



THE  
MARYLAND  
MUNICIPAL  
LEAGUE

**2019**

# **Final Legislative Report**

**Legislation Affecting  
Municipalities**

## Preface

MML's 2019 *Final Report on Legislation Affecting Municipalities* illustrates the scope of League activities during the 2019 regular session of the Maryland General Assembly. A copy is being sent via email to each member municipality to apprise local officials of legislation passed during the session that may influence their operations and activities. Persons receiving this report are encouraged to share this information with other appropriate officials in their cities or towns.

There were 2,497 bills and joint resolutions introduced in the General Assembly during the 2019 regular session. League staff reviewed all bills and their many amendments to determine their impacts on local government. During the session, MML sent 13 legislative updates in the weekly *eBulletin* to keep members informed about bills with potential municipal government impact. MML actively supported, supported with amendments, or opposed a total of 50 bills, and closely monitored several others. League efforts were directed by the decisions of the MML Legislative Committee and facilitated by the activities and support of local chapters and individual municipal officials.

This report provides a summary of significant statewide bills passed by the General Assembly that will affect Maryland's municipalities, including those bills tracked by the League. These measures are organized according to general subject headings and are presented in bill number order, Senate bills first, followed by House bills. To view the text of the actual legislation, please go to the [Maryland General Assembly Website](#), enter the bill number in the box on the home page, and then click on the bill number in the top left-hand corner of the bill page.

For a more in-depth summary of legislation passed during the 2019 General Assembly session, click on [2019 Maryland 90 Day Report](#) and go to the index at the back of the report to find the bill number which will direct you to the section which contains a full description of the bill. You can also click on the bill number(s), which will take you to the bill information page.

We recommend this compilation for your general use and guidance. In areas where significant legal questions may arise, we urge that you consult your municipal attorney.

Scott A. Hancock  
Executive Director

Candace L. Donoho  
Government Relations Specialist

Bill Jorch  
Manager, Government Relations and Research

Justin Fiore  
Manager, Government Relations

Kevin Connors  
Administrative Assistant, Legislative and Conferences

James P. Peck  
Research Specialist

## 2018-2019 Legislative Committee

The MML Legislative Committee is charged with several duties, including the review of all Legislative Action Requests (LARs) submitted to the Committee by chapters, departments, and individual member municipalities. After appropriate consideration of all LARs, the Committee recommends a formal legislative program to the League's membership at the annual fall conference.

The 2018-2019 Committee began meeting during the fall of 2018, where they debated and then selected a recommended legislative priority program, which was presented to the membership at the fall conference in Annapolis. Beginning on the first day of the 2019 General Assembly session, the Committee continued to meet every seven to ten days during which time, the Committee guided the League's program, considering over 200 bills, and taking positions on legislation affecting municipalities statewide.

### Chair

Michael Callahan, Mayor, Cheverly

### Vice Chairs

Abigail McNinch, Mayor, Denton

### Members

Jim A. Beauchamp, Councilmember, Centreville

Michael Bibb, Commissioner, St. Michaels

Don Wm. Bradley, Circuit Rider Administrator, Brookview/Church Creek/Eldorado

Gavin Buckley, Mayor, Annapolis

Lenford Carey, Mayor, University Park

Charles Cephas, Councilmember, Hurlock

Sandra Custen, Councilmember, New Windsor

Derek Daves, Code Enforcement Officer, College Park (CEZOA representative)

Judith F. "J" Davis, Mayor Pro Tem, Greenbelt

Poetri Deal, Deputy Director, Baltimore

Jane Hagen, Councilmember, North Beach

Victoria Jackson-Stanley, Mayor, Cambridge

Jeannine James, Mayor, La Plata

Jennifer Jennings, Health, Fitness, & Aquatics Supervisor, Annapolis (MRPA representative)

Jerome Klobukowski, Commissioner, Poolesville

Ken Lord, Mayor, Keedysville

Danielle Mandley, Town Clerk, La Plata (MMCA representative)

Monica Marquina, Legislative Affairs Manager, Gaithersburg

David Martin, Councilmember, Havre de Grace

James L. McCarron, Mayor, Taneytown

Joli A. McCathran, Mayor, Washington Grove

Denise Mitchell, Councilmember, College Park

Gina Morlan, Councilmember, Brentwood

David C. Morris, Chief of Police, Riverdale Park (MPEA representative)

Michael O'Connor, Mayor, Frederick

Lesley Riddle, Director of Public Works, Hyattsville (MPWA representative)

Laurie-Anne Sayles, Councilmember, Gaithersburg

Eliot Schaefer, Assistant City Attorney, Rockville (MMAA representative)

