Montgomery County Delegation 2018 Session Member Accomplishments

Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

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

- In access and affordability, Maryland's Child Care Subsidy Program ranks at or very near the bottom of the 50 states, and Maryland currently has over 4300 children on a waiting list for the Subsidy. Senator King sponsored legislation that will increase funding to the Child Care Subsidy Program over the next three fiscal years. Passage of this legislation will increase parents' ability to find and pay for care, and will enable more parents to return to the workforce with the assurance that their children are being taken care of in safe and quality child care programs.
- The Governor's 2016 Executive Order requiring local Boards of Education to open schools after Labor Day and close by June 15th has created scheduling conflicts, and provided no room for flexibility. Senator King sponsored **Senate Bill 729** which authorizes local Boards to extend the length of the school year for up to 5 days. The legislation will give our local school boards some flexibility in setting their calendars, and returns some of the local autonomy that was taken from local boards by the Governor's Executive Order.
- Senator King sponsored legislation that will benefit the state's Community Colleges and continue in the effort to control tuition. **Senate Bill 595** will create a Facilities Renewal Grant Program for Community Colleges to be used for facility renewal projects including improvements, repairs or deferred maintenance.
- Along with securing capital funding for school construction and economic development in Montgomery County, Senator King was successful in obtaining capital bond bill funds to make necessary repairs to homes for Autistic adults in Montgomery County. These bond bill funds will make these homes safer and will allow their tenants to continue to live independent lives.

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

- Hiring Preferences Veterans of Commissioned Corps (SB 152 / HB 1617): This legislation adds veterans of two uniformed services Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service (USPHS), and Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to the 2016 law that permits private sector employers to implement a hiring preference for honorably discharged veterans.
- Expanding Access to Emergency Contraception (SB 969 / HB 1111): This legislation ensures that students have access to over-the-counter emergency contraception, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, on public college campuses with dormitories.
- E-ZPass Toll Debt (SB 973): This bill authorizes the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) to recall a delinquent E-ZPass account from Central Collections Unit (CCU) if the delinquent account exceeds \$300 in unpaid video tolls and civil penalties; the video tolls were assessed within a 30 day period; and mitigating factors exist, as determined by MDTA.

Senator Brian Feldman (District 15):

• One of the most significant bills before the General Assembly this Session was the **Metro Funding Act of 2018**. As **lead Senate sponsor** of the bill, Senator Feldman collaborated with his colleagues in the Maryland General Assembly and his counterparts in Virginia and the District of Columbia to gain passage of this historic legislation to address Metro's ailing system by providing a dedicated, bondable, funding stream – something that exists for every other large transit system in the Nation. As a board member on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Senator Feldman was uniquely positioned to facilitate the successful negotiation between the three jurisdictions.

• As Chair of the Health Sub-committee in the State Senate and Senate Chair of the Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission, Senator Feldman led the fight for successful passage of legislation that will help to stabilize Maryland's health insurance market, address the rising cost of prescription drugs, combat the State's opioids crisis and reform the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission to ensure racial, ethnic and gender diversity in the medical cannabis industry while also making improvements to the program.

Senator Cheryl C. Kagan (District 17):

- When we sign up for government alerts about weather, road repairs, or school closings, we don't want unsolicited emails or calls. But under the current Maryland Public Information Act, a lawsuit in Montgomery County forced the release of over 200,000 email addresses. Urgent action was needed, so I partnered with the Maryland Municipal League and others to pass **SB477** to block disclosure of personal contact information.
- Nonprofit organizations that earn State grants or contracts receive limited or no funding to cover their indirect (overhead) costs—necessities like rent, staff salaries, and utilities. In 2014, federal regulations guaranteed that grantees could apply at least 10% of the funds for these essential expenses. **SB1045** conforms Maryland's practices to these federal standards, increasing the long-term health of our nonprofit sector.
- Our 9-1-1 emergency system is arguably the most important government service; when 9-1-1 fails, people die. Soon, residents will be able to send texts, photos, and videos to emergency call centers. Coordinating the transition to "Next Generation 9-1-1" will require broad expertise and funding decisions. I passed **SB285** to create a commission to guide the State's efforts and ensure that 9-1-1 adapts to new, innovative capabilities.
- Call-takers are the backbone of our 9-1-1 system, but they are underpaid and underappreciated. It takes 8-12 months for a new employee to handle emergencies without supervision. **SB1053** will address recruitment and retention challenges by allowing counties the option of offering enhanced benefits to these "First First Responders" that are in line with other emergency personnel.

