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Legislative District 43
Baltimore City

Environment and
Transportation Committee

Subcommittees
Environment
Motor Vehicle and Transportation



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

April 15, 2022

Members of the 43rd District,

The fourth session of my freshman term in the Maryland General Assembly continued to operate differently from a usual session. The House of Delegates was hybrid with in-person floor sessions, and committee/subcommittee hearings and voting sessions virtual. Advocates, lobbyists, and visitors returned on campus but not nearly at the same rate as prior to the pandemic. The 444th Legislative Session was again excitingly historic as the General Assembly worked tirelessly on your priorities.

Here is a summary of legislation passed this session:

DELEGATE BOYCE'S SPONSORED LEGISLATION

Out of the thirteen bills filed, three passed; **School Construction – Design Documents – Waste Disposal Infrastructure [HB566](#)** requires the Interagency Commission on School Construction to adopt regulations for county board of education to include waste disposal infrastructure in the design documents for the construction of a new school building; **Agriculture - Urban Agriculture Water and Power Infrastructure Grant Program and Fund – Establishment [HB855](#)** increases the viability of urban farming and community gardens, and improve access to urban-grown foods by creating a grant program and fund; and **Baltimore City – Vehicle Laws – Towing [HB1081](#)** (on behalf of the Baltimore City Administration) authorizes Baltimore City to tow vehicles blocking access to driveways, alleys, transit lanes, or parking facilities.

The following bills did not make it through the Senate chambers:

Maryland Paint Stewardship [HB18](#), State Procurement – Certification of LGBTQ Businesses [HB182](#), and Public and Nonpublic Schools - Bronchodilator and Epinephrine Availability and Use – Policies [HB384](#). I plan to refile these bills for the 2023 Legislative Session.

*The following bills were **House priorities**:*

THE FY23 BUDGET

The **Budget Bill [SB290](#)** includes \$61 billion that covers expansions of health care services, investments in public education and assistance for vulnerable residents, and accounts for tax cuts on baby and health care items. The budget also includes a \$211 million surplus and maintains a \$2.4 billion Rainy Day Fund balance. Included in the budget is \$2 billion for capital projects. The budget increases funding for public schools (\$7.9 billion) and allocates \$800 million of fiscal 2023 revenues

for the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund. It also provides a \$365.7 million increase in State support to four-year public colleges and universities. Funding for crime prevention and victim services increased by \$148 million. Lastly, the budget includes \$210 million to improve State government cybersecurity.

VETO OVERRIDES

The following bills vetoed by the Governor were overridden by the House and the Senate: **State Personnel Management System - Office of the Public Defender - Placement and Collective Bargaining** [HB 90](#); **Maryland Transit Administration Police – Collective Bargaining – Supervisors and Sergeants** [HB580](#); **Time to Care Act of 2022** [SB275](#) will offer Marylanders 12 weeks of partially paid leave each year to care for themselves or a close family member after a serious health issue, and up to 24 weeks of paid leave for new parents who also experience serious health issues; **State Finance and Procurement – Prevailing Wage – Stop Work Orders** [SB1](#); **Juvenile Law - Child Interrogation Protection Act** [SB53](#); **Procurement – Prevailing Wage – Applicability** [SB259](#); **Transportation - Investment Program - MARC Rail Service (Maryland Regional Rail Transformation Act)** [HB778/SB514](#); **Local Health Officers - Removal - Process** [HB609](#); **Public Safety – Licensed Firearms Dealers – Security Requirements** [HB1021](#); and **Abortion Care Access** [HB937](#).

ENVIRONMENT

Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 [SB528](#) mitigates the effects of climate change by setting achievable goals to reduce greenhouse gases and meet the goal of net-zero statewide emissions by 2045. This bill addresses greenhouse gas reduction targets, environmental justice, Maryland Commission on climate change working groups, the International Green Construction Code, building energy performance standards for existing buildings, a Building Energy Transition Implementation task force, public service commission, zero-emission vehicles and school buses & electric bus pilot program, zero-emission passenger cars and other light-duty vehicles, and electric distribution system planning. **Conservation Finance Act** [HB653](#) makes changes to a broad variety of existing programs related to environmental conservation and natural resources management and expands opportunities for agencies to obtain private investment and financing for State environmental projects, including conservation efforts, restoration projects, and the installation and repair of green and blue infrastructure. **Oyster Restoration** [HB1228](#) is oyster restoration legislation that provides funding for the state to make infrastructure upgrades that will help the state achieve its goal of producing 5 billion baby oysters by 2025. The bill also provides economic incentives to retain and reuse oyster shells. It transitions the oyster shell tax credit to a grant and eliminates the sunset to keep the program going. The bill also provides loans to increase capacity in oyster shucking houses.

