator Roger Manno (District 19), Vice-Chair, Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

- **Sustainable Oyster Harvest Act of 2016 (SB937/HB1603):** This important legislation requires a comprehensive scientific study by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES) to determine sustainable oyster management strategies for Chesapeake Bay recovery.

- **Veterans Employment (SB245/HB306):** This legislation enables private employers, under the 1964 Civil Rights Act, to establish a specific hiring preference for honorably discharged Veterans and their spouses.
- **Maryland Clean Energy Incentive Act of 2016 (SB946/HB1145):** This legislation extends the successful clean energy credit program, and for the first time, eliminates coal from the list of renewable energy sources.
- **Other Work:** I was also pleased to partner with my House colleagues to pass important voter registration / modernizing legislation (HB1007/SB11), landmark victims' rights reforms of the state and local tort claims act (SB934/HB637, SB935/HB636), campaign finance reforms (SB408/HB241), and End-of-Life decisions / awareness legislation (SB442/HB91).

Senator Brian Feldman (District 15):

- Introduced and gained passage of **Alex and Calvin's Law** which increases the potential penalties for adults who host underage drinking parties. This bill received strong bipartisan support in both chambers.
- Introduced and gained passage of one of the most significant pieces of legislation for the disability community. The **Achieving A Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act** allows individuals with disabilities and their relatives to set up and fund tax-deferred accounts, similar to a 529 College Savings Plans account, without negatively impacting eligibility for Social Security and Medicaid. Family members contributing to this account may also deduct deposits on their Maryland income tax return. Funds from the accounts may be used to pay for employment training as well as education, transportation and medical expenses. It is estimated that more than 50,000 Marylanders will be eligible to open up ABLE accounts. This legislation passed through the House and Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support.
- As one of two primary sponsors for the **Maryland Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2016**, I worked with environmental advocates to gain passage of this priority environmental bill which will increase the amount of clean, renewable electricity available to Maryland consumers. This bill not only will reduce climate-disrupting emissions but will create thousands of new jobs for the State's growing Clean Energy Sector.
- Introduced and gained passage of the **Forfeiture of Benefits** bill which makes our six constitutional officers (the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, Treasurer and Secretary of State) ineligible to receive pension benefits if they are found guilty of a felony related to their official duties.

Senator Susan C. Lee (District 16):

- **Pay Equity:** As Lead Sponsor, I spearheaded passage of the **Equal Pay for Equal Work law (SB 481)**, which bans wage differentials based on sex or gender and eliminates other discriminatory policies, promotes transparency by allowing employees to inquire to employers regarding wage information without fear of retaliation or firing, bans employer defenses based on sex or gender instead of merit or qualifications or practicing the method of "Mommy Tracking," and ensures a workplace that promotes openness and fairness.
- **Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Fund:** With the surge in online sexual predation and the targeting of children, combined with the large backlog of uninvestigated cases, I was Lead Sponsor of "**Alicia's Law**" (SB 864), which creates a \$2 million fund to enable law enforcement to increase staff, training, and technical and digital forensics capabilities vital to investigating and rescuing abducted children and to promote the capture and prosecution of these sexual predators.

- **Domestic Violence legislation:** I was Lead Sponsor on the bill to strengthen Maryland's **Stalking Law (SB 278)** to include abusive, relentless, and terrifying conduct that causes foreseeable or intentional emotional harm to a victim's health and well-being. I also led passage of the law to repeal the ban on a perjurer testifying as a witness in court, preventing injustices in domestic violence or rape cases where the perjurer is the only witness to a crime – and prevents the result of a perpetrator being immune from prosecution (**SB 150**).
- I was also proud to be the Lead Sponsor on laws that served to: expand **Extortion law** to include the disclosure of undocumented immigration status to protect labor/human trafficking victims from forced labor or sexual servitude (**SB 178**); create a **Task Force to Study Shielding Addresses for victims of domestic violence (SB 1047)**; restore a **Victim's restitution rights (SB 178)**; **Ban Dogfighting Implements (SB283)**; make consistent **Juvenile Services Employee appeals (SB 439)**; update Maryland's **Trust laws (SB 451, SB 570, and SB 571)**; extend the **Safe Harbor Workgroup study for Youth Victims of human trafficking (SB 863)**; and obtain funding for the **Friendship Heights Village Center & Jewish Community Center (SB 438 & SB 975)**.