Senator Susan C. Lee (District 16):

Lead Sponsor of the 2018 Bills Passed:

- **Domestic Violence:** Led passage of **SB 170** to allow law enforcement to arrest a domestic abuser who violates a no contact, stay away pretrial order, saving lives at the most volatile period for a domestic violence victim. **Women's Reproductive Rights:** Led passage of **SB 598** to require correctional facilities to provide free menstrual hygiene products for female inmates, ensuring women are provided with basic essentials and afforded fundamental dignity.
- **Human Trafficking:** Led passage of **SB 578** that allows domestic violence and human trafficking victims to shield their new address when recording a real property deed to enable them to escape their abuser and recover and rebuild their lives. This will be administered by the Maryland Department of State's Address Confidentiality Program.
- **Disability Rights**: Led passage of **SB** 660 which will correct an injustice that forces individuals with certain disabilities to choose between either receiving vital care support necessary to enable them to work **or** continuing to be employed (because they are under the Employed Individuals with Disabilities Program). This law allows individuals like Josh Basile, who is quadriplegic and an attorney to receive nursing services and also work, pay taxes, and support himself.
- Identity Theft & Cybersecurity: Led passage of SB 202 to proactively prevent identity theft by allowing for free charges for freezes and thaws of consumers' credit reports that contain personal sensitive information held without consumers' authorization, relevant after Equifax and Yahoo breaches. Trust & Estates: Led passage of SB 267 & SB 348 to update Maryland's Trusts laws; District 16 Team obtained

renovation bond funding **SB460**, **SB745**, **SB 1086** for Bender Jewish Community Center; National Center Children and Families; and Josiah Henson Park.

Senator Richard Madaleno (District 18):

- Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit: Senator Madaleno successfully pushed for the expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit to make it available to those less than 25 years of age without qualifying children. The Earned Income Tax Credit is one of the most effective policy tools to help lift people out of poverty.
- Reducing Food Insecurity in Schools: Senator Madaleno has been working to address food insecurity for many years. This year, he sponsored The Maryland Cares for Kids Act, which will provide free breakfast and lunch to all students who currently qualify for "reduced priced meals." He also successfully sponsored a bill that will expand eligibility for schools to participate in Maryland Meals for Achievement, Maryland's free breakfast program. This bill also directs the Governor to budget at least \$7,550,000 for the program.
- Restoring Highway User Revenues to Local Governments: Senator Madaleno sponsored successful legislation to restore Highway User Revenues back to county and municipal governments. The restoration of the HUR distribution is not only good fiscal transportation policy for the state, but also helps provide stability for municipalities in the budget process and allow them to free up funds for long-term transportation infrastructure projects.
- Adding Teachers & a Parent to State Board of Ed: Senator Madaleno successfully sponsored legislation that will add two teachers and one parent to the State Board of Education. The bill gives teachers and parents a direct seat at the table to bring on-the-ground experience to the policy making process. Teachers and parents provide unique perspectives on education, which will be valuable to the Board's success.

Senator William C. Smith, Jr. (District 20): Senate Bill 1048:

- Secure and Accessible Registration Act (SARA) will implement a secure, efficient, and convenient voter registration system in Maryland, similar to the 11 other states and the District of Columbia that have already implemented similar measures to address the critical issues of voter engagement and access to the ballot.
- Eligible individuals will become registered and have the opportunity to "opt-out" when they interact with the Motor Vehicle Administration, Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, local departments of social services, and the Mobility Certification Office in the Maryland Transit Administration.
- Recent reports expect this measure to register nearly 400,000 new voters in Maryland.

