

**IMPACT BILLS**  
**February 11, 2011**

**NOTES:** *The summaries of the bills listed below are taken directly from the synopsis provided by the Department of Legislative Services. When reporting on specific bills to the Legislative Committee, staff will make clarifications to the synopsis. MACo refines the list each week, consistent with the organization's by-laws, to bring before the Legislative Committee a list of Action Bills that represent opportunities for county input and effect. Visit [www.mdcountries.org](http://www.mdcountries.org) for daily updates about legislation impacting county government.*

**TAXES AND REVENUES**

**HB 420      **RECORDATION TAX – INDEMNITY MORTGAGES (Delegate Kaiser, et al) (Ways and Means)****

Providing that, for purposes of the recordation tax, secured debt with respect to an indemnity mortgage, deed of trust, or other security interest in real property securing a guarantee of repayment of a loan for less than \$5,000,000 for which the guarantor is not primarily liable is deemed to be incurred as debt is incurred on the guaranteed loan and the recordation tax applies as if the guarantor were primarily liable for the guaranteed loan; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 440      **JANET L. HOFFMAN LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM – EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION (Delegates Mizeur and Rosenberg) (Ways and Means)****

Providing a Maryland income tax subtraction modification for amounts received by an individual under the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program; requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to examine restructuring the Program as a program under which loans qualifying for special federal income tax treatment would be made and the indebtedness forgiven under circumstances so that the amount of the indebtedness discharged would be excluded from gross income of the recipient for federal income tax purposes; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 463      **PROPERTY TAX – SEMIANNUAL PAYMENT SCHEDULE – BUSINESS PROPERTY (Delegate Elliott, et al) (Ways and Means)****

Repealing a requirement that a small business may not have property taxes for the taxable year in excess of \$50,000 to be eligible for a semiannual payment schedule for State, county, municipal corporation, and special taxing district property taxes; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after June 30, 2012; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 499      **ADMISSIONS AND AMUSEMENT TAX – EXEMPTION – HOT AIR BALLOONS (Delegates Szeliga and A. Miller) (Ways and Means)****

Providing that the admissions and amusement tax may not be imposed by a county or municipal corporation on gross receipts derived from any charge for admission to or use of a hot air balloon or tethered hot air balloon; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 558      **PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – HABITAT FOR HUMANITY (Delegates Barve and Branch) (Ways and Means)****

Expanding the scope of an existing property tax credit for specified real property owned by Habitat for Humanity to include undeveloped land to be relinquished in the near future; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

**HB 586**

**INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION FOR RETIREMENT INCOME (Delegate Gilchrist, et al) (Ways and Means)**

Altering the calculation of the maximum subtraction modification allowed under the Maryland income tax for specified retirement income under specified circumstances; including income from specified rollover individual retirement accounts in the subtraction modification under specified circumstances; applying the Act to tax years after 2010; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 620**

**TAX CREDIT EVALUATION ACT (Delegate Frick) (Ways and Means)**

Establishing a legislative review and evaluation process for specified tax credits allowed against specified taxes; establishing dates for review and other legislative action with regard to specified tax credits; providing for the repeal of specified and obsolete tax credits; providing for a specified construction of the repeal of those tax credits; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 622**

**FAIRNESS IN TAXATION FOR RETIREES ACT (Delegate Krebs, et al) (Ways and Means)**

Including income from specified retirement plans within a subtraction modification allowed under the Maryland income tax for retired individuals who are at least 65 years old or who are disabled or whose spouse is disabled; altering the determination of the maximum annual benefit under the Social Security Act for specified purposes; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2010; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 623**

**INCOME TAX – SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS FOR QUALIFIED ATTORNEYS (Delegate Rosenberg, et al) (Ways and Means)**

Allowing a subtraction from the federal adjusted gross income of an individual to determine Maryland adjusted gross income for specified amounts paid by an individual employed in specified eligible fields of employment to repay specified legal education loans; applying the Act to tax years after 2010; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 692**

crossfiled with **SB 553**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY FRANCHISE TAX – GROSS RECEIPTS – DEFINITION (Delegate Carr, et al) (Ways and Means and Economic Matters) (Senator Madaleno) (Budget and Taxation)**

Altering the definition of gross receipts to exempt from the public service company franchise tax specified revenue that a public service company collects to offset local government taxes imposed based on electricity or natural gas delivered to residential property; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 451**

**TRANSPORTATION – SALES AND USE TAX – FUNDING FOR MASS TRANSIT PROJECTS (Senators Manno and Miller) (Budget and Taxation)**

Requiring the Comptroller to distribute sales and use tax revenues on the sale of motor fuel to the Mass Transit Facility Revenue Account of the Transportation Trust Fund and to the Fund; repealing the sales and use tax exemption for the sale of motor fuel that is subject to the motor fuel tax; altering a motor carrier tax rate to include a per gallon sales and use tax equivalent rate; providing for the prepayment of the sales and use tax for motor fuel by a person who is required to pay the motor fuel tax for that fuel; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 498**

**TASK FORCE TO REVIEW PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND THE ASSESSMENT APPEALS PROCESS (Senator Glassman) (Budget and Taxation)**

Establishing a Task Force to Review Property Tax Assessment Procedures and the Assessment Appeals Process; establishing the composition of the Task Force; requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the Task Force; providing for the staffing for the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving specified compensation; requiring that the Task Force issue a report by January 1, 2012; and providing for the termination of the Act. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 732**

**MARYLAND TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT (Senator Pipkin, et al) (Budget and Taxation)**

Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to require the approval of three-fifths of the members elected to each House of the General Assembly to pass legislation to increase the rate of an existing tax or to impose a tax on an individual or entity not subject to the tax at the time of consideration of the legislation; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection. CONTINGENT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