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TRANSPORTATION

Transportation – Highway User Revenue – Distribution [HB410](#) increases the share of funds from the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account (GMVRA) that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) must annually provide to local governments through capital transportation grants beginning in fiscal 2025 by making permanent the distribution in effect for fiscal 2020 through 2024. **Clean Cars Act of 2022** [HB1391](#) reestablishes the qualified plug-in electric vehicle and

fuel cell electric vehicle excise tax credit and extends eligibility to certain vehicles and property and establishes the Medium-Duty and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Grant Program within the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA). **Transportation - Investment Program - MARC Rail Service (Maryland Regional Rail Transformation Act)** [HB778](#) requires the Maryland Transit Administration to establish certain investment programs for enhancing certain rail lines and services operated by the Maryland Area Regional Commuter rail service. **Maryland Transit Administration - Conversion to Zero-Emission Buses (Zero-Emission Bus Transition Act Revisions)** [HB10](#) requires the Maryland Transit Administration to provide certain safety and workforce development training for its operations training workforce and its maintenance workforce. **Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses** [HB141](#) requires that equity be considered when State transportation plans, reports, and goals are developed; alters the membership of the advisory committee on State transportation goals; requires the Department of Transportation, in collaboration with the Maryland Transportation Administration, to conduct a transit equity analyses and consult with certain communities before announcing any reduction or cancellation of a capital expansion project in the construction program of the Consolidated Transportation Program.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Legal Cannabis Constitutional Amendment [HB1](#) puts a referendum for legalized cannabis on the 2022 General Election ballot. It would allow individuals 21 or older to use and possess cannabis. **Cannabis Reform** [HB837](#) addresses criminal justice and public health issues facing legalization while building the necessary foundation to create social equity in the recreational cannabis industry. It allows Marylanders to possess up to 1.5 ounces of recreational cannabis without penalty and automatically expunges the conviction of anyone previously found guilty of simple possession of marijuana. **Juvenile Law - Child Interrogation Protection Act** [SB53](#) requires a law enforcement officer who takes a child into custody or charges a child with a criminal violation to provide actual notice to the child's parents, guardian, or custodian; prohibits the interrogation of a child by a law enforcement officer until the child has consulted with a certain attorney and a notice has been provided to the child's parents, guardian, or custodian.

HEALTH

Reproductive Health Care Access [HB937](#) removes unnecessary and outdated barriers to accessing reproductive health care. It allows more types of providers to perform abortions and provides more access to clinical training for those providers. It also removes financial barriers by requiring Medicaid and private insurance plans to cover abortion care without cost-sharing or deductible requirements.

GOVERNMENT

Commission to Implement Family and Medical Leave [HB496](#) lays the foundation for the implementation of paid family and medical leave by 2024. The House Appropriations Committee set aside more than \$20 million in the budget to start building the program's framework beginning in July. **Legal and Employee Holiday - Juneteenth National Independence** [HB227](#) Day makes Juneteenth a state holiday. It commemorates June 19, 1865, when hundreds of thousands of enslaved people in Texas found out they were free - 2.5 years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Untraceable Firearms [HB425](#) bans unregistered, untraceable 'ghost guns' and creates a plan for a system to register guns that can be sold in kits of loose parts and do not have a serial number. **Enhanced Security Requirements for Licensed Firearms Dealer Shops** [HB1021](#) requires firearm dealers to put common sense security features like video cameras, burglary systems and safes in their shops to prevent stolen firearms. These enhanced security measures will prevent stolen firearms from going on the black market and being used to commit crimes. **Public Safety and Criminal Justice - Transparency and Accountability** [SB763](#) requires the Division of Parole and Probation to report certain information annually to the General Assembly. **Firearms and Inmates - Enforcement, Procedures, and Reporting** [SB861](#) expands the types of cases in which the State may appeal from a decision of a trial court.

FUNDING FOR PROJECTS IN THE 43RD DISTRICT

- 29th Street Community Center Renovation - \$250,000
- Be a Chef for a Day @ Bit Community Center - \$300,000
- Epiphany House and Micah House (GEDCO) - \$250,000
- Lovely Lane Arts and Neighborhood Center - \$200,000
- Northwood Baseball League - \$1Million
- Stony Run Walking Path and Wyman Park - \$1.5Million
- Waverly Main Street Business Corridor Enhancements - \$250,00
- Central Baltimore Partnership - Neil Muldrow Business Development Fund- \$2Million
- Children's Guild Transformation Academy -- \$1Million
- Gilchrist Center Baltimore -- \$1.5Million
- Guilford Traffic Improvements -- \$250,000
- Northwood Branch - Enoch Pratt Free Library -- \$300,000
- Waverly Branch Enoch Pratt Free Library -- \$750,000
- Waverly Firehouse - Engine Company 31 -- \$500,000
- Woodbourne-McCabe Community Association Alhambra Park -- \$50,000

Total project funding in the 43rd District = \$10.1Million

I look forward to seeing you in the community and working with you in preparation for our priorities for the 445th Legislative Session of the Maryland General Assembly in 2023.

Your public servant,



Regina T. Boyce, Delegate