Senator Craig J. Zucker (District 14):

- SB 875/HB 981, The Online Electioneering Transparency and Accountability Act
 - o Protects Maryland elections from foreign influence.
 - o Requires online platforms to maintain public records of online political advertisements that include the name and address of the advertisement's purchaser, cost, and method of payment.
- SB 461/HB 287 Selling or Providing Alcoholic Beverages to Individuals With Intellectual Disabilities and Others Repeal of Prohibition
 - o Repeals an outdated law that allows a server or bartender to refuse to serve an alcoholic beverage to a person with an intellectual disability.

Montgomery County House Delegation:

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

- Delegate Robinson successfully completed another session as Montgomery County Delegation Chair, administering delegation hearings to review County bills. He also served as member of the Metro Washington Area Committee.
- Delegate Robinson successfully introduced and passed **HB104** *Natural Resources Electronic Licensing Voluntary Donations* which will help increase donations to the Chesapeake Bay Trust, a non-profit organization which makes grants to help fund local, educational, and restorative environmental projects in communities all over our state.
- Delegate Robinson introduced one of the state's most ambitious environmental bills for 2018, **HB 878** *The Renewable Energy Equity Act* so Maryland could become the first state to get 100% of its electrical power from renewable resources by 2035. Although it did not pass, the bill was widely supported and he intends to take up this fight again in the future.
- Delegate Robinson helped support and pass **SB877** (*the Prime Act*) to help incentivize Amazon's establishment of their second corporate headquarters in Montgomery County by delivering tax breaks as long as the jobs the company brings with them are good jobs which provide an annual income of \$100,000 or more.

Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo (District 15), Vice-Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation:

- Agriculture Industrial Hemp Pilot Program Lead sponsor of legislation that establishes an Industrial Hemp Pilot Program, to authorize the research of industrial hemp and any aspect of cultivating, harvesting, processing, manufacturing, transporting, marketing, or selling industrial hemp for agricultural, industrial, or commercial purposes. The passage of this bill brings new jobs and economic opportunity to Maryland.
- Real Property New Home Sales Information on Energy-Efficient Options Lead sponsor on legislation that requires a home builder to provide written information to the purchaser of a new home about energy-efficient options, including a statement that tax credits may be available related to the energy-efficient options that are available for installation in the home before construction of the home is completed.
- Along with several other initiatives, Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo was successful in securing a capital bond bill for the **Katherine Thomas School's The Learning Center** (TLC). TLC serves children and adults with a wide range of special needs. Their mission is to improve the lives and expand possibilities for individuals with disabilities. This bond will assist TLC with much needed repairs and capital improvements.
- Workplace Harassment Commission In conjunction with the Women's Caucus, Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo met with a group tasked with reviewing and recommending updates to the sexual harassment policies of the Maryland General Assembly's legislative body. He also co-sponsored legislation which would update the anti-harassment policy and procedures governing members and employees of the Maryland General Assembly.

Delegate Charles Barkley (District 39):

• HB 159 – Montgomery County – Alcoholic Beverages – Basket of Cheer Permit

This bill establishes a basket of cheer permit in Montgomery County. Requires the Board of License
Commissioners to grant the permit at no cost to holders of certain Class C per diem licenses. The permit
authorizes the permit holder to provide as a prize at a benefit performance a basket of cheer, consisting of
certain alcoholic beverages. The alcoholic beverages contained in a basket of cheer shall be for offpremises consumption.

