January 9, 2019

Message to Members

The 2019 General Assembly legislative session, the beginning of a new four-year term for elected policymakers in Annapolis, ushers in a new era. This new term of office brings about the importance of educating for a strong business climate with both new and seasoned members of the Maryland General Assembly. With 17 newly-elected Senators and 43 newly-elected members of the House of Delegates, there will be a learning curve for legislators and advocates alike.

The GBC has a rich legacy of working with government to find solutions to problems. As a private sector thought leader and problem-solving organization that collaborates with elected officials, top business CEOs and nonprofit leaders, the GBC has the experience, expertise and relationships to advocate for policies that provide a competitive edge for Maryland. The GBC looks forward to working with new and returning legislators on all issues that ensure the Greater Baltimore region and the State of Maryland have a strong and competitive business climate.

There will be many important issues debated this year. Click here to read my commentary, What to Watch in Annapolis, published in The Daily Record on December 20, 2018.
Another way to keep track of the GBC advocacy work in Annapolis is by visiting the GBC’s legislative webpage. On this site, GBC members have access to our 2019 legislative agenda and important information about the Maryland General Assembly. Additionally, by clicking Legislative Tracking & Positions, you will have access to a webpage that tracks the GBC's positions on legislation and includes access to our written testimony. Please visit and bookmark us to stay informed and help us advocate on issues important to the regional business community. Do not hesitate to reach out to us about issues that are a concern to your business or industry.

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

Sincerely,

Donald C. Fry
President and CEO

GBC Legislative Priorities for 2019

On the first day of session, the GBC provided members of the Maryland General Assembly with the Greater Baltimore Committee's 2019 Legislative Priorities. For the 2019 legislative session, the GBC has identified the following top principles:

- Ensure the business tax climate is fair, stable and predictable.
- Support policies that ensure the state's workforce is comprised of well-trained workers at all skill levels that meet the demands of today's employers.
- Provide for responsible and results-oriented school financing formulas and accountability measures.
- Promote innovation and entrepreneurship through increased support for targeted incentives, workforce initiatives and a strong higher education system.
- Reduce homicide and violent crime in Baltimore City, employing a two-pronged approach that applies crime control strategies while simultaneously working to ensure crime prevention programs for Baltimore’s citizens, especially youth.
- Advance initiatives that increase transparency and promote good governance.

For a more detailed look at the GBC’s priorities, please download the 2019 Legislative Priorities on our legislative page.

New Committee Assignments for the House of Delegates
House Speaker Michael E. Busch recently announced committee assignments for the six standing committees in the Maryland House of Delegates. This list does not reflect full committee membership but only newly-elected members or incumbent members who were assigned to a new committee.

**Appropriations Committee**
Delegate Carl Anderton, Jr. (District 38B)
Delegate Paul D. Corderman (District 2B)
Delegate Trent Kittleman (District 9A)
Delegate Susie Proctor (District 27A)
Delegate-elect Gabriel Acevero (District 39)
Delegate-elect Nino Mangione (District 42B)
Delegate-elect Jared Solomon (District 18)
Delegate-elect Jen Terrasa (District 13)

**Economic Matters Committee**
Delegate Pamela Queen (District 14)
Delegate-elect Lorig Charkoudian (District 20)
Delegate-elect Brian M. Crosby (District 29B)
Delegate-elect Mike Rogers (District 32)
Delegate-elect Lily Qi (District 15)
Delegate-elect Courtney Watson (District 9B)

**Environment and Transportation Committee**
Delegate Barrie Ciliberti (District 4)
Delegate Neil C. Parrott (District 2A)
Delegate-elect Dalya Attar (District 41)
Delegate-elect Regina T. Boyce (District 43)
Delegate-elect Tony Bridges (District 41)
Delegate-elect Andrea Fletcher Harrison (District 24)
Delegate-elect Mary A. Lehman (District 21)
Delegate-elect Sara Love (District 16)
Delegate-elect Vaughn Stewart (District 19)
Delegate-elect Melissa Wells (District 40)

