

## Session Update

The 435<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session is one third completed. While I have been busy in my two new roles, Chairman of the Delegation and Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Motor Vehicle and Transportation, the submission of legislation this year has been very slow compared to other years. I am sure one reason is the 60 new Delegates in the House. Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> was the deadline to file a bill without it having to go to the "Rules Committee" for a special exception. Bills dropped late are not assured of a Committee Hearing and may not move forward. There have been 1,104 bills filed in the House and 762 bills filed in the Senate.

If you would like to see the Bills that are being heard in the House and Senate Committees, go to <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov>, or just Google Maryland General Assembly. Click on the Committees Tab and then click on each committee to see what legislation is scheduled for a hearing. You can come to Annapolis to testify or listen "live" online to the hearings.

Four bills have already been heard by the Delegation and have become Delegation Bills. These bills will now go to the proper Committee and Sub-committee accompanied by a letter of Delegation support. They are:

HB173-Worker's Compensation-heart Disease and Hypertension Presumption- Anne Arundel County Correctional Officers-Delegate Beidle

HB175-Anne Arundel County-Police Officers-Secondary Employment- Anne Arundel County Delegation

HB 331-Anne Arundel County-Alcoholic Beverages-Licenses- Delegate Vitale

HB447- City of Annapolis-Alcoholic Beverages- Election Days - Delegate McMillan

On Friday, February 20, the Delegation will vote on two additional bills:

HB 15-Maryland Transportation Authority-Chesapeake Bay Bridge- Toll Collection- Delegate McConkey and HB27- Task force on the Disposition of the Crownsville Hospital Center Property- Delegate McConkey.

Also during the Delegation meeting, Delegate McMillan will present HB 727 - Anne Arundel Board of Education- Wireless Telecommunications Towers-Moratorium and Report.

The Delegation and County are being proactive about the heroin problem in Anne Arundel County. The Delegation is holding a briefing on the Heroin Crises and what is being done to discourage the use of heroin in our County at the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. It will include members of the police, fire, and health departments, as well as other interested parties. In January, County Executive Schuh announced an executive order which declared heroin a countywide health crisis, and directed agencies to use their best efforts to eradicate heroin in the county. This order created a task force, which is expected to recommend expanded treatment and court programs, and more training in schools. They are also currently investigating the use of Narcan, a drug that can reverse the effects of an overdose. I have introduced HB 368 - Civil Actions - Immunity From Liability - Emergency Medical Care for Drug Overdose, at the request of the County Administration. It is expected to become a Delegation Bill.

## Local Development Council

I am pleased to announce that County Executive Steve Schuh has appointed me to the Local Development Council. I look forward to working with this committee on how the funds from Maryland Live will be used to help the surrounding communities.

## Budget

The Budget negotiations between the Appropriations Committee, Budget and Tax and the Governor continue as we try to fully fund education, Medicaid and other important funding. I will share more information as progress is made.

## Board of Education

The school system and the county are collaborating to launch a new school facilities study. This new study will review the school facilities across the county and develop a blueprint for renovation and construction over the coming decade. You can read the *School Facilities Study – Scope of Work* here.

This session, I have Nancy Crawford as my Legislative Aide, and Lisa Johnson, is working as my Legislative Assistant. My office is open full time during the Session. My contact information remains the same: [pamela.beidle@house.state.md.us](mailto:pamela.beidle@house.state.md.us) or 410.841.3370. Please feel free to share your thoughts and concerns with me.

It is truly an honor to serve you in the Maryland General Assembly.