Senator Richard Madaleno (District 18):

- **Food Security**— Sen. Madaleno continued his leadership on fighting hunger in our communities. This session he authored and passed legislation (SB758) to double monthly food stamp benefits for seniors from \$16 to \$30. Building upon his successful efforts last year to expand access to free meals in schools, he introduced two bills (SB755 & SB756) to help more students gain access to free and healthy meals at school.
- **Helping Local Governments-** Sen. Madaleno passed legislation (SB766) to restructure the repayment schedule for local governments of local income tax refunds made out of a state reserve account to smooth out the impact of the recent US Supreme Court decision in the Wynne case. This action has already allowed County Executive Ike Leggett to reduce his proposed property tax increase by 46%.
- **Fighting Income Inequality** – Mirroring a proposal by President Barack Obama with broad bipartisan support in Congress, Sen. Madaleno introduced legislation (SB294) to expand Maryland's Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). This initiative would have expanded this benefit to younger workers and workers without dependents. This policy change passed both chambers by wide margins but failed to gain final approval, as it got folded into a more controversial plan to cut taxes for the wealthiest taxpayers and large corporations.
- **Preventing Gun Violence** – Sen. Madaleno introduced legislation (SB906) to ban firearms on Maryland's college campuses. Guns contribute to a shocking number of deaths and injuries on college campuses mainly from suicides and crimes of passion. While the cross-filed version of this bill passed the House, it failed to get a final vote on the Senate floor as the session ended. Sen. Madaleno will not stop fighting to help end gun violence in Maryland.

Senator Craig J. Zucker (District 14):

- SB 355, the ABLE Act, allows individuals with disabilities and their families to set up special savings accounts to help fund future expenses, including medical care, education, housing, and assistive technology for that individual. The legislation helps ensure that individuals with disabilities have access to the resources they need to be successful and do not have to live in poverty while obtaining it.

- SB 785, the Foster Youth Summer Internship Program, makes permanent an internship program for foster youth established in 2013. This program provides valuable work experience for foster youth throughout Maryland, and has already had a positive impact for participants.
- SB 931 prohibits the collection of a fee for a homeless individual to obtain a copy of their birth certificate. While the fee to obtain a birth certificate is not large, it is a nearly insurmountable burden for a homeless individual, and birth certificates are required for everything from employment verification, to enrolling in Medicaid, to placement in public housing.
- Supporting Community Initiatives: I worked with Delegate Anne Kaiser, Delegate Eric Luedtke, and Delegate Pam Queen this session to secure funding for important community projects, including \$40,000 for the Sandy Spring Museum, \$50,000 for Our House Youth Home, \$75,000 for the Maydale Nature Center, \$75,000 for the Olney Theatre Center, and \$200,000 for Damascus High School.

Montgomery County House Delegation:

Delegate Shane Robinson (District 39), Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation:

- As Chair of the House Delegation, Delegate Robinson focused his session on Montgomery County priorities with an emphasis on capital projects and economic development for the county. Among other things, Montgomery County was able to secure funding for the Universities at Shady Grove Building IV, the Purple Line was approved, and worked with the Governor to ensure that the Watkins Mill Interchange will move forward.
- Delegate Robinson reorganized the House Delegation committees and added a committee focused on education. This will help the delegation to better address education issues which are critically important to the county.
- As a member of the Environment and Transportation Committee, Robinson co-sponsored important environmental legislation, including the limiting of neonicotinoid use to protect bees, new standards for greenhouse gas emission, and improved renewable energy portfolio standards.

Delegate Kirill Reznik (District 39), Vice-Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation, Chair, Health and Human Resources Subcommittee

This session Delegate Reznik passed several bills benefiting the county and state, including:

- **Foster Youth Summer Internship Program:** establishes permanent programming and funding for an existing internship program that benefits foster youth around the state. The funding for the program was set to expire, but the passage of my bill guarantees future funding.
- **Tax Sales - Condominium Assessments and Homeowners Association Fees** provides clarity regarding who is responsible for the payment of specified assessments or fees incurred after the foreclosure of properties in association with condominiums and homeowners associations.
- **Robotics Grant Program- Establishment** creates a grants program through the Maryland State Department of Education to fund robotics programming in public Maryland schools and non-profits associated with public schools. \$250,000 was approved to establish the grants program. Existing qualifying robotics clubs and those wishing to establish clubs can apply for grant funding starting in FY 2018.

