



GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

2018

END OF SESSION SNAPSHOT

Likes & Dislikes

Education and Workforce Development

A strong workforce is critical to business success and it starts with education. This year, the GBC successfully lobbied to protect grant funding in Baltimore City schools, supported innovative proposals by the Kirwan Commission, and urged lawmakers to create more apprenticeships.

An Effective Transportation System

The GBC's main transportation priority this session was the support of adequate and equitable funding for Baltimore-area transit and a regional transit plan. Several pieces of legislation attempting to block the construction of high speed rail were also introduced, which the GBC successfully opposed.

A Second Chance for Returning Citizens

The GBC supported several bills that would have helped returning citizens, including changes to Maryland Judiciary Case Search and repealing a 3 year waiting period on some expungements. While some progress was made this year, many bills aimed at helping returning citizens were not passed.

A Competitive Business Environment

This session, the GBC once again defeated efforts aimed at requiring businesses to use a combined reporting method of computing taxable income. The organization successfully supported other bills aimed at improving the business climate, including enhancing the cybersecurity tax credit.

Ensuring Public Safety

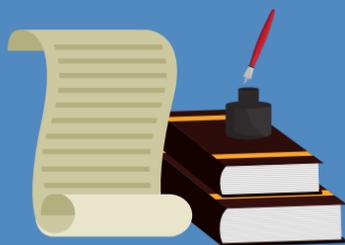
After several violent years in Baltimore City, the General Assembly examined dozens of bills aimed at providing solutions to the crime problem. The GBC supported many of them, including legislation to increase funding for programs like Safe Streets, stronger penalties for repeat violent offenders, diversion programs for juvenile offenders, stricter laws on firearm transfers, and others. While some progress was made this year, there is still much work to do.

2018 SESSION QUICK FACTS

Over the course of the 90 day session, the Maryland General Assembly introduced 3,101 bills, of which the GBC either monitored or took a position on 327 of them.



Two of the hottest topics were Public Health and Public Safety.



This session, the GBC hosted Baltimore Business Day in Annapolis, met with legislators, and took a position on a wide variety of bills.

Keep a look out for our full "End of Session" report in the coming days!