• HB 896 – Alcoholic Beverages – Class 6 Limited Wine Wholesaler's License – Production Amounts and Sales

This bill increases the amount of wine that can be produced by the holder of a Class 4 limited winery license that also has a Class 6 limited wine wholesaler's license from 27,500 gallons to 35,000 gallons. The bill also authorizes a Class 6 license holder to sell its wine to a holder of a wholesaler's license

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

- Protected Ocean City and all of Maryland's coastal waters from damage under new Federal rules that permit oil and gas drilling off our shores. **HB 1456 Off-Shore Drilling Liability Act** sets up strict liability for any harm caused by any company's drilling thus discouraging the activity.
- Worked on negotiating viable, sustainable funding for METRO with the Federal government, Virginia, and the District of Columbia which raised Maryland's contribution to \$167 million. Under the agreement METRO will receive \$500 million total annual dedicated funding.
- Brought state transportation tax dollars back to local governments for road repair and construction with legislation to restore funding levels, including \$2.1 million to Rockville and \$1.5 million to Gaithersburg over the next four years.

Delegate Al Carr (District 18):

- Secured passage of **House Bill 847** which will improve healthcare by mandating insurance coverage of the diagnosis and treatment of a condition called lymphedema.
- As House Chair of the Joint Committee on Federal Relations, was proud to help advocate passage of the Maryland Metro Transit Funding Act historic legislation also passed by Virginia and the District of Columbia that will provide dedicated funding to WMATA to address maintenance needs.
- As a former mayor pro tem and council member for the Town of Kensington, was pleased to secure passage of **HB 145**, a bill to promote economic development by giving additional flexibility to businesses through updated alcohol laws. Was proud to secure House passage of **HB 459**, a bill that sought to help brick-and-mortar retail businesses by easing paperwork and fee burdens.
- As Chair of the Montgomery County Delegation's Metropolitan Washington Committee, wrote and championed passage of **HB 417**, a bill that improves transparency by requiring online disclosure of large expenditures by WSSC, the municipal water and sewer utility serving nearly 2 million residents of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

Delegate Bonnie Cullison (District 19):

As chair of the Health and Government Operations Insurance Subcommittee, Delegate Bonnie Cullison was busy this session working to address the changes in federal health care laws and the rising cost of health care. She also continued to work on better defining professional standards for health care providers.

- Negotiated agreement of **HB 1349** between Pharmacy Benefit Managers and independent pharmacists that will protect these small businesses
- Worked to pass a bill to prohibit conversion therapy, an ineffective and unsafe practice used to "convert" an individual with a differing sexual orientation to heterosexual, from being practiced by licensed health professionals (HB902)
- Created processes for hospice workers to safely dispose of opioids to prevent them from going into the black market (**HB407**)
- Developed guidelines by which requirements for nonvisual access to state websites will be enforced (HB1088)

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

Delegate Dumais' accomplishments include measures that:

- Terminate the parental rights of a rapist when a child is conceived as a result of the rape.

 A Court will strip parental rights if it finds by clear and convincing evidence that the child's conception resulted from rape and that the termination of the rapist's parental rights is in the child's best interests. Supervised visitation may be allowed if it doesn't endanger the safety and well-being of the child or victim parent.
- Reduce the length of time young adults must hold a driver's learner's permit. While assuring that current required hours of classroom instruction and practice driving remain in place, this bill compresses the mandatory timeframe for holding a learner's permit for individuals between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five from nine to three months. Current requirements for drivers younger than eighteen remain in place.
- Require correctional facilities to establish in writing protocols regarding the health care of pregnant inmates. The measure spells out the care that pregnant inmates have a basic right to access, stipulating that correctional facilities have written policies concerning prenatal care and establishing that those written policies be provided to pregnant inmates. This legislation ensures the health of pregnant women in state custody as well as the health of their children.
- Permit defendants who have pleaded guilty and later become aware of exonerating evidence to seek post-conviction DNA testing and also permit them to file for a petition for a writ of actual innocence. Defendants found guilty by trial have avenues for submitting exonerating evidence. This legislation makes the evidence available for proving the innocence of anyone wrongfully convicted, whether by trial or plea.

