



GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

Regional business leaders creating a better tomorrow...today.



January 30, 2017

State House Update

FOLLOW THE GBC



GBC'S 2017 AGENDA

GBC's 2017 Legislative Agenda

GBC'S LEGISLATIVE TRACKER

To read testimony and get more information about bills the GBC tracked this year, visit our legislative tracking website.

MD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General Assembly Website

Committee Schedule

GBC EVENTS

February 27, 2017

NewsMaker Breakfast:
The Future of the Preakness
and Pimlico Race Track

March 9, 2017

Message to Members



Last week, the Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) held its annual Legislative Forum. Nearly 350 Baltimore business leaders heard from a panel of leading policymakers about the major issues of the 2017 Maryland General Assembly legislative session in Annapolis.

The panel, moderated by Jeff Salkin of Maryland Public Television, consisted of:

- Delegate Dereck E. Davis, Chair, Economic Matters Committee, Maryland House of Delegates
- Senator J. B. Jennings, Minority Leader, Senate of Maryland
- Delegate Nicholaus Kipke, Minority Leader, Maryland House of Delegates

Save the Date:
From Boom to Z:
Your Guide to Generational
Differences in the Workplace
with Dr. Roger N. Casey,
President, McDaniel College

March 16, 2017
Newsmaker Breakfast:
Al Hutchinson, President and
CEO, Visit Baltimore

April 3, 2017
Save the Date:
GBC Members-Only
Orioles Opening Day
Pre-Game Bash

April 19, 2017
Newsmaker Breakfast:
Bernard C. (Jack) Young,
President,
Baltimore City Council

May 15, 2017
GBC Annual Meeting

May 17, 2017
Newsmaker Breakfast:
Scott Burqer, Pandora,
President of the Americas

June 21, 2017
Save the Date:
Newsmaker Breakfast:
Paul Comfort,
Administrator and CEO, MTA

July 12, 2017
Save the Date:
GBC Golf Classic

August 9, 2017
Newsmaker Breakfast:
Ricky Smith, CEO of Baltimore
Washington International
Thurgood Marshall Airport

September 20, 2017
Save the Date:
Newsmaker Breakfast:
Rod. J. Rosenstein,
United States Attorney,
District of Maryland

October 18, 2017
Save the Date:
Newsmaker Breakfast:
Dr. Thomas M. Scalea,
Physician-In-Chief,
R Adams Cowley
Shock Trauma Center

November 15, 2017
Save the Date:
Newsmaker Breakfast:
Dr. Redonda Miller, President,
The Johns Hopkins Hospital,
and Dr. Mohan Suntha,

- Senator Richard Madaleno, Vice Chair, Budget and Taxation, Senate of Maryland
- Keiffer J. Mitchell, Jr., Senior Advisor, Office of the Governor

Each provided an overview of the key issues they see on the horizon, which include Governor Larry Hogan's legislative agenda, mandatory paid leave, repeal of the transportation ranking legislation, balancing the budget and a possible special session to address possible changes to the Affordable Care Act.

Many of the panelists recommended that businesses and Maryland residents get involved in the lawmaking process, get to know their legislators and share their priorities. Without feedback from constituents, policymakers may not be aware of how their actions affect the business community.

Every year, the GBC is in Annapolis making sure that the Greater Baltimore business community's voice is heard loud and clear, but please heed the panel's advice: learn who represents you and reach out to share your priorities. The business community needs to continue to grow as a force in Annapolis. To this end, the GBC organized a Baltimore Business Day in Annapolis last week to meet with legislative leaders and to ensure that our members' priorities are heard. GBC Board members and key business leaders met with members of the House of Delegates, Senate of Maryland and representatives of the Hogan administration. The business executives were met with enthusiasm and positively received.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Donald C. Fry
President and CEO

Budget Issues Loom Large

Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. recently said that the 2017 legislative session is going to be about the budget. Last week, Governor Larry Hogan submitted his proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget and legislators are beginning their deliberations, some of which may prove to be contentious in the coming weeks.