- **Criminal Law-Gaming-Home Games** allows for small stakes gaming to occur in private residences and senior living communities. Reasonable restrictions around home games, such as a pot limit of \$1000, the prohibition of raking, and the prohibition of entrance fees, are included in the legislation to promote safe and friendly games.

Delegate Charles Barkley (District 39):

- **HB 1076 (MC19-16) Montgomery County - Alcoholic Beverages - Sports Stadium License**
HB 1076 will create a new class of alcoholic beverage license for a sports stadium located in Montgomery County. It will be called a Special Class B Beer and Wine Sports Stadium License. The license will allow the holder to sell beer and wine to persons of legal age, to purchase and consume beer and wine at the stadium during a professional sports event or other event held at the stadium.
- **HB 1064 (MC18-16) Montgomery County - Sale of Alcoholic Beverages - Distance From Places of Worship, Schools, and Youth Centers**
 Like in past years, the Montgomery County Delegation had several bills dealing with distance requirements. As amended by the Delegation, **HB 1064** simply removes distance requirements in statute. Instead, it will be up to the Board of Alcohol commissioners to deal with the issue.
- **HB 1029 (MC 17-16) Montgomery County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class BD-BWL License - Hours of Sale**
HB 1029 is a cleanup bill to original Class BD-BWL license approved last year. It changes the hours of operation to bring them in line with the hours of operations for other Class B licenses. It also allows a licensee with multiple Class B licenses to have one Class BD-BWL license. Finally, it allows the Board of License Commissioners to issue a caterer's license to a holder of Class BD-BWL license just like other Class B licenses.

Delegate Kumar P. Barve (District 17), Chair, Environment & Transportation Committee:

- Author of legislation to cut Maryland's greenhouse gas emissions 40% by 2030, one of the strongest in the country – the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Reauthorization Act* increases the state's goals to reduce carbon pollution.
- Sponsored bill to ban the Confederate flag emblem from state license plates, ensuring it cannot be used in the future.
- As Chairman of the House Environment & Transportation Committee oversaw the development and passage of key legislation including:
 - The bill to protect our bees - the *Pollinator Protection Act* makes Maryland the first state in the country to ban retail sale of neonics – a compound harmful to bees; and
 - the state's first comprehensive scientific survey of our oyster population creating a baseline for future conservation - the *Sustainable Oyster Population Fisheries Act*.

Delegate Al Carr (District 18):

- As a legislator who is committed to open government, Delegate Carr worked with Common Cause Maryland to promote the passage of bills to improve public access to information about state government. One successfully passed bill (House Bill 413) will pilot the closed captioning of recorded General Assembly standing committee bill hearings, which begins in 2017. The other bill that passed in the House (House Bill 726) resulted in an agreement with the State Ethics Commission to improve the accessibility of

their web site.

- As chair of the Metropolitan Washington Committee of the Montgomery County Delegation, Delegate Carr oversaw the vetting of many bills that affect Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, which is the public water and sewer utility that serves Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. The General Assembly passed his bill (House Bill 1129) which will expand the pool of Montgomery County citizens that are eligible to serve as WSSC commissioners.
- As a legislator who has been named an "Outstanding Friend of Municipal Government" multiple times by the Maryland Municipal League, Delegate Carr successfully championed the passage of legislation (House Bill 1024) that clarified the authority of municipalities in Montgomery County to regulate structures.

Delegate Bonnie Cullison (District 19):

- **Designation of Lay Caregiver** (HB1277)—requires hospital staff to work with the family member or friend who will be taking care of someone upon discharge from the hospital to make sure that they have the information they need to support a speedy recovery.
- **Maryland Medical Assistance Program—Former Foster Care Adolescents—Dental Care** (HB 511)—provides for a program in which youngsters who age out of foster care at 21 have access to dental care until 26 years of age like their age level peers who had the advantage of growing up in an intact family.
- **State Government - Administrative Procedure Act - Contested Cases - Judicial Review** (SB 942/HB 1495)—requires that when a state employee is disciplined, they must be given clear information about the reasons for the discipline and for the specific penalty and that this information can be considered in an appeal.
- **State Board of Massage Therapy Examiner** (HB 1420)—sets up an independent board under the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to regulate and monitor massage therapists and practitioners as massage therapy becomes a bigger part of the treatments for health issues.