**Health and Government Operations Committee**
Delegate Al Carr (District 18)
Delegate Robbyn Lewis (District 46)
Delegate-elect Heather Bagnall (District 33)
Delegate-elect Harry Bhandari (District 8)
Delegate-elect Nick Charles (District 25)
Delegate-elect Brian Chisholm (District 31B)
Delegate-elect Steve Johnson (District 34A)
Delegate-elect Ken Kerr (District 3B)

**Judiciary Committee**
Delegate Robin L. Grammer, Jr. (District 6)
Delegate-elect Lauren Arikian (District 7)
Delegate-elect J. Sandy Bartlett (District 32)
Delegate-elect Jon S. Cardin (District 11)
Delegate-elect Dan Cox (District 4)
Delegate-elect Charlotte Crutchfield (District 19)
Delegate-elect Debra Davis (District 28)
Delegate-elect Wanika Fisher (District 47B)
Delegate-elect Wayne A. Hartman (District 38C)
Delegate-elect Lesley J. Lopez (District 39)
Delegate-elect Jesse T. Pippy (District 4)
Delegate-elect Emily Shetty (District 18)
Delegate-elect Ron Watson (District 23B)

**Ways and Means Committee**
Delegate-elect Joseph C. Boteler, III (District 8)
Delegate-elect Alice Cain (District 30A)
Delegate-elect Jessica Feldmark (District 12)
Delegate-elect Michelle Guyton (District 42B)
Delegate-elect Julian Ivey (District 47A)
Delegate-elect Julie Palakovich-Carr (District 17)
Delegate-elect Stephanie Smith (District 45)
Delegate-elect Veronica Turner (District 26)

Kelly M. Schulz Appointed Secretary of Maryland Department of Commerce

Governor Larry Hogan appointed Kelly M. Schulz as Secretary of the Maryland Department of Commerce. Secretary Schulz served four years as Secretary of the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. Subject to confirmation by the Senate of Maryland, she replaces Mike Gill, who served as Secretary for the previous four years and has returned to the private sector. The GBC welcomes Secretary Schulz to her new position and looks forward to working with her on shared economic development priorities for the Greater Baltimore region and the State of Maryland.

Commentaries by GBC President and CEO Donald C. Fry

Click here to read Don Fry’s commentary, Maryland voters deserve redistricting reform, published in The Daily Record on November 15, 2018.

Click here to read Don Fry’s commentary, What to watch in Annapolis, published in The Daily Record on December 20, 2018.

Click here to read Don Fry’s op-ed, co-authored with Bishop Douglas Miles of BUILD, Kirwan Commission: Investment in Our Children’s Future, posted on December 20, 2018.

Click here to listen to Don Fry’s commentary, Future Employment Centers Need Transit Access, on WBAL News Radio 1090, posted on December 18, 2018.

Click here to read Don Fry’s op-ed, Baltimore County Council should approve Tradepoint Atlantic fund proposal, published in The Baltimore Sun on December 14, 2018.

Upcoming Dates of Interest

On January 21, GBC President and CEO Don Fry will be a guest on Maryland Public Television’s Your Money & Business, hosted by Jeff Salkin.

On January 28, attend the GBC’s annual Maryland General Assembly Legislative Forum, which will feature top legislative leaders from both parties and the Governor's Office who will discuss the legislative dynamics that are in store. The event will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, 20 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.
On **February 6**, the GBC is hosting a Newsmaker Breakfast, "The Redevelopment of Penn Station." This event will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the GBC Office, 111 South Calvert Street, Suite 1700, Baltimore, MD 21202.

On **February 11**, the GBC is hosting the Breakfast Briefing, "What the Affordable Care Act Means for You." Join a panel of insurance industry experts for a discussion about recent developments in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and what they mean to businesses of all sizes. This event will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the GBC Office, 111 South Calvert Street, Suite 1700, Baltimore, MD 21202.

On **February 20**, the GBC is hosting a Breakfast Briefing, "Baltimore's CitiWatch Surveillance Camera Program." This event will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the GBC Office, 111 South Calvert Street, Suite 1700, Baltimore, MD 21202.