**SB 762**

**PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS – PHYSICAL INSPECTION OF PROPERTY (Senator Brinkley) (Budget and Taxation)**

Repealing a requirement that the State Department of Assessments and Taxation or the supervisor of assessments for a county value all real property once in every 3-year cycle based on an exterior physical inspection of the real property; requiring the Department's review of each real property assessment during a 3-year cycle to include a physical inspection under specified circumstances; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

**FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT**

**HB 518**

**TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND PROTECTION ACT (Delegate Krebs, et al) (Appropriations)**

Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to establish a Transportation Trust Fund to be used only for purposes relating to transportation with a specified exception; prohibiting the reversion or crediting of any part of the Transportation Trust Fund to the General Fund of the State; requiring that specified taxes, fees, charges, and revenues be credited to the Transportation Trust Fund; etc. CONTINGENT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

**HB 532**

**BAY RESTORATION FUND – FEE EXEMPTION (Delegate Clagett) (Environmental Matters)**

Providing that a specified user of a wastewater facility is exempt from paying a Bay Restoration Fee under a specified circumstance. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 591**

**TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND – TRANSFER OR DIVERSION OF FUNDS – VOTER APPROVAL (Delegates Barkley and Krebs) (Appropriations)**

Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to establish a Transportation Trust Fund to be used only for purposes relating to transportation except in specified circumstances; prohibiting the reversion or crediting of any part of the Transportation Trust Fund to the General Fund or a special fund of the State; authorizing the General Assembly to transfer or divert funds from the Transportation Trust Fund for a purpose not related to transportation if approval is granted through a specified referendum; etc. CONTINGENT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

**HB 603**

**MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION – CLEAN ENERGY LOAN PAYMENT PROGRAM (Delegate Summers, et al) (Economic Matters)**

Establishing a Clean Energy Loan Payment Program in the Maryland Energy Administration; stating the purpose of the Program; providing for the duties of the Administration related to the Program; requiring the Program to require a property owner to repay specified loans through a surcharge on the owner's property tax bill; prohibiting the amount of the loan from exceeding 10 percent of the assessed value of a specified property; requiring that the surcharge be limited to a specified amount; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 530**

**RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY SALES – PROPERTY TAX DISCLAIMER (Senator Peters, et al) (Judicial Proceedings)**

Requiring that a specified form developed by the State Real Estate Commission in connection with the sale of residential real property state the possibility of significant differences in the property tax bill previously paid by the seller of the real property and the property tax bill of the buyer of the property. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 631**

**BUDGET – REDUCTIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS (Senators Pipkin and Brinkley) (Budget and Taxation)**

Altering the maximum reduction that the Governor can make to an appropriation in the State budget from 25% to 10% of the appropriation; requiring the Governor to present proposed reductions to the budget committees of the General Assembly at least 1 week before seeking approval of the Board of Public Works; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 632**

**STATE BUDGET (Senators Pipkin and Brinkley) (Budget and Taxation)**

Authorizing the General Assembly to increase or add Executive Department items in the budget bill, subject to a specified limitation; providing for the veto of specified budget bill items; providing for the reversion to original appropriations of specified vetoed items in the budget bill; authorizing the General Assembly to override budget bill item vetoes; establishing the manner in which and the time at which budget bill items become law; and submitting the amendment to the qualified voters for adoption or rejection. CONTINGENT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

**SB 646**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – GREEN BUSINESS INCENTIVE ZONES (Senator Ramirez, et al) (Budget and Taxation)**

Authorizing the creation of green business incentive zones in the State; establishing eligibility criteria and factors to be considered by the Secretary of Business and Economic Development in approving the zones; establishing procedures for applying for establishment of the zones and the benefits available in the zones; establishing a State income tax credit and real property tax credit available to specified businesses located in a green business incentive zone; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 677**

**TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND – DEDICATED HIGHWAY FUNDS (Senator Brinkley) (Budget and Taxation)**

Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to establish a Transportation Trust Fund to be used only for purposes relating to transportation with specified exceptions; prohibiting the reversion or crediting of any part of the Transportation Trust Fund to the General Fund of the State with a specified exception; prohibiting the reversion or crediting of any part of the Transportation Trust Fund to a special fund of the State with a specified exception; etc. CONTINGENT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

**SB 714**

**TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND – FINANCING – USE OF FUNDS (Senator Garagiola, et al) (Budget and Taxation)**

Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to establish a Transportation Trust Fund to be used only for purposes relating to transportation except in specified circumstances; prohibiting the reversion or crediting of any part of the Transportation Trust Fund to the General Fund of the State with a specified exception; prohibiting the reversion or crediting of any part of the Transportation Trust Fund to a special fund of the State with a specified exception; etc. CONTINGENT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

**EDUCATION**

**HB 414**

**LOTTERY FOR SCHOOLS ACT OF 2011 (Delegate Holmes) (Ways and Means)**

Requiring the Comptroller to distribute 25% of specified lottery proceeds to public school systems for classroom staff and instructional materials on a specified basis; requiring that 75% of specified lottery proceeds be distributed to the General Fund of the State and used for the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Program; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 429**

**VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINAL REVENUES – SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND PENSIONS (Delegates Simmons and Kramer ) (Ways and Means)**

Repealing provisions of law relating to the Purse Dedication Account; requiring specified distribution of revenues from video lottery terminals to the Education Trust Fund instead of the Purse Dedication Account; requiring specified funds in the Education Trust Fund to be accounted for separately and to be used for specified purposes. This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 448 crossfiled with SB 615 EDUCATION – RESIDENTIAL BOARDING EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR AT-RISK YOUTH – FUNDING (Delegate Ivey, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Jones–Rodwell) (Budget and Taxation)**

Requiring the Governor to appropriate specified funds to the State Department of Education to cover the transportation, boarding, and administrative costs of residential boarding education programs for at-risk youth; limiting the total amount of funds to an amount adequate to fund 400 students per fiscal year; and defining terms.