Delegate Kathleen M. Dumais (District 15), Vice Chair, Judiciary Committee:

Delegate Dumais' accomplishments include measures that:

- **Enhance the stalking statute to include serious emotional distress.** Stalking is prohibited in Maryland. This measure broadens stalking prohibitions to include causing serious emotional distress. Currently, a threat of physical harm is required. Psychological assault, however, can be as damaging as physical assault. House Bill 155 prohibits behavior that reasonably would be expected to cause a victim serious emotional distress.
- **Eliminate the requirement that a third party corroborate the testimony of a party seeking divorce.** HB 274 makes it no longer necessary for a sworn witness in a divorce proceeding to attest to personal matters that the witness in reality cannot be certain of, such as whether the divorcing couple spent the night together during the separation period.
- **Combat illegal child care.** Between 2010 and 2014, at least 13 children died in illegal child care programs, and the number of illegal care complaints increased from 265 to 330. HB 329 aims to reduce illegal child care. It expands educational outreach, authorizes the assistance of law enforcement in

assuring compliance, increases fines and civil penalties for registration and licensure violations, and alters penalties regarding improper advertisement of child care.

- **Assure that licensing boards know when a licensed professional fails to report child abuse or neglect.** HB 245 requires agencies investigating a claim of child abuse or neglect to file a complaint with a licensing board when the agency has substantial grounds to believe that a teacher, police officer, or health care provider knowingly failed to report alleged abuse or neglect. This assures adequate professional oversight and that reporting laws are understood.

Delegate David V. Fraser-Hidalgo (District 15):

- **Increased Fines and Penalties for Providing Alcohol to Minors – Alex and Calvin’s Law**
I was the primary sponsor of this bill which had almost unanimous co-sponsor support from the Montgomery County Delegation. As passed, the bill increases the fines and introduces the possibility of jail time under certain circumstances for a person convicted of knowingly and willfully allowing an individual under the age of 21 years to possess or consume an alcoholic beverage at a residence.
- **Agriculture Industrial Hemp** – I sponsored this bill which authorizes the Department of Agriculture or an institution of higher education to grow or cultivate industrial hemp. Introducing production in Maryland would be a significant economic advantage as a growth industry for agriculture and will put Maryland at the forefront of growing, refining and potentially manufacturing hemp-based products, a multi-million-dollar industry.
- **Interest Rate on Tax Deficiencies** – This legislation will reduce the interest rate on State tax deficiencies and refunds. Beginning in FY 2017, the interest rate will be reduced according to a prescribed schedule from the current 13% until it reaches 9% in 2023. This will allow Maryland to recoup reasonable interest on money owed, give relief to struggling small businesses and individuals, and bring it into closer alignment with surrounding states, whose numbers are an average 6%.

Delegate C. William Frick (District 16), Parliamentarian:

- Lead sponsor of the Maryland Small Business Retirement Savings Program and Trust. This legislation creates an employer-sponsored retirement savings program for over one million Maryland workers who are without access to an employer-sponsored retirement account.
- Lead sponsor of legislation to enhance the state’s renewable energy portfolio by increasing the requirement for renewables to 25% by 2020 thus expanding our state’s green energy job sector. This 25% target will rank Maryland sixth nationally in clean energy use.
- Secured bond money for the JCC to renovate a playground designed to be accessible and inclusive for all children regardless of their ability or disability.
- Lead sponsor of legislation to end the monopoly of our county’s Department of Liquor Control. The bill would have enabled private wholesalers to sell beer, wine and spirits directly to small businesses and restaurants, if approved by Montgomery County voters at referendum.

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

- I passed legislation with Senator King that dedicates an additional \$40 million in funding for public school construction in school systems that have significant enrollment growth or a significant number of relocatable classrooms. Montgomery County falls into both of these categories, and will receive millions of dollars in funding.