Delegate Jim Gilchrist (District 17):

- Income Tax Standard Deduction Cost-of-Living Adjustments (HB 570) Delegate Gilchrist sponsored legislation to increase the standard deduction. After negotiations with the Senate, the bill raises the standard deduction and also provides for annual cost of living adjustments. The bill provides tax relief for over a million Marylanders, and passed unanimously from both chambers.
- Creation of a State Debt Montgomery County Rockville Welcome Center (HB1675/SB1219)

 Delegate Gilchrist also sponsored legislation which secured funds for CASA de Maryland's welcome center in Rockville, MD. This project will increase job training opportunities that will allow low income immigrant families to achieve greater economic self-sufficiency.
- As the Chair of the Land Use, Transportation, and Public Safety Committee for the Montgomery County Delegation, Delegate Gilchrist oversaw legislation concerning increased transparency concerning the county board of appeals and also legislation reducing restrictions on archery hunting.
- Delegate Gilchrist was appointed to the Maryland Environmental Trust Board of Trustees, which is responsible for promoting the protection of open land to preserve Maryland's landscapes and natural resources for future generations.

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

- After my success last session with the passage of the "Hometown Heroes" legislation to provide retired fire fighters and police officers with an earned income tax subtraction, I sought to expand this important credit. Now, the "Hometown Heroes" credit will be extended to correctional officers so that we can give back to all of the brave men and women who have given so much to our state.
- Senator Madaleno and I have expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit to younger people who do not have qualifying children. The EITC is one of our most powerful tools in combating poverty in our young workers, and this bill will go a long way towards helping Maryland's workers become financially self-sufficient.

- The Maryland Care's for Kids Act will not ensure that the state is responsible for the student's share of all reduced price school meals. This important legislation will help thousands of families suffering from food insecurity ensure that their children are getting the nutrition they need.
- After 42 years of service in the Maryland House of Delegates, I will be retiring from the world of politics. I have been humbled and honored by the responsibility that you have entrusted in me, and I am proud of the legacy that I leave behind. Thank you to everyone who has supported me all these years, and I wish those who come after me the best of luck in the challenges ahead.

Delegate Anne R. Kaiser (District 14), Chair, Ways and Means Committee:

- As Chairman of the powerful Ways & Means Committee, it is my responsibility to marshal policy in the areas of revenues, finance resources, education and election law. What that really means is, I help plot the course of K-12 education policy, guard voter protections and have a primary responsibility to manage the tax burden on working families. This year we saw key policies made in each of those topic areas.
- Key successes in the Ways and Means Committee include successfully orchestrating the county's #1 priority -- legislation to incentivize Amazon to choose our county for their second headquarters; bringing 50,000 well paid jobs to our community. I was also an architect of a tax plan, along with my counterpart in the Senate, to return \$800 million to state tax payers and to provide tax relief to veterans, EMS personnel and the working poor. In election law, we passed measures to make it easier to register to vote, because nothing matters more than the right to vote and other measures to ensure greater integrity of our election results and our election security. We passed many pivotal education initiatives, paramount among them was the bill to invest nearly \$30 million in pre-Kindergarten, teacher retention, teacher training and more support for struggling students.
- As a member of the House of Delegates I was the **prime sponsor of six bills that are on the way to the Governor's desk**, including: tax legislation to benefit Maryland-based businesses; education initiatives to create uniform data governance in our school systems as well as a study to create a student loan financing system in the state. Because the integrity of our election system is paramount to our democracy, I authored audit provisions to give us greater confidence in our election results. Finally, in regards to gaming, I authored an interstate compact to maintain the integrity of horse racing and another bill, technical in nature, to increase revenues to the Education Trust Fund.
- I am proud to have supported **local projects in District 14** and working with my District 14 colleagues to secure funding to help such diverse groups as the Olney Theatre, Our House Youth Home, Winter Growth and Odd Fellows Lodge.