This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 486**

**EDUCATION – SCHOOL BUSES – INSPECTIONS AND LENGTH OF OPERATION (Delegate Conway, et al) (Environmental Matters)**

Authorizing specified school bus inspections to be valid in specified counties under specified circumstances; and repealing the termination date for a provision of law that alters the length of time a school bus may be operated in Somerset County, Wicomico County, and Worcester County. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 500**

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS – EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – STUDENTS IN HOME INSTRUCTION PROGRAMS (Delegates Kach and McDonough) (Ways and Means)**

Authorizing a public school to allow students in home instruction programs to participate in specified extracurricular activities under specified circumstances; requiring public schools to give placement priority to enrolled students if there are a limited number of spaces available for students in extracurricular activities; defining “extracurricular activity”; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 528 crossfiled with SB 791 EDUCATION – OPEN SPACE ON PUBLIC SCHOOL PROPERTY – PLANTING AND MAINTAINING GARDENS (Delegate Luedtke, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Raskin) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Requiring county boards of education to encourage the use of open space on public school property for the purpose of planting and maintaining gardens; requiring specified schools and community groups to submit specified plans to the county superintendent; requiring specified schools and community groups to limit the application of pesticides under specified circumstances; authorizing county boards to incorporate the use of school gardens into specified curriculum guides and to use specified produce in school cafeterias; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 530 crossfiled with SB 609 PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS – OCCUPATION AND USE OF SCHOOL SITES AND BUILDINGS (Delegate Rosenberg, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Ferguson, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Requiring a county board of education to inform public charter schools in the county if school sites or buildings have been determined by the county board to be no longer needed for school purposes under specified circumstances; requiring a county board to establish a specified procedure; prohibiting a public charter school occupying and using a school site or building from selling, disposing of, or otherwise transferring the school site or building; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 644 crossfiled with SB 492 EDUCATION – COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD BUDGETS – TRANSPARENCY (Delegate Valentino-Smith, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senator Peters) (Budget and Taxation and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Requiring each county board of education to develop and operate a single searchable Web site that is accessible to the public and includes annual school budget data; etc.  
Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 646 crossfiled with SB 755 TASK FORCE TO STUDY HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT RATES OF PERSONS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (Delegates Braveboy and Pena-Melnyk) (Ways and Means) (Senator Pugh) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Establishing the Task Force to Study High School Dropout Rates of Persons in the Criminal Justice System; providing for the membership and staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the Task Force; providing that a member of the Task Force may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force but is entitled to specified reimbursement; requiring the Task Force to study high school dropout statistics of specified persons in the criminal justice system; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

**HB 704 crossfiled with SB 683 EQUITY IN EDUCATION FUNDING ACT OF 2011 (Delegate Ross, et al) (Ways and Means) (Senators Peters and Currie) (Budget and Taxation)**  
Providing for the calculation of net taxable income for the calculation of specified State aid for education; providing for the allocation of funds for State aid for education resulting from specified calculations; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

[SB 495](#)

**EDUCATION – STATE AID – GRANT TO LIMIT DECREASES IN FUNDING (Senator Edwards) (Budget and Taxation)**

Requiring the State to provide a specified grant to a county board of education if specified funding provided to a county board decreases by a specified amount; and requiring a study on the adequacy of education funding to include the impact on State funding of declining enrollments in specified local school systems. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

[SB 625](#)

**STATE PAYMENTS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION COSTS – REMITTANCE OF REIMBURSEMENT TO COUNTY (Senator Glassman, et al) (Budget and Taxation)**

Requiring the State, when the State provides reimbursement of forward-funded public school construction or public school capital improvement projects, to remit the funds to the county government for a specified purpose; and prohibiting the State from remitting a reimbursement to the county board of education. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

[SB 626](#)

**PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION FUNDING REFORM ACT OF 2011 (Senator Glassman, et al) (Budget and Taxation)**

Repealing the Interagency Committee on School Construction; altering the authority of the State Superintendent to approve specified public school construction projects; altering the requirement under which specified entities may hold title to specified property; altering the definition of alternative financing methods; requiring public school construction funds allocated in the annual budget to be distributed to local boards using a specified formula; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

[SB 676](#)

**COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION – ALIEN STUDENTS (Senator Brinkley, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Requiring each county board of education, on or before March 1 of each year, to make a good faith effort to provide the governing body of the county with the total number of students enrolled in the public school system of the county whose presence in the United States cannot be reasonably documented; and prohibiting a county board from associating a student's race, appearance, language, or name with citizenship or immigration status. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

[SB 737](#)

**EDUCATION – FOUNDATION PROGRAM – PER-PUPIL ADJUSTMENT FOR SALARIES (Senator Pipkin) (Budget and Taxation)**

Requiring the State to distribute annually the State share of the foundation amount that is calculated using an adjusted per-pupil foundation amount to each county board; requiring the State to distribute annually an administrative salary grant to each county board; etc. This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

[SB 771](#)

**EDUCATION – STUDENT-ATHLETES – CONCUSSIONS (Senator Conway, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Requiring the State Department of Education, in collaboration with specified organizations and individuals, to develop policies and implement a program to provide awareness on the nature and risk of concussions; requiring county boards of education to provide a specified information sheet to specified individuals; requiring the removal from play of specified athletes; prohibiting the return to play of specified athletes until specified conditions are met; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 776**