- I passed legislation that helps individuals with disabilities who own businesses become more competitive in securing contracts with the State. The number of businesses owned by individuals with disabilities have increased significantly in recent years, and that will now be reflected in contracts awarded by the State.
- The Ways and Means Committee, which I chair, passed legislation aimed to benefit all citizens of Maryland. We passed bills that innovated education, increased college affordability, and modernized voting procedures including expanding voter registration. We also passed legislation that allows Montgomery County to establish a student loan refinancing authority.

Delegate Anne R. Kaiser (District 14), Majority Leader:

- As majority leader I help shape the public debate on key legislative issues. This session, our successes have included: providing record funding for K-12 education; making our transportation funding system more transparent; reforming our criminal justice system through the justice reinvestment act; tackling the gender pay gap; restoring voting rights of ex-felons; and protecting the environment and our bay.
- As Chair of the influential education subcommittee I have helped to shepherd legislation to make college an affordable reality for middle class Marylanders (Next Generation Scholars), to spur innovation in our nation-leading schools (P-TECH) and to expand college scholarships for our neediest students (College Affordability Act).
- I introduced 5 statewide bills and 2 local bills I expect the Governor to sign into law: 1) establish a funding commission to reexamine state financing of education; 2) study whether the state should refinance student loans; 3) require school systems to proactively notify parents of their right to mediation in special education settings; 4) require school systems to provide data on the number of tests by grade and by class; 5) improve education for those with dyslexia; 6) allow the student member to have greater voting rights on the Board of Education; and 7) study whether the county should refinance student loans.
- Working with my District 14 colleagues, we secured matching funds for five local projects including expanding the capacity of the Olney Theatre, providing for the Maydale Nature Center, repairing the Sandy Spring Museum, and providing a much needed expansion to the Our House Youth Home. Additionally, we funded a turf field at Damascus High School.

Delegate Ariana Kelly (District 16):

- **Passed the Contraceptive Equity Act (HB1005)** supported by Planned Parenthood making Maryland a leader in the nation for birth control access. HB1005 expands contraception coverage in insurance plans and ensures that all Marylanders have access to the contraception method that works best for them. It requires Medicaid and private insurers to fill birth control prescriptions for six months at a time, requires vasectomy coverage, and requires insurance coverage for over-the-counter pharmaceutical access.
- **Passed HB 740 - Task Force to Study Establishment of a Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program**, to make specific recommendations on a state-run insurance fund to provide partial salary replacement for employees for up to 12 weeks of leave due to a serious medical condition; a family member's military deployment; or, to care for a new child or a family member with a serious health condition. The group will incorporate recommendations made as a result of the Obama Administration's grant program supporting states and localities who are implementing such programs.
- **Passed HB 1318 - Network Access Standards and Provider Network Directories** - This legislation requires insurance companies keep their directories updated and establishes meaningful quantitative

standards for the adequacy of health insurance networks. This will promote timely access to primary and specialty care. Also passed **SB 297 (HB 539)**, which ensures that all children with a developmental disability have access to physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and autism treatment by establishing a standard definition of habilitative services.

- **Passed HB 1291 – State Board of Cosmetologists - Limited License - Hair Services - Blow Drying** which establishes a new limited license for blow drying to ensure blow out salons like Bethesda’s Dry Bar have access to licensed professionals to staff their salons.

Delegate Marc A. Korman (District 16):

- HB 380 – Sponsored and passed the Board of Public Works Transparency Act which requires the Board of Public Works (a powerful three-member body that has responsibility to reduce the budget when the legislature is out of session) to provide three business days’ notice to the public when making cuts. This will allow the public and stakeholders time to weigh-in and improve the Board’s work.
- HB 118 – Required the State Highway Administration (SHA) to notify the public any time they authorize a sidewalk closure along a state road (such as Wisconsin or Old Georgetown). SHA agreed that such a policy would improve walkability in some of our more urban communities and has enacted the policy administratively without a statutory change.
- Local Projects – Working with my District 16 colleagues, I helped secure \$100,000 in funding for the Friendship Heights Village Center and \$700,000 for renovations at the Little Falls and Davis Libraries.
- Metro-WMATA Workgroup –I continued as co-chair of the WMATA-Metro Work Group which provides oversight and gives legislators the opportunity to attend briefings from key WMATA personnel on issues of finance, customer service, and safety.