Delegate Ariana Kelly (District 16):

- Delegate Kelly sponsored **HB 1342: State Government Discrimination and Harassment**, legislation addressing sexual harassment in the Maryland General Assembly. This landmark piece of legislation will require the use of an independent investigator when sexual harassment or retaliation complaints are made against a legislator, prohibit a lobbyist from engaging in sexual harassment, and prohibit the use of taxpayer money for harassment settlements.
- This session, Delegate Kelly sponsored **HB 1312: Health Insurance Medicaid Buy-in Task Force**. To address rising health insurance premiums, one option is to create a process for individuals and families to buy-in to our existing Medicaid program. The Workgroup will provide valuable information on the feasibility of this project, as part of *Maryland Health Care Access Act of 2018*.
- Delegate Kelly reintroduced and passed **HB 251: Education Family Life and Human Sexuality Curriculum Boundaries and Consent**, legislation providing that age-appropriate instruction on consent and personal boundaries be taught in our schools' sex education classes. This legislation designed to prevent sexual harassment and assault moved swiftly this year, and was enacted with bipartisan support.

• This session, Senator Bill Ferguson and Delegate Kelly sponsored **State Employees – Parental Leave**, which will provide state employees 12 weeks of paid parental leave. Maryland will lead by example as an employer as we continue to push for paid family and medical leave for all Marylanders.

Delegate Marc A. Korman (District 16):

- We achieved a historic victory this legislative session for the region by establishing dedicated funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA or Metro), passing a bill that allocates \$167 million a year to Metro for capital improvements on top of existing funding for Metro from the state (HB372).
- We also passed a bill to reform Metro's Board of Directors to improve oversight at the agency by placing the Maryland Secretary of Transportation or their designee on that Board. The bill also requires that the second principal Board member live in either Montgomery or Prince George's County to guarantee that they understand how important the system is to their community (HB370).
- We passed the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Extension Act (**HB230**), which will ensure that the General Assembly has a say in any proposed withdrawal from that important environmental Initiative.
- We passed legislation to make red light cameras more fair by requiring yellow light timing to conform with state standards wherever a camera is present. Traffic Control Signal Monitoring Systems Yellow Signal Compliance (HB204).
- We passed the Maryland Pension Risk Mitigation Act (**HB 993**), which requires the State Retirement and Pension System to study risks and risk mitigation strategies related to environmental, social, and governance issues. Chief among them is the risk from climate change to our State's investments because of physical risks (e.g., rising sea levels) or regulatory risks (e.g., effect on specific industries because of government rules).

Delegate Eric Luedtke (District 14), Chair, Education Subcommittee:

- Safe and Secure Registration Act (SARA) implements automatic voter registration at state agencies including the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA), Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE), local departments of Social Services and the Mobility Certification Office (MCO) within the Maryland Transit Administration.
- Department of Transportation Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Access to Schools Requires the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the local school districts, to study safe routes to school in each jurisdiction and make recommendations to the General Assembly.
- Income Tax Wynne Case Local Government Repayments to the Local Reserve Account delays by two years the period in which counties must reimburse the Local Income Tax Reserve Account for refunds resulting from the *Maryland State Comptroller of the Treasury V Brian Wynne* Supreme Court decision. This action will save the counties millions of dollars in funding.

Delegate Aruna Miller (District 15):

I am proud to have sponsored:

- HB 281, Computer Science for All, a bi-partisan new law to help Maryland bolster our economy and fill new 21st century jobs. The law mandates that *all high schools offer at least one high-quality computer science course*, encourages school districts to integrate computer science into earlier grades, provides funds to *train teachers in computer science*, and targets high-poverty school districts and students underrepresented in the field.
- HB 388, Violation of Conditions of Release, working with Senator Susan Lee, to strengthen protections for victims of sexual violence and add potentially life-saving protections for victims of domestic and other violent crimes. The new law allows defendants to be arrested, without a warrant, if they violate conditions of release that prohibit them from contacting, harassing, or abusing a victim.

- HB 913, Sexual Assault Policy Disciplinary Proceedings Provisions, a new law that strengthens due process and protections for sexual assault survivors and alleged violators, despite recent federal actions to weaken these protections. Now, all Maryland institutions of higher education must adopt and apply uniform disciplinary standards that guarantee timely investigations, fair hearings, and eligible counsel to be provided when requested.
- HB 864, commonly known as the Evergreen Bill, clarifies collective bargaining procedures to better protect over 30,000 state employees. The new law allows their unions to continue negotiating on all non-fiscal contract matters after a deadline passes, when done in good faith.