**PARENT EMPOWERMENT ACT OF 2011 (Senator Ferguson) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Authorizing specified parents and legal guardians of students attending public schools that are subject to corrective action and are not making adequate yearly progress to petition county boards of education to implement specified interventions based on improving academic achievement or student safety; requiring county boards to notify the State Superintendent of Schools and the State Board of Education of the receipt and disposition of specified petitions; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**BUSINESS AFFAIRS**

**HB 595**

**SECONDHAND PRECIOUS METAL OBJECT DEALERS AND PAWNBROKERS – SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSES, RECORDS, AND INSPECTIONS (Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Labor, Licensing and Regulation)) (Economic Matters)**

Requiring a licensed secondhand precious metal object dealer to provide specified notification to a specified local law enforcement unit before engaging in specified precious metal object transactions; authorizing the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to summarily suspend in a specified manner the license of a secondhand precious metal object dealer who is convicted of or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to specified crimes; authorizing the Secretary to revoke the license of a dealer under specified circumstances; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**ELECTIONS**

**HB 436 crossfiled with SB 443**

**ELECTION LAW – EARLY VOTING CENTERS (Delegate Clagett) (Ways and Means) (Senator Young, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Requiring counties with fewer than 150,000 registered voters to establish at least one and not more than three early voting centers. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 561 crossfiled with SB 765**

**ELECTION LAW – VOTER REGISTRATION – EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION (Delegates Cardin and Rosenberg) (Ways and Means) (Senator Young, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Requiring State agencies to provide specified data to the State Board of Elections for the purpose of maintaining an accurate statewide voter registration list; prohibiting the State Board from disclosing specified data it receives except under specified circumstances; authorizing the State Board to enter into agreements with other states to exchange specified data that is relevant to maintaining accurate voter registration lists; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

**HB 671 crossfiled with SB 820**

**FEDERAL MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTER EMPOWERMENT (MOVE) ACT COMPLIANCE (The Speaker (By Request – Administration), et al) (Ways and Means) (The President (By Request – Administration), et al) (Senate Rules)**

Making specified changes to the State election law to comply with the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act; requiring local boards of elections to provide specified information relating to specified candidates to the State Board of Elections; altering specified deadlines for the filing of specified certificates of candidacy, petitions, certificates of withdrawal, and certificates of designation of candidacy; altering the primary election dates; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011



**HB 740 crossfiled with SB 806 ELECTION LAW – ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION (Delegates Cardin and Rosenberg) (Ways and Means) (Senator Young) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Authorizing an individual to apply to become a registered voter through an online voter registration system; requiring the State Board of Elections to operate an online voter registration system that allows an individual to apply to register to vote and make specified changes in the individual's existing voter registration record; requiring an individual who applies to register to vote through the online voter registration system to follow certain procedures and provide specified information; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

**SB 409 ELECTIONS – PERMANENT ABSENTEE BALLOT LIST (Senator Raskin, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Requiring the State Board of Elections to establish guidelines for a permanent absentee ballot list; authorizing an individual to apply for permanent absentee ballot status; requiring that an absentee ballot be sent to a voter on the permanent absentee ballot list for specified elections; requiring that a voter be removed from the permanent absentee ballot list under specified circumstances; requiring a voter who has permanent absentee ballot status to notify the local board with specified information; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 501 ELECTION LAW – CHANGE OF PRIMARY ELECTION DATES AND COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL MOVE ACT (Senator Dyson) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Altering the dates for primary elections in the State; making changes to the State election law to comply with the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act, as specified; altering deadlines for the filing of specified certificates of candidacy, petitions, certificates of withdrawal, and certificates of designation of candidacy; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 630 ELECTION LAW – PETITION SIGNATURES (Senator Pipkin) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Repealing provisions requiring an individual to sign the individual's name on a petition in a specified manner; providing that the petition signature of an individual shall be validated and counted if the identity of the individual reasonably can be determined in accordance with specified requirements; prohibiting an election authority from invalidating a petition signature under specified circumstances; requiring an individual's name on a petition to match exactly the individual's surname of registration; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND RELATIONS**

**HB 494 STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – VESTING AND ELIGIBILITY (Delegate Aumann) (Appropriations)**

Altering the eligibility requirements that specified members of the State Retirement and Pension System must meet in order to qualify for a service retirement allowance; and altering the number of years from 5 years to 10 years of service that members of the State Retirement and Pension System must accrue to vest in specified retirement and pension systems of the State Retirement and Pension System. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 515 STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – MILITARY SERVICE CREDIT – RESERVISTS (Delegate Kach) (Appropriations)**

Authorizing members of the State Retirement and Pension System who are members of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States to receive 4 months of service credit for each full year of military service as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 693 crossfiled with SB 444 LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS AND CONDITIONS – DEFINITION OF EMPLOYER (Delegates Barnes and Frush) (Economic Matters) (Senator Kelley, et al) (Finance)**

Adding a general definition of “employer” to be used in interpreting provisions of law relating to employment standards and conditions; and altering or repealing specified definitions of “employer” that are used in specified provisions of law relating to employment standards and conditions. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 628 STATE HEALTH AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS – PUBLIC EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES (Senator Miller) (Budget and Taxation)**

Altering the eligibility requirements for State employees receiving health benefits under the State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program; requiring that by July 1, 2020, the State discontinue a specified prescription drug benefit plan available to specified retirees; requiring specified local employers to pay a specified portion of employer contributions for specified members of the Teachers’ Retirement System or the Teachers’ Pension System; etc. Preliminary analysis: local government mandate This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 629 TEACHERS’ RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEMS – LOCAL EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS (Senators Pipkin and Brinkley) (Budget and Taxation)**