Delegate Eric Luedtke (District 14):

- Among the bills I successfully passed was HB 72, also known as Erin’s law, which will incorporate age-appropriate education on the awareness and prevention of sexual abuse and assault in school health curricula. This program will protect children against sexual abuse by ensuring they learn the skills necessary for recognizing and reporting it.
- I introduced and passed HB 1007, the Maryland Freedom to Vote Act, to modernize voter registration by implementing an opt-out registration system at the MVA and Health Benefit Exchange, and improve access to voter registration any other time Marylanders come into contact with state government. These reforms will make voter registration both more convenient and more secure.
- To help entrepreneurs and small business owners, I passed HB 69, which authorizes county and municipal governments to provide up to a 50% property tax credit on personal property taxes for new businesses and small businesses.
- In support of students with disabilities I passed HB 86, which will give parents of kids with disabilities the right to request an IEP or IFSP in their native language. All parents should be able to participate fully in decision-making about their child’s education, and this will help break down language barriers for thousands of families.

Delegate Aruna Miller (District 15):

- I was appointed to serve as the Vice Chair of *Capital Budget*.
- I was appointed to serve as the Commissioner on the newly created *Maryland School Construction Commission*, which will review school construction policies for the state's 24 school districts to maximize our investment in ways that are innovative and forward thinking.
- I was also elected by my peers to serve as the 2016-2017 President of the *Women Legislators of Maryland-Women's Caucus* (65 women/men).

Delegate David Moon (District 20):

- Constitutional Amendment for Statewide Special Elections to Appear on November Ballot – This year Maryland approved two bills I introduced with Sen. Paul Pinsky to give voters more say when we fill vacancies for U.S. Senate, Attorney General & Comptroller. HB260 & HB288 were combined into one bill that requires vacancies to be temporarily filled by a member of the same party, and then we'd hold a special election to fill the remainder of the term at the next scheduled election.
- Free Birth Certificate Copies for Homeless Residents – I introduced a bill (HB680) with Sen. Craig Zucker to waive the \$24 fee on birth certificate copies for homeless Marylanders. Birth certificates are often needed to prove your identity for employment, health care, government services, enrolling children in school, and much more. This small step to help our poorest residents was approved this year.
- Modernizing How We File Tax Returns – To make it easier for businesses to operate in Maryland, I worked with Denizens Brewery, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, and Senator Rich Madaleno on HB648, a simple bill to allow our state's numerous beer & wine makers and distributors to file their complicated paper tax forms online. My bill unanimously passed the House and Senate, which demonstrates that this legislation is simply common sense.
- Reining In Mass Incarceration & the Drug War - The Justice Reinvestment Act is, in my opinion, one of the biggest pieces of legislation Maryland will have passed this decade. This omnibus bill from the House Speaker focuses on public health alternatives to incarceration for nonviolent offenders, and it incorporates provisions and concepts in multiple bills I introduced this year. The new law is expected to shift millions in funding from incarceration to public health.

Delegate Maricé I. Morales (District 19):**Criminal Justice Reform**

- *Justice Reinvestment Act*, Refocuses the purpose of prisons by reducing penalties for drug possession. Diverts offenders with substance abuse into treatment. Repeals mandatory minimum sentencing for certain drug possession penalties.
- *Police Accountability*, makes the police complaint process less restrictive for victims, more transparent, provide protections for whistleblowers, and encourages community policing programs.

College Affordability

- *Education Affordability Act of 2016*. Encourages families to begin college savings by providing a dollar for dollar matching system depending on household income levels. Similarly, we passed the *Mont. Co. Student Loan Refinancing Authority* that will refinance higher education debt for County residents,

Drunk Driving & Public Safety

- *Noah's Law*: The strongest ignition interlock program in the country. Making it mandatory participation upon conviction of the first offense. Studies show that mandated ignition interlock programs significantly change behavior, reducing the number of tragedies like the one that befell Officer Noah Leotta.

- *Alex & Calvin's Law*: Increases penalties for adults who provide alcohol to underage drinkers including jail time, when there has been a severe injury or death involved. Named after two befallen high school students who lost their lives in a drunk driving incident.