Delegate David Moon (District 20):

- Banning Bump Stocks and Expanding Our Assault Weapons Ban (HB 888) This gun safety legislation closes a dangerous loophole in Maryland law by banning devices that turn legal guns into illegal assault weapons.
- **Providing Foster Youths with Savings Accounts (HB 524)** Currently, the state applies for federal benefits for foster kids, but keeps the money to reimburse itself for their care. As a result, when the youths leave the foster system, they have nothing, leading to a high rate of homelessness. HB 524 requires the state to place a portion of the kids' federal benefits into a savings account.
- Banning Convicted Animal Abusers From Owning Animals (HB 212) This legislation allows a judge to ban a person who is convicted of aggravated animal abuse (torture, mutilation, cruel killing, dogfighting, etc.) from owning animals.
- Preventing Child Abuse (HB 454) This bill expands a program called "birth match" that requires the state to find out what children were born to a parent whose parental rights have been terminated for abuse, neglect or the death of a different child -- and then to require that we check in on these kids.

Delegate Maricé I. Morales (District 19):

- Reducing Medication Costs (HB 1558) allows for a single dispensing of long-term maintenance medication for up to 90 days. The rising costs of prescription drugs was at the top of our legislative priorities. Allowing for a three-month single dispensing of medication, will result in time-savings and inevitably reduce costs associated with the medication, given that patients will receive a prescription for a longer time in a single visit with their physician.
- Hiring Preferences for Veterans (HB 1617) expands hiring preference benefits for veterans to two more uniformed services, as proclaimed by Governor Harry Hughes in 1986, to include veterans of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, both housed in Montgomery County.
- Increasing safety for immigrant communities (HB 461) streamlines the U Visa application process for immigrant victims of violent crimes by requiring their helpfulness certification be returned to the applicant within 90 days by the certifying law enforcement agency. Currently, the wait time for this process can take up to two years resulting in delays of the applicant's immigrant status adjustment process.
- Eradicating wage theft on public projects (HB 1243) creates a private right of action for a worker of a public project to be able to sue for lost wages directly, without having to exhaust administrative avenues first.

Delegate Pam Queen (District 14):

Delegate Pam Queen continues to advocate for progressive legislation that improves the lives of Maryland residents. Key legislative successes these session includes:

• Advancing Criminal Justice Reform, I sponsored **HB291** which requires comprehensive in-take interviews to develop thorough rehabilitation plans for inmates; and HB786 which conforms prison restrictive housing to Federal guidelines.

- Restoring dignity for incarcerated women, I sponsored **HB797** which ensures all female prisoners have needed menstrual hygiene products; and I championed Pregnant Inmates Medical Care bill which requires correctional facilities to have proper medical and safety policies in place for pregnant inmates.
- For families with children, I sponsored **Child Care Subsidy Program—Unemployment— Eligibility** (**HB941**) which allows parents to obtain a subsidy for up to 90 days in the event they become unemployed. To protect seniors, I co-sponsored **HB1209- Eula and Danny's Law** which improves Maryland's Silver Alert Program.
- Making Higher Education more affordable and alleviating student debt, I co-sponsored **Student Loan Notification Letter–Modifications (HB17), James Proctor Scholarship Program (HB1630)**, and the **Sean Suiter Act (HB624)**.