A balanced budget bill must be passed before the legislators can adjourn the session and a lot has yet to be decided. The immediate overarching issue is several hundred million dollars of budget deficits in the current and upcoming fiscal year. Once again budget leaders need to tackle projected structural deficits in future years. Unfortunately, the specter of projected revenues that are unable to meet future funding requirements is coming in the "out years."

President and CEO,
University of Maryland Medical
Center University Campus

Event and sponsorship
information:
Lisa Byrd at 410-727-2820

STAFF CONTACTS

Donald C. Fry,
President & CEO
410-727-2820 ext. 12

Brian Levine,
Vice President and Special
Assistant to the President
410-727-2820 ext. 44

Shaina Hernandez,
Director of Local Government
Affairs and Strategic Initiatives
410-727-2820 ext. 38

CORPORATE SPONSOR



AMBASSADOR SPONSORS



SIGNATURE SPONSORS



Matching future spending to revenue is no easy task. Precise revenue estimates are difficult for a variety of factors but are inherent to budget forecasts. However, new factors play a role this year. A series of uncertainties exist, including the future of federal government spending and what actions will be taken to dismantle the Affordable Care Act.

The governor proposed a balanced \$43.5 billion budget, but difficult decisions were made to arrive there, including the elimination of funding for several initiatives created during the 2016 legislative session to aid Baltimore. Baltimore-area lawmakers have indicated they will vigorously fight to restore these proposed cuts.

Maryland Department of Commerce Legislative and Budget Priorities

The Maryland Department of Commerce this week released its legislative and budget priorities for the 2017 legislative session. On the legislative side, the department has identified a number of priorities:

- Renaming and restructuring the Maryland Advisory Committee for Manufacturing Competitiveness.
- Renaming and restructuring the Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund, the Department's primary economic development program.
- Reauthorizing the income tax credit for security clearance and secured compartmentalized information facilities.
- Creating the Maryland Jobs Development Tax Credit and phasing out the existing Job Creation Tax Credit.
- Transferring authority of the Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account - Video Lottery Terminal Fund (VLT) from the Maryland Stadium Authority to the Department of Commerce.
- Altering the existing E-Innovation Initiative Program, which supports research endowment plans at higher education institutions.

The department's overall request in the FY2018 budget is \$153.3 million. The GBC supports fully funding the department's budget, including these highlighted items:

- Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund (MEDAAF)

\$30.05 million for the Department's primary economic development tool, including a \$10.2 million increase in General Fund money.

- Partnership for Workforce Quality (PWQ)

\$1 million for the existing incumbent worker training program.

- Biotechnology Investment Incentive Tax Credit



\$12 million for the state's primary early-stage economic development tool for the bioscience industry.

- Cybersecurity Investment Incentive Tax Credit

\$2 million for the state's cybersecurity economic development vehicle.

- Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority (MSBDFA)

\$8.1 million for MSBDFA, which provides assistance to small and minority-owned businesses.

- Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account (VLT Fund)

\$16.9 million for the VLT Fund, which assists small, minority and women-owned business is requesting.

- Tourism Development

\$12.1 million for tourism, which is a key economic driver in Baltimore.



GBC 2017 Legislative Priorities

If you have not already done so, please take a look at the [GBC's 2017 Legislative Priorities](#), which serve as the foundation of our efforts in Annapolis and throughout the year. These priorities communicate to policymakers specific actions or recommendations that policymakers can undertake to create jobs and improve the business climate.

Upcoming Dates of Interest

On **February 27**, join us for the GBC's [Newsmaker Breakfast: The Future of the Preakness and Pimlico Race Track](#) with Maryland Delegate Samuel I. (Sandy) Rosenberg and Thomas E. Kelso, Chairman, Maryland Stadium Authority. The event begins at 7:30 a.m. at the GBC office, 111 S. Calvert St., Suite 1700, Baltimore, MD 21202.

Future Newsmaker Breakfast programs include: Al Hutchinson, President and CEO of Visit Baltimore on [March 16](#) and Baltimore City Council President Bernard C. (Jack) Young on [April 19](#).