Providing for the calculation of a payment of a portion of the employer contributions for local school board employees and community college employees who are members of the Teachers’ Retirement System or the Teachers’ Pension System; requiring counties to pay a portion of the employer contributions for local school board employees and community college employees who are members of the Teachers’ Retirement System or the Teachers’ Pension System; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 735 STATE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEM – OPTIONAL RETIREMENT PROGRAM – NEW EMPLOYEES (Senators Pipkin and Brinkley) (Budget and Taxation)**

Providing that State employees beginning State employment on or after July 1, 2011, are not eligible to join the Employees’ Pension System, the Teachers’ Pension System, the State Police Retirement System, the Correctional Officers’ Retirement System, the Law Enforcement Officers’ Pension System, or the Judges’ Retirement System and are required to join the optional retirement program; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**ENVIRONMENT**

**HB 425 ENVIRONMENT – USE OF COAL COMBUSTION BY-PRODUCTS FOR RECLAMATION – BOND REQUIREMENTS (Delegate Love, et al) (Environmental Matters)**

Requiring the Department of the Environment to require a bond in a specified amount for a permit that authorizes the use of coal combustion by-products for reclamation. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 428**      **ENVIRONMENT – COAL COMBUSTION BY-PRODUCTS – PERMITS (Delegate Love, et al) (Environmental Matters)**  
Requiring the Department of the Environment to hold an informational meeting in a specified location with respect to permit applications involving the disposal of coal combustion by-products; requiring the Department to hold a public hearing before the Secretary of the Environment issues permits that involve the disposal of coal combustion by-products; and requiring the Department to mail written notice of a specified public hearing to specified local governments under specified circumstances. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 473**      **ENVIRONMENT – LANDFILLS AND INCINERATORS – DISPOSAL OF WASTE (Delegate S. Robinson, et al) (Environmental Matters)**  
Prohibiting the disposal of specified electronic devices or printer ink or toner cartridges in landfills or incinerators. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 573** crossfiled with **SB 487**      **FERTILIZER USE ACT OF 2011 (Delegate Hubbard, et al) (Environmental Matters) 2011 (Senators Middleton and Frosh) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Altering specified fertilizer labeling requirements; requiring the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the University of Maryland, to establish a professional fertilizer applicator certification program; establishing specified maximum limits for nitrogen and phosphorus in specified fertilizer; prohibiting a person from selling at retail specified fertilizer; prohibiting a person from applying specified fertilizer to specified surfaces; establishing specified penalties for specified violations; etc. VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

**HB 602**      **ENVIRONMENT – RECYCLING PILOT PROGRAM – TRANSIT STATIONS (Delegate Summers, et al) (Environmental Matters)**  
Requiring the Office of Recycling in the Department of the Environment, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, to establish a Transit Station Recycling Pilot Program. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 640**      **TASK FORCE TO STUDY REQUIRED DEPOSITS ON RETURNABLE BEVERAGE CONTAINERS (Delegate Olszewski, et al) (Environmental Matters)**  
Establishing the Task Force to Study Required Deposits on Returnable Beverage Containers in the State; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to study specified issues relevant to requiring deposits on returnable beverage containers in the State; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2011; providing for the staff of the Task Force; providing for the termination of the Act; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

**HB 668** crossfiled with **SB 552**      **ENVIRONMENT – LOCAL STORMWATER CHARGES – STATE PROPERTY (Delegate Carr, et al) (Environmental Matters) (Senator Madaleno, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Repealing an exemption from specified taxes, user charges, and utility fees related to stormwater for property owned by the State or a unit of State government; providing that property owned by the State or a unit of State government is subject to specified stormwater charges imposed by the governing body of a county or municipality within which the property is located; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 687 crossfiled with SB 544 CHESAPEAKE BAY NITROGEN REDUCTION ACT OF 2011**  
**(Delegate Bobo, et al) (Environmental Matters) (Senator Young, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Requiring the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the University of Maryland, to adopt regulations requiring specified signs to be posted where specialty fertilizer is sold or distributed on or after April 1, 2012; requiring the sign to contain specified information; prohibiting specified specialty fertilizers from being labeled for specified uses on or after April 1, 2012; prohibiting specified fertilizers from being sold or distributed for use on established lawns, grass, or turf on or after April 1, 2012; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 706 crossfiled with SB 546 CHESAPEAKE BAY PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION ACT OF 2011**  
**(Delegate Clagett, et al) (Environmental Matters) (Senator Young, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Prohibiting low phosphorous fertilizers from being used on established turf; prohibiting specialty fertilizers from being labeled for specified uses on or after April 1, 2012; providing an exception; requiring the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the University of Maryland, to adopt regulations on or after April 1, 2012, that require signs to be posted where specialty fertilizer is sold or distributed; requiring the sign to contain specified information; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 404 ENVIRONMENT – SEWAGE SLUDGE – REQUIREMENTS (Senator Pipkin)**  
**(Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Prohibiting the Department of the Environment from issuing a sewage sludge utilization permit under specified circumstances; requiring the Department to record a copy of a specified permit in specified land records under specified circumstances; and requiring the Department to establish and maintain a specified list of property. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 407 SEWAGE SLUDGE UTILIZATION PERMITS – CHESAPEAKE AND ATLANTIC COASTAL BAYS CRITICAL AREA – JUDICIAL REVIEW (Senator Pipkin) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Applying specified standing requirements, legal processes for judicial review of environmental permits, and a specified prohibition against contested case hearings to specified sewage sludge utilization permits issued for land in the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 690 RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO – WASTE-TO-ENERGY (Senator Middleton)**  
**(Finance)**  
Expanding the definition of a Tier 1 renewable source to include waste-to-energy; altering the definition of a Tier 2 renewable source to exclude waste-to-energy; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 752 ENVIRONMENT – PERMITTING PROCESS – ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REVIEW (Senator Benson, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Requiring the Department of the Environment, in consultation with the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, to develop maps that identify environmentally stressed communities in the State; requiring an Environmental Justice Review as a condition of issuing or renewing specified permits; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012

