

2018 Session Update

The Legislative session is now more than one third over, and is shaping up to break records. There have been over 1,600 House bills timely filed and more and 1,000 Senate bills filed for the 2018 Legislative session, additional late filed bills will have to go to the Rules Committee before receiving a Committee hearing. It is estimated that up to four thousand bills may be filed by the end of the session, which would be a record for the Maryland Legislature.

Legislation

[House Bill 1](#), the Family Law - Child Conceived Without Consent - Termination of Parental Rights (Rape Survivor Family Protection Act) has passed both the House and the Senate, and was signed by the Governor on February 13th.

This bill, authorizes the courts to terminate parental rights of individuals convicted of or found to have committed an act of nonconsensual sexual conduct against the other parent that resulted in the conception of a child. It is a major victory in protecting victims of sexual assault.

[HB 1076](#), Maryland Transit Administration-Station Attendants – Pilot Program. This bill will require that the MTA have a station attendant at every light rail stop in Anne Arundel County. The attendant could be sure that riders are buying tickets, call for police if there are panhandlers and keep the stops safe. The bill will be heard in Delegation in Friday, February 16 and if the Delegation passes the bill, it will go to the Environment and Transportation Committee on March 1st.

[HB 1164](#), Vehicle Laws – Rear-Facing Child Safety Seats – Requirement. This bill is sponsored by Delegate Adams and myself, and will be heard on March 1st by the Environment and Transportation Committee at 1:00 pm. HB 1164 requires a child under the age of 2 years be secured in a rear-facing child safety seat unless the child is at least 40 pounds or at least 40 inches tall. This bill follows the National Highway Safety recommendation.

Bond Bills: The Governor did not put any money in the budget for local bond bills. We are trying to find some funding for some of these important local requests. Some of the projects requesting funding in District 32 are:

HB 51	GBHS Field House	\$1,000,000
HB 128	Ft. Meade Resiliency center at Kuhn Hall	\$ 500,000
HB 155	YWCA Domestic Violence and Trafficking Shelters	\$ 250,000
HB 837	Severn Danza Park	\$ 200,000

Maglev Update

Thank you to all the citizens that came to Annapolis Monday night to the rally against the Construction of the Maglev. It was an impressive crowd! “Stop the Train!”

The Maglev project has been responsible for the drafting of multiple transportation bills.

[HB637](#) and [HB638](#) are by Delegate Valentino-Smith, they attempt to bring a greater transparency to the process of a private entity building a major infrastructure project which passes through the County and to also require greater public notification to those citizens whose homes and towns may be greatly

impacted by this project. Both of these bills will be heard in my committee, Environment and Transportation, on February 15th at 1:00 pm.

[HB548](#), by Delegate Healy establishes that an entity that owns or operates a railroad powered by a magnetic levitation propulsion system, or passenger or freight transportation for which pressurized capsules or pods travel at high speed in reduced-pressure tubes cannot acquire property by condemnation. This bill will also be heard on February 15th at 1:00 pm

If you want to personally testify on any of these bills, you must sign up before 12:45 pm, if you have written testimony, please submit 35 copies to the committee staff for distribution by 11:45 am. Feel free to call me with questions 410-841-3370. Every Committee sets their own guidelines for written and oral testimony. Guidelines for the Environment and Transportation Committee can be found [here](#):

The hearing will also be live streamed at:

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmcommittees.aspx?pid=av&tab=subject7#house>, just highlight the date and click on the arrow. It will remain available for your viewing any time after the hearing occurs.

Remember to continue to write the Governor and your U.S. Senators and Congressmen and tell them you oppose the Maglev coming through our communities. Here is the contact information:

Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Office of the Governor
State House 100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-3901
(410)974-3901

Senator Benjamin Cardin
(202)224-4524
509 Hart Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington, DC 20510
or <http://cardin.senate.gov>

Senator Christopher Van Hollen
(202)224-4654
B40C Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
or <http://vanhollen.senate.gov>

Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger III
2nd District
2416 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515
(202)225-3061 or 410-628-2701

Congressman John P. Sarbanes
3rd District
2444 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515
(202)255-4016 or (410)295-1679

www.sarbanes.house.gov

You can find your Congressman by visiting <http://www.house.gov/representatives/find>.

Maryland Healthy Working Families Act (House Bill 1) - Enforcement and Implementation
The Healthy Working Families Act went into effect on February 11th. The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation has posted important information regarding it at:
<https://www.dllr.state.md.us/paidleave/paidleaveguidance.shtml>

2018/2019 Academic Scholarships

It is time to submit your scholarship application for the 2018-2019 academic year. The application is on my website, just print it, complete the application, include your transcripts and essay, sign and mail to my office.

The deadline for applications is March 31st. The awards are made in mid-May, usually in time for the High School Award ceremony. The Delegate Scholarships are one year awards, therefore you need to apply every year you need funding.

Click [Here](#) to access additional scholarship information.

Office Information

My office is staffed by Nancy Lipin Crawford, my Chief of Staff, and Stefan Specian, my Legislative Assistant.

My office is open full time during the Session. Please feel free to contact me with your thoughts and concerns. My contact information remains: pamela.beidle@house.state.md.us or 410.841.3370. You can also find updates at my website www.pambeidle.com and on Facebook at Delegate Pam Beidle.

It is truly an honor to serve you in the Maryland House of Delegates.