Delegate Kirill Reznik (District 39), Chair Health and Social Services Subcommittee on Appropriations:

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

- Elective Franchise Registration and Voting at Precinct Polling Place
 Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to authorize the General Assembly to allow a
 qualified individual to register and vote at a precinct polling place on Election Day, similar to what is
 currently available during Early Voting
- Residential Child Care Statement of Need Exemptions
 Allows Department of Human Services and Department of Juvenile Services to bypass the Statement of Need process for group homes if there are no placements available for a specific set of needs or a residential program needs to relocate because of impractical or infeasible building rehabilitation
- UpCounty Nonprofit Hub Bond Bill
 Secured \$1 million in capital funding to create a central location for Nonprofits to collaborate and provide services in the Germantown region
- 3% & 3.5% Medicaid Rate Increase and Task Force to Study Rates into the Future
 Restored the promised rate increase to Medicaid that Governor Hogan did not provide in his initial budget will allow for funding of Opioid treatment, behavioral and mental health programs, and other vital
 Medicaid services, and established a Task Force to Study Access to Home Health Care for Children and
 Adults with Medical Disabilities.
- Established the Temporary Disability Assistance Program in law and increased rates for the first time in 15 years. Under legislation that was passed, rates will continue to increase over the next 8 years until they are equal to the rate provided for the Temporary Cash Assistance program.

Delegate Ana Sol-Gutiérrez (District 18):

- Serving on the House Appropriations Committee, helped to pass a \$44.6 billion balanced 2019 Operating budget and restored most of the Governor's cuts. We increased funding for K-12 public schools, community colleges, DDA service providers, and capped tuition at 2% for public colleges and universities.
- Serving on the House Capital Budget subcommittee, we fought to increase \$350-plus million for school construction, plus extra funding for MoCo and other school districts with growing enrollment.
- Introduced the SAFE Act (Supporting All Families Everywhere) that would ensure that local law enforcement protected the safety and civil rights of all residents in Maryland and did not collaborate with federal immigration actions.
- Introduced bills that would promote expansion of Dual Language Programs state-wide and created a Bilingual Teacher Certification program to prepare bi-lingual teachers in Maryland.

Delegate Jeff Waldstreicher (District 18):

- Our veterans have valuable experience, skills, and knowledge to offer in the civilian workforce. That's why Delegate Waldstreicher sponsored and passed <u>HB 1096: Veteran Employment and Transition Success (VETS) Program</u>. Crafted with constituents in the mental health field, the VETS Program will provide our veterans the resources they need to obtain civilian licensure.
- Del. Waldstreicher and the District 18 team received approval for bond bills that will fund design and renovation projects for five major community institutions: Noyes Children's Library (Kensington), Round House Theatre (Bethesda), Strathmore Music Center (N. Bethesda), A Wide Circle (Silver Spring), and Nonprofit Village (Rockville).
- An advocate for economic justice, **Delegate Waldstreicher and colleagues from other jurisdictions led the "Fight for Fifteen,"** a nationwide movement to raise our minimum wage to a \$15 per-hour living wage. This was the third year in a row that Delegate Waldstreicher led the charge on this important bill. This legislation was similar to the \$15 minimum wage that recently passed in both New York and California.
- A champion for Marylanders with disabilities, Delegate Waldstreicher successfully sponsored and passed <u>HB 782: Maryland Achieving a Better Live Experience (ABLE) program Modifications</u>. This bill protects ABLE 529 accounts for Marylanders with disabilities from being raided by clawback. It also expands ABLE-to-Work, continuing to provide a support structure for integration in the workforce.

Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins (District 20):

• Maternal Deaths (HB 1518):

To address the severity of maternal deaths in the state, this legislation was passed to ensure that diverse, impacted women, their families, and community stakeholders are at the table to voice their experiences and address equity and social determinants that negatively impact maternal health.

• Veterans – Property Tax Credit for Surviving Spouses (HB 502):

This legislation was passed to support our retired military service men and women by extending the Veterans Property tax credit to their surviving spouses.

• Sustainable Communities (HB 1651):

This legislation sought to address housing and affordability in efforts to require areas designated as "Sustainable Communities" to address the need for affordable housing and low and moderate income housing.

• Trauma-Informed Schools (HB 1601):

As most students encounter various external events such as violence, family separation, abuse, homelessness, and bullying, this legislation sought to provide support to schools, teachers, and administrators to recognize and respond to trauma.

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