## GOVERNMENT LIABILITY & COURTS

### SB 413      **WORKERS' COMPENSATION – TEMPORARY TOTAL DISABILITY BENEFITS – TERMINATION (Senator Garagiola) (Finance)**

Prohibiting an employer or its insurer from terminating the payment of temporary total disability benefits before the end of a specified period unless the Workers' Compensation Commission has ordered a specified termination date; requiring the Commission to order an offset or credit of specified overpayments of compensation if the Commission orders the termination of a specified payment of compensation for a date earlier than the actual date that the payment of compensation was terminated by the employer or insurer; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

### SB 805      **WORKERS' COMPENSATION – BENEFITS – DEPENDENCY (Senator Middleton) (Finance)**

Providing that specified death benefit provisions of the workers' compensation law apply only to specified covered employees of a municipal corporation or a county and their dependents; altering the authority of the Workers' Compensation Commission to make specified determinations of dependency; altering provisions relating to calculation of death benefits to specified dependents who are neither a dependent spouse nor a dependent child; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

## HEALTH

### HB 709 crossfiled with SB 416      **HEALTH OFFICERS – AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS OR AGREEMENTS FOR DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES (Delegate V. Turner, et al) (Health and Government Operations) (Senator Middleton, et al) (Finance)**

Authorizing a health officer, subject to the written approval of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, to enter into a contract or other written agreement to assist or participate in the delivery of health care services with a person that is authorized to provide, finance, coordinate, facilitate, or otherwise deliver health care services in the State. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

### SB 733      **HEALTH CARE FREEDOM ACT OF 2011 (Senator Pipkin, et al) (Finance)**

Adding a new article to the Maryland Constitution to enact limits on the regulation of health care in the State; prohibiting a law from compelling, directly or indirectly, specified persons to participate in any health care system; prohibiting specified persons from being required to pay penalties or fines under specified circumstances; specifying that the purchase or sale of specified health insurance may not be prohibited by law; authorizing persons to pay directly or accept direct payment for specified health care services; etc. CONTINGENT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

### HB 451      **STATE GOVERNMENT – COUNCIL ON EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT (Delegate Hough, et al) (Health and Government Operations)**

Establishing the Council on Efficient Government; stating the purpose of the Council; providing for the membership and terms of the Council; requiring the Council to review goods or services that are the subject of procurements between specified State and governmental entities to determine if a private sector enterprise can provide the State entity with cost savings or advantageous offers; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 524**

**TASK FORCE TO REVIEW STATE REGULATIONS (Delegates Clagett and James)  
(Health and Government Operations)**

Establishing a Task Force to Review State Regulations; providing for the membership, purposes, and staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the Task Force; providing for the staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting members of the Task Force from receiving compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of expenses, as specified; requiring the Task Force to study specified matters; requiring the Task Force to make a report, as specified; providing for the termination of the Act; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

**SB 807**

**STATE PROCUREMENT – EMPLOYMENT OF UNAUTHORIZED ALIENS AND THE  
FEDERAL E–VERIFY PROGRAM (Senator Stone) (Education, Health, and  
Environmental Affairs)**

Requiring an employer under a State procurement contract or State grant to verify through the E–Verify program the employment eligibility of each employee hired under the contract or grant; prohibiting an employer under a State procurement contract or State grant from knowingly hiring an alien who does not have the right to work in the United States; etc. EMERGENCY BILL

**PARKS & RECREATION**

**SB 421**

**PROGRAM OPEN SPACE – ATTAINMENT OF ACQUISITION GOALS –  
INCREASED ALLOCATION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Senators Edwards and  
Middleton) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Altering the amount a local government can spend on development projects after it has attained its acquisition goals under Program Open Space; and repealing a limitation on the use of specified funds. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

**PLANNING & ZONING**

**HB 437**

**REAL PROPERTY – SALES OF NEW HOMES – MINIMUM VISITABILITY  
FEATURES (Delegate Niemann) (Environmental Matters)**

Requiring a developer of new homes in a subdivision with 11 or more new homes and 3 or more model homes at the time of offering the new homes in the subdivision for sale to make available for inspection a model home that contains minimum visitability features and to offer minimum visitability features as an option for purchase; and providing for a delayed effective date. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2012

**HB 474**

**CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – EXPEDITED APPROVAL OF  
STATE PERMITS (Delegate James, et al) (Environmental Matters)**

Requiring the Department of the Environment and the State Highway Administration to develop and implement processes to expedite the approval of State permits for construction and development projects that have received “fast track” or similar status from a county in the State or that will create a significant number of jobs and have a positive economic impact on the State; requiring a specified report to the General Assembly; and making the Act an emergency measure. EMERGENCY BILL

