



GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

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



June 11, 2018

State House Update

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GBC'S 2018 AGENDA

[GBC's 2018 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

Message to Members

With the 2018 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly completed, the GBC has begun its interim work. First, we will complete an assessment of how we performed for GBC members. Were we effective advocates on behalf of the business community? How can we improve our overall efforts?

Looking forward, the GBC will engage our membership and partners to update and improve upon the legislative priorities we establish prior to the start of every session. We want to ensure the priorities reflect GBC members' priorities in a multitude of areas that affect the business climate, including taxes, transportation, workforce, economic development, public safety, entrepreneurship, innovation and tourism. The GBC also seeks to effectively communicate these efforts to members, elected officials and the public.

The interim is also a time to sharpen the focus on the development of policies that could improve the business climate and create jobs. GBC policy staff will be monitoring the legislature's interim activities and will seek to influence outcomes of a number of legislative committees, task forces and commissions. The GBC's standing policy committees,

June 20, 2018
Newsmaker Breakfast with
Maryland Attorney General
Brian Frosh

SOLD OUT: July 17, 2018
GBC Golf Classic

July 19, 2018
Newsmaker Breakfast with
Baltimore County Executive
Don Mohler

September 13, 2018
Economic Outlook Conference

October 11, 2018
Transportation Summit

November 14, 2018
Bridging the Gap Achievement
Awards

December 5, 2018
Mayor's Business Recognition
Awards Luncheon

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

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which focus on transportation, education and workforce, innovation and technology, bioscience, economic development, public safety and health care, meet throughout the year with the goal of developing policy recommendations that make a positive impact on the Greater Baltimore region.

This is also an election year, with significant turnover in the Maryland General Assembly anticipated. In fact, before a vote is cast, the legislature will have at least 11 new Senators and 30 new Delegates. More changes are sure to come following the primary election on June 26 and the general election on November 6. The GBC will be working hard to get to know newly elected legislators and continue to build relationships with those who return for another four-year term.

Sincerely,

Donald C. Fry
President and CEO

Contingent Items in FY2019 Budget Bill

Each year, after passage of the budget bill, the Chairman of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and House Appropriations Committee submit a report to the presiding officers that incorporate details of all reductions made in the budget, as well as expressions of legislative intent and policy guidelines. These are an integral part of the action taken on the budget. Often, appropriations are restricted by budget language unless the budgeted agency performs certain actions or makes certain reports to the legislature.

The GBC reviews the Joint Chairmen's Report annually to identify any actions that could impact the Greater Baltimore Region. For this year's budget, the GBC has identified a number of actions that are germane to important policy issues facing the business community in the Greater Baltimore region. Here are some important action-oriented items in the Joint Chairmen's Report:

- The Maryland Department of Transportation must submit an environmental impact report to the budget committees for transportation projects designated as public-private partnerships. The report is due 45 days before seeking said designations from the Board of Public Works.
- Funding is restricted pending submission of Baltimore City Community College's (BCCC) final implementation plan for the recommendations contained within the comprehensive report by the Schaefer Center on BCCC's operations and management. The implementation plan is due by July 1, 2018. Further, restricts funding pending submission of a report confirming that the realignment tasks and implementation tactics of the final implementation plan have been put into action in accordance with the Schaefer Center report and Chapters 847 and 848 of

the Laws of 2017 and providing an update on the status of each. The report is due by December 1, 2018.



- The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention must submit a report by December 1, 2018, detailing Victims of Crime grants, efforts to fully expend grant funds, and associated data.
- The Maryland Stadium Authority must submit a report by January 15, 2019 that reviews the status of the 21st Century Baltimore City Public Schools Revitalization Program.
- The Maryland Port Administration must submit a report by November 1, 2018 on alternatives to modifying the Howard Street Tunnel to allow for double-stack rail capacity.
- The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) must submit a report by September 1, 2018 detailing the multi-agency reviews of MTA performance following an emergency shutdown of the Baltimore Metro transit system and costs incurred. Additionally, a follow-up report is due within 30 days of completion.
- The MTA must submit a report by September 1, 2018 detailing the feasibility of either restarting the Red Line Light Rail project or developing alternatives to address east to west transit options in Baltimore City.
- The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services and the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation must submit a report by December 1, 2018 detailing inmate education efforts including enrollment and graduation data, costs, and recidivism rates.
- The Department of Commerce must submit a report by June 30, 2018 on which businesses have donated to the Maryland Marketing Partnership, the amounts donated and benefits gained by participating businesses. Additionally, the State Ethics Commission should provide the budget committees an advice letter regarding the benefits provided to donors of the partnership by September 1, 2018.
- The Maryland Technology Development Corporation must report detailed investment information for the Maryland Venture Fund (MVF), including funds related to the InvestMaryland Program, the legacy Enterprise Fund and the State Small Business Credit Initiative. The report is due with the submission of the MVF annual report.

Jill Carter Named Senator for District 41

Jill Carter, who once represented District 41 in the House of Delegates, was named to replace Nathaniel Oaks, who resigned his Senate seat on March 29. Senator Carter is a candidate for the District 41 Senate seat and will face J.D. Merrill in the primary election on June 26. The winner of that race will become the Senator for District 41 as no Republican filed to run for the seat. Mr. Oaks' name will, however, remain on the June 26 ballot, but he is unable to serve.

Delegate Ted Sophocleus Dies at 79

Delegate Ted Sophocleus, a longtime Anne Arundel County legislator, died on June 9, 2018. He began serving in the Maryland House of Delegates by appointment in 1993 and won his first election in 1998. Delegate Sophocleus was a member of the House Appropriations Committee and Vice-Chair of the Health and Social Services Subcommittee. He was a candidate for another term representing District 32 at the time of his death.

Upcoming Dates of Interest

On [June 20](#), the GBC is hosting a Newsmaker Breakfast featuring a conversation with Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh. This event will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the GBC Office, 111 S. Calvert St., Suite 1700, Baltimore, MD 21202.

On [July 19](#), the GBC is hosting a Newsmaker Breakfast with Baltimore County Executive Don Mohler. This event will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the GBC Office, 111 S. Calvert St., Suite 1700, Baltimore, MD 21202.