

DELEGATE DERECK DAVIS
25th Legislative District
Prince George's County

Chair
Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 231
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
301-858-3519 · 410-841-3519
800-492-7122 Ext. 3519
Fax 301-858-3558 · 410-841-3558

The Maryland House of Delegates

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for allowing me to represent the 25th Legislative District as a delegate in the Maryland General Assembly. It is an honor and a privilege to work for the citizens of Prince George's County on legislation, constituent concerns, and community issues. I fight for middle class and working families, job creation, expanded health care coverage for Marylanders, and business growth and development.

Below I have provided a brief summary of legislation, local and statewide, that passed during the 2019 Legislative Session.

2019 Budget Appropriations to Prince George's County (funds provided by the legislature, funded at the discretion of the Governor)

K-12 Education	\$1.2 billion	Libraries	\$7.6 million
School Construction	\$31.3 million	Public Safety	\$21.6 million
Prince George's Community College	\$33.9 million	University of Maryland Capital Regional Medical Center	\$56.2 million

Selected Funding Initiatives Affecting the 25th District, Prince George's County

- Bishop McNamara High School Science and Innovation Center [Sponsored]
This bill sets aside \$250,000 to be used as a grant for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Bishop McNamara High School Science and Innovation Center.
- Morningside Volunteer Fire Department and Job Training Center [Co-Sponsored]
This bill sets aside \$325,000 to be used as a grant for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Morningside Volunteer Fire Department facility, including the establishment of a job training facility.

Protecting Our Priorities

As Chairman of the Economic Matters Committee in the General Assembly, I am pleased to highlight the following legislation passed by the committee:

- HB 166/SB 280 - Labor and Employment – Payment of Wages – Minimum Wage (Fight for Fifteen) [Co-Sponsored]
This bill raises the State minimum wage from the current \$10.10 per hour to \$15 per hour by January 1, 2025 for larger employers and by July 1, 2026 for smaller employers. Estimates are 22% of our State's workforce will benefit from increased family income. This increase is expected to affect 573,000 working Marylanders and nearly 273,000 children.
- HB 336/SB 391 - Civilian Federal Employees – Unemployment Insurance Benefits and Federal Government Shutdown Employee Assistance Loan Fund (Federal Shutdown Paycheck Protection Act) [Co-Sponsored]
This bill ensures that all civilian federal employees, who are required to report to work and are not receiving pay due to a federal shutdown, are eligible to receive unemployment benefits or a no-interest loan.

- *HB 1052 - Alcohol and Tobacco Commission*
This bill establishes the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission to license and regulate alcoholic beverages manufacturers and distributors, as well as the tobacco and related products industries in the State. The establishment of this commission comes from recommendations of a task force which studied the regulation of alcohol and tobacco products and their effects on public health. The responsibilities will be transferred from the Comptroller's office to the new commission in mid-2020.
- *HB 1169 - Business Regulation - Tobacco Products and Electronic Smoking Devices – Revisions [Sponsored]*
This bill raises the minimum age from 18 to 21 for an individual to purchase tobacco products. The Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services report that, between 2017 and 2018, use of tobacco products by high school and middle school students in the United States increased by 27.1% and 7.2%, respectively. Six states (California, Hawaii, Maine, New Jersey, Oregon, and Massachusetts) and the District of Columbia have already raised the age to 21 in efforts to curb the trend.

Preserving our Values

During the 2019 Session of the Maryland General Assembly, we acted upon a number of important legislative issues. Below is an update on how some of those issues were resolved.

- *HB 338 - Human Services - Food Supplements (Summer SNAP for Children Act)*
This bill establishes a process for the State to provide additional matching funds to supplement benefits received under the Food Supplement Program for children. Children in the program will receive increases in benefits during June, July, August, and December when schools are on break.
- *HB 810 - Income Tax - Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit - Alterations*
This bill expands the childcare tax credit for single parents (\$92,000 federal adjusted gross income) and married parents (\$143,000 federal adjusted gross income). This expansion is necessary to offset rising childcare costs.
- *HB 1209 - Property Tax - Collection of Unpaid Taxes and Tax Sales*
This bill reforms the tax sale process to protect homeowners from losing their homes. The bill creates a Tax Sale Ombudsman in State Department of Tax and Assessments to assist eligible homeowners with applying for tax credits and other programs that can help them keep their homes.
- *HB 1428 - University of Maryland Medical System Corporation – Board of Directors, Ethics, and Audits*
This bill reforms the University of Maryland Medical System Corporation by reconstituting the Board of Directors, prohibiting a board member from being a State or local elected official, and prohibiting a member of the board from intentionally using the prestige of office for private gain. The bill makes other related changes to ensure transparency and accountability of the medical system.
- *SB 128 - Community Control of School Calendars Act*
This bill allows each local board of education to set start and end dates each year for public schools in their county. Local boards of education now have discretion to set school calendars better aligned with the specific needs of their jurisdiction.
- *SB 516 - Clean Energy Jobs*
This bill increases the State's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard goal from 25% by 2020 to 50% by 2030. The bill will preserve and create jobs in the clean energy sector while reducing Maryland reliance on fossil fuels (oil, coal, and natural gas).
- *SB 946 - State Prescription Drug Benefits - Retiree Benefits – Revisions*
This bill establishes prescription drug out-of-pocket reimbursement or catastrophic coverage programs for certain State retirees and their dependents, or surviving dependents, who are enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug benefit plan. The bill delays implementation of the three plans while litigation regarding the State's changes to retiree prescription drug benefits is pending and requires that there be at least nine months before open enrollment before the bill is implemented.
- *SB 1030 - The Blueprint for Maryland's Future*
This bill enhances State aid to local school systems by \$251.6 million in fiscal 2020, consistent with recommendations of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirvan Commission). It also extends the term of the commission and establishes The Blueprint for Maryland's Future as a policy to transform Maryland's education system and align it with the recommendations in the commission's January 2019 interim report.

Thank you for your support and continued interest!