**HB 630**      **BUILDING STANDARDS – HIGH-PERFORMANCE HOMES (Delegates Beidle and Vitale) (Environmental Matters)**  
Providing that the Department of Housing and Community Development, through regulation, policy, or legislation, encourage the construction of new residential structures as high-performance homes; and defining the term “high-performance home”. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 711** crossfiled with **SB 581**      **MANUFACTURED HOMES – SPRINKLER SYSTEM REQUIREMENT – OPT-OUT PROVISIONS FOR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS (Delegate Beitzel, et al) (Environmental Matters) (Senator Edwards) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Authorizing local jurisdictions to adopt a local amendment to allow manufactured homes to opt-out of sprinkler requirements if the local jurisdiction has adopted a local amendment to the Maryland Building Performance Standards that allows buildings and structures to opt-out of sprinkler requirements; providing that a local amendment adopted by a local jurisdiction under the Act prevails if there is a conflict with the International Building Code; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 412**      **AGRICULTURE – EASEMENTS – SEPARATE PARCELS (Senator Getty) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Providing that, if specified parcels of land under a specified deed of easement meet specified requirements, the separate conveyance of the parcels is not a subdivision for a specified purpose and does not require approval by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 442**      **MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST – EASEMENTS – LOCAL APPROVAL (Senator Young, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**  
Prohibiting the Maryland Environmental Trust from acquiring a perpetual conservation easement on property planned or zoned for development unless the appropriate governing body approves the transaction. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

## **PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS**

**HB 458**      **CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM – PROHIBITED DISSEMINATION (Delegate Stukes, et al) (Judiciary)**  
Prohibiting the dissemination of criminal history record information to a person other than a criminal justice unit if the information relates to a charge or conviction for a nonviolent crime that was allegedly committed more than 10 years previously, with a specified exception; and providing that this prohibition may not be abrogated by waiver or consent. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 462**      **VEHICLE LAWS – OVERTAKING AND PASSING SCHOOL VEHICLES – SCHOOL BUS MONITORING CAMERAS (Delegate Hogan) (Environmental Matters)**  
Authorizing a county board of education, in consultation with a local law enforcement agency, to place school bus monitoring cameras on county school buses for the purpose of recording motor vehicles committing violations relating to overtaking and passing school vehicles; requiring a school bus operator to give a recording of the violations to a local law enforcement agency; requiring recordings made by a school bus monitoring camera to include specified images and information about the violations; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 507 crossfiled with SB 652 PUBLIC SAFETY – USE OF ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICES – REPORTS (Delegate Branch, et al) (Judiciary) (Senator Ramirez) (Judicial Proceedings)**  
Requiring a law enforcement agency that issues electronic control devices to its law enforcement officers to report specified information annually on or before March 31 to the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention using a specified format; requiring the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention to analyze and summarize specified reports and to submit a report of the analyses and summaries to the Governor, the General Assembly, and each law enforcement agency on or before September 1 each year; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 563 ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICES – PERMIT PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS (Delegate Braveboy) (Judiciary)**  
Altering a specified prohibition on the possession and use of an electronic control device to prohibit a person from purchasing, wearing, carrying, or transporting an electronic control device unless the person has been issued a permit under specified provisions of law; establishing a penalty for a person who violates specified provisions of law related to the sale and activation of an electronic control device; establishing a permitting process; requiring that an application for a permit be made under oath; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 599 COURTS AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS – USE OF TRACKING DEVICE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – COURT ORDER (Delegates Waldstreicher and Rosenberg) (Judiciary)**  
Prohibiting, except if exigent circumstances exist or if a specified court order has been issued, an investigative or law enforcement officer from using a specified tracking device to determine the location or movement of another individual or object for more than 48 hours; establishing penalties for a violation of the Act; authorizing an investigative or law enforcement officer to make a specified application for a court order; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 654 CLINICAL REVIEW PANELS – PSYCHIATRIC MEDICATION – CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES (Delegates Rosenberg and Hubbard) (Health and Government Operations and Judiciary)**  
Providing that specified psychiatric medication may not be administered to individuals who refuse the medication while committed to the custody of specified facilities except under specified circumstances; providing for the composition, appointment, and duties of specified clinical review panels; requiring specified officials to give specified written notice to specified individuals; providing that an individual has specified rights during a meeting of a panel; authorizing the chair of a panel to take specified action; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**HB 664 crossfiled with SB 671 VEHICLE LAWS – SPEED MONITORING SYSTEMS – ENFORCEMENT (Delegate Frush) (Environmental Matters) (Senator Rosapepe) (Judicial Proceedings)**  
Authorizing specified persons to sign a statement that alleges, based on inspection of recorded images from a speed monitoring system, that a motor vehicle was being operated in violation of highway speed laws; and authorizing specified persons to swear to and affirm for evidentiary purposes, based on inspection of recorded images from a speed monitoring system, that a motor vehicle was being operated in violation of highway speed laws. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011



**SB 503**

**FORECLOSURE PURCHASER AND TENANT – EVICTIONS – TENANT’S RIGHT TO RECLAIM PERSONAL PROPERTY (Senator Rosapepe) (Judicial Proceedings)**

Requiring a sheriff or county official directed to evict a tenant to give notice to the purchaser and the tenant of the scheduled date of execution of the warrant of restitution; establishing that the tenant has the right to reclaim any personal property left in the premises within 3 full days after the eviction; specifying how the purchaser may secure the tenant’s personal property; requiring the purchaser to allow the tenant to make reasonable arrangements to obtain and move the personal property; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 636**

**PROBATION – PROBATION WORK READINESS PILOT PROGRAM (Senator Gladden) (Judicial Proceedings)**

Establishing the Probation Work Readiness Pilot Program; limiting the application of the Act to specified counties; specifying the purpose of the Program; requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, in consultation with the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the circuit administrative judges of specified judicial circuits, to develop specified regulations; authorizing a court to order a defendant to participate in the Program as a condition of probation; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 679**