Delegate Pam Queen (District 14):

- I was honored to join the Maryland House of Delegates and the Judiciary Committee following my appointment by the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee. I appreciate the strong support that I have received as a new member of the Montgomery County Delegation, especially from the outstanding District 14 Team: Senator Craig Zucker, our Majority Leader Anne Kaiser, and Delegate Eric Luedtke.
- **Working Families** – I was proud to co-sponsor and support bills to rectify pay inequity for women and minorities, including **HB 1004, Equal Pay Commission – Establishment**, and to provide earned sick leave, **HB 580, the Maryland Healthy Working Families Act**.
- **Justice Reinvestment Act** – I was proud to support **HB 1312, the Justice Reinvestment Act**. This bill implements the Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council (JRCC) recommendations by altering criminal penalties and provisions relating to sentencing, corrections, parole and the supervision of offenders while balancing public safety.
- **Drunk Driving Legislation** - I was pleased to co-sponsor and support several bills that strengthen Maryland's drunk driving laws and address the liability of individuals who provide alcohol to minors, including **HB 1342, the Drunk Driving Reduction Act of 2016 (Noah's Law)** and **HB 409**, also known as **Alex and Calvin's Law**.

Delegate William C. Smith, Jr. (District 20):

- Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Delegate in Annapolis; it has been an honor, indeed. My legislative agenda this past session pushed for strong progressive changes in our government aimed at reforming our criminal justice system, providing for greater access to justice, and economic empowerment. I am happy to report that we were not only progressive, we were effective. **This year I passed ten bills out of the house, seven of which also passed the senate and are headed to the Governor's desk. A few of these initiatives are outlined below:**
- This session I served on the Justice Reinvestment and Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights Workgroups. These workgroups produced bills that will give our state an unprecedented opportunity to fundamentally reform our criminal justice system and will help restore the public trust in law enforcement.
- The Maryland Tort Claims Act and the Local Government Tort Claims Act remove barriers to justice by repealing measures commonly used to prevent our fellow Marylanders from their day in court. These bills represent a significant shift in our tort policy here in Maryland and will help thousands of Marylanders in their efforts to seek justice.
- Additional successful legislation will correct: water drinking standards, employment rights for MD National Guard, protecting consumer's privacy, and removing the prohibition on those convicted of perjury to testify on their own behalf.

Delegate Ana Sol-Gutiérrez (District 18):

- The Maryland Seal of Biliteracy bill (HB 708/SB781) finally passed both chambers after 3 years. The bill establishes the nationally recognized Seal of Biliteracy program in MD schools for high students who demonstrate proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation. A unique, gold seal will appear on the transcript and/or diploma for recognition by future employers and college admissions.
- As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, worked to restore full funding for public education in the 2017 Operation Budget including the GCEI mandate that will continue in future years.
- Worked with House Appropriations Committee to establish and increase school construction grant funding for school districts with growing student populations, such as Montgomery County and other counties with high enrollment growth.

Delegate Jeff Waldstreicher (District 18):

- A champion for Marylanders with disabilities, Delegate Waldstreicher successfully sponsored and passed HB 420: Individuals With Disabilities – Minimum Wage and Community Integration. This historic civil rights legislation eliminates the sub-minimum wage for employees with disabilities, while providing a support structure for continued integration in the workforce.
- A voice for working families, Delegate Waldstreicher fought hard to level the playing field for all Marylanders. As a leader on the Economic Matters Committee, he was a vocal proponent of the Maryland Healthy Working Families Act, which provides earned sick leave to those who need it most. He was also proud to help author a bill strengthening our equal pay laws so women who do the same work receive the same pay.
- An advocate for economic justice, Delegate Waldstreicher led the “Fight for Fifteen,” a nationwide movement to raise our minimum wage to a \$15 per hour living wage. Delegate Waldstreicher’s legislation is similar to the \$15 minimum wage that just passed in the states of New York and California.
- Chair of the Consumer Protection Subcommittee, Delegate Waldstreicher authored and passed legislation to protect Marylanders from being sued by companies for posting truthful reviews on crowd-sourced platforms like *Yelp*.

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