**VEHICLE LAWS – OVERTAKING AND PASSING SCHOOL VEHICLES – SCHOOL BUS MONITORING CAMERAS (Senator Brinkley, et al) (Judicial Proceedings)**

Authorizing a county board of education, in consultation with a local law enforcement agency, to place school bus monitoring cameras on county school buses for the purpose of recording motor vehicles committing violations relating to overtaking and passing school vehicles; requiring a school bus operator to give a recording of the violations to a local law enforcement agency; requiring recordings made by a school bus monitoring camera to include specified images and information about the violations; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 792**

**CRIMES – PROHIBITION ON SALE OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA TO A MINOR – LOCAL LAW (Senator Benson, et al) (Judicial Proceedings)**

Authorizing the governing body of a county or a municipal corporation to adopt an ordinance or local law that prohibits a person from selling drug paraphernalia to a minor; authorizing a county or a municipal corporation to impose specified criminal or civil penalties; and providing that a local law adopted by a county or municipal corporation may authorize revocation or nonrenewal of a license or permit of a business found to be in violation of the local law. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**PUBLIC INFORMATION & ETHICS**

**SB 545**

**POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS – LEGAL NOTICE REQUIREMENTS – POSTING ON WEB SITES (Senator Young, et al) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Authorizing a county or municipality to satisfy a requirement to publish legal notices in a newspaper of general circulation by posting the notices on its Web site; requiring notices posted on a county or municipality Web site to be conspicuously displayed and easily accessible; requiring a county or municipality that chooses to post notices on the Internet to publish specified advance notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or municipality and to offer a specified mail service; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 644**

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPARENCY AND OPEN GOVERNMENT ACT  
(Senators Ferguson and Madaleno) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs)**

Establishing the Joint Committee on Transparency and Open Government; specifying the membership, chairs, and staff of the Committee; specifying the purposes of the Committee; requiring the Committee to make specified recommendations, review specified laws, programs, services, and policies, consult with specified State entities, and perform specified other duties; requiring the Committee to submit a specified report to the General Assembly on or before a specified date each year; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS**

**HB 431** crossfiled with **SB 402**

**MOTOR CARRIER COMPANIES – LOCAL PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS – EXEMPTION FROM MOTOR CARRIER PERMIT  
REQUIREMENT (Delegate Love, et al) (Economic Matters) (Senator Glassman) (Finance)**

Providing that a motor carrier permit is not required for a local public transportation system established under a law enacted by the local governing body of a county or municipal corporation; and repealing specified exemptions for particular counties. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**HB 514**

**VEHICLE LAWS – WORK ZONE SPEED CONTROL SYSTEMS – SIGNAGE (Delegate  
Kach, et al) (Environmental Matters)**

Providing that a road sign required to notify drivers that a speed monitoring system may be in operation in a work zone must also notify drivers that images of motor vehicles may be recorded even if there are no workers present. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 563**

**MOTOR CARRIER COMPANIES – LOCAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS  
– EXEMPTION FROM MOTOR CARRIER PERMIT REQUIREMENT (Senator Pugh)  
(Finance)**

Providing that a motor carrier permit is not required for a local public transportation system established under a law enacted by the local governing body of a county or municipality. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 572**

**RAYMOND SCOTT BROWN II VEHICLE TOWING ACT (Senator Muse, et al)  
(Judicial Proceedings)**

Providing for the statewide application of specified provisions of law governing the towing or removal of vehicles from parking lots; requiring a person who undertakes the towing or removal of vehicles from parking lots to provide notice to police departments; altering the time frame within which a tower is required to provide notice to specified police departments after towing a vehicle from a parking lot; altering the information that a tower is required to provide to police departments; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 623**

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – TRANSIT REVIEW AND  
EVALUATION (Senators Madaleno and Glassman) (Finance)**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Transportation to review and evaluate transit priority treatments, best practices, and specified transit thresholds, and to identify specified priority treatment corridors; requiring the Secretary of Transportation to submit a specified report to the General Assembly on or before a specified date; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 766**

**SNOWSTORM AND RELATED CLIMATE CHANGE PREPARATION ACT (Senator Rosapepe) (Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Finance)**

Requiring, on or before December 1, 2011, the Maryland Commission on Climate Change, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, to submit a specified report to the Governor and the General Assembly on specified investments necessary for the State to respond to specified weather emergencies; requiring the report to include specified information; etc. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011

**SB 780**

**VEHICLE LAWS – STOLEN VEHICLES – TOWING AND IMPOUNDMENT CHARGES (Senators Ramirez and Muse) (Judicial Proceedings)**

Providing that specified persons may not be held liable for specified vehicle towing and impoundment charges for specified stolen vehicles that were incurred before specified notice was provided; limiting specified towing and impoundment charges that specified persons are required to pay before reclaiming a towed and impounded stolen vehicle to charges incurred after specified notice was provided; etc. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2011

**SB 796**

**TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION TRAINING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (Senator Jones–Rodwell, et al) (Finance and Budget and Taxation)**

Requiring the State Highway Administration to use the maximum amount of specified federal funds available for a highway construction training program and supportive services, including skill improvement programs; requiring the Administration to submit a specified report by February 1 each year to specified committees of the General Assembly; providing for the contents of the report; etc. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011

**SB 812**

**BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING – UNIFORM PROCESS FOR LOCAL PRIORITIES (Senator Zirkin) (Budget and Taxation)**

Requiring the Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding to identify the transportation priorities of local governments, to receive input from citizens and elected officials concerning the transportation priorities of local jurisdictions, and to compare and evaluate specified transportation priorities of local jurisdictions. EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2011