Scott Somers, City Manager, College Park (MCCMA representative)

William Wantz, Municipal Attorney, Boonsboro/ New Market

Robert "Bob" Willey, Mayor, Easton

## Administrative

[SB 330/HB 1244 Public Buildings – Diaper–Changing Facilities](#) (C-6)(F-11)

[SB 1014/HB 1192 Assembly Areas - State-Funded Construction or Renovation - Assisted Listening System Requirement](#) (C-3)

[HB 515 Municipalities - Municipal Infraction Proceedings - Designation of a Building Inspector or an Enforcement Officer to Testify](#) (D-1)

## Economic and Community Development

[SB 581/HB 1260 Economic, Housing, and Community Development – Opportunity Zone Incentives](#) (A-14) (A-21)(B-4)(B-7)(B-8)(B-9)(H-180)(H-22)

## Employment

[SB 280/HB 166 Labor and Employment – Payment of Wages – Minimum Wage \(Fight for Fifteen\)](#) (A-14) (H-28)

[SB 512 Government Shutdowns - Employees – Protections](#) (F-12)(H-10)(H-11)

[SB 705/HB 1284 Organ Donation – Prohibition on Discrimination by Insurer and Unpaid Leave](#) (H-15)(H-30)

[SB 839/HB 994 Labor and Employment - Criminal Record Screening Practices \(Ban the Box\)](#) (H-30)

[SB 872/HB 679 Workplace Harassment – Prohibitions, Liability, Enforcement, and Prevention Training](#) (F-11)

[HB 790 Equal Pay for Equal Work - Enforcement - Civil Penalties \(Equal Pay Remedies and Enforcement Act\)](#) (H-31)

# Fiscal and Financial Affairs

[SB 122 Property Tax Credits - Real Property Used for Robotics Programs](#) (B-4)

[SB125/HB100 Budget Bill \(Fiscal Year 2020\)](#) (A-1)(A-108)

[SB 158/HB 332 Maryland Department of Health - Community Dental Clinics Grant Program](#) (J-11)

[SB 164/HB 155 Maryland Department of Health - Capital and Grant Programs - State Grants](#) (J-19)

[SB 265/HB 380 Income Tax Subtraction Modification - Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief - Extension](#) (B-11)

[SB 284/HB 1090 9-1-1 Specialists - Compensation and Benefits](#) (B-4)(E-21)

[SB 292/HB 477 Property Tax Credit - Public Safety Officer – Definition](#) (B-3)

[SB 296/HB 432 Property Tax - Exemptions - Nonprofit Charitable Museums](#) (B-2)

[SB 331/HB 34 Business Regulation - Trader's Licenses - License Fees](#) (H-6)

[SB 466/HB 285 Hotel Rental Tax - Limitation of Municipal Authority to Tax Small Hotels – Repeal](#) (B-14)

[SB 477/HB 387 Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Maryland Transportation Authority Police](#) (B-11)

[SB 478/HB 1317 Property Tax – Vehicles Valued as Stock in Business and Notification on Annexation](#) (B-4)

[SB 484 Tax Liens – Expiration](#) (B-13)

[SB 509/HB 557 Property Tax – In Rem Foreclosure and Sale – Vacant and Abandoned Property](#) (B-5)

[SB 654/HB 1339 Property Tax Credit – Elderly Individuals – Eligibility](#) (B-3)

[SB 777 Property Tax - Exemption for Dwelling House Owned by Disabled Active Duty Service Member](#)  
(B-2)

[SB 816/HB 81 Property Tax Credit – Surviving Spouse of Veteran](#) (B-3)(C-4)

[HB 170 Jane E. Lawton Conservation Loan Program - Eligible Borrowers](#) (C-3)

[HB 396 Property Tax - Optional Installment Payment Schedule](#) (B-2)

[HB 1209 Property Tax - Collection of Unpaid Taxes and Tax Sales](#) (B-5)

## Land Use and Environment

[SB 55 Department of Planning - Central Depository \(C-2\)](#)

[SB 203/HB 120 Natural Resources - No Net Loss of Forest – Definition \(K-2\)](#)

[SB 234/HB 272 Natural Resources - State and Local Forest Conservation Funds \(K-2\)](#)

[SB 269/HB 428 Comprehensive Flood Management Grant Program – Awards for Flood Damage and Mandatory Funding \(K-13\)](#)

[SB 370 Environment – Recycling – Office Buildings \(K-10\)](#)

[SB 505/HB 703 Environmental Violations - Reporting Requirements \(K-15\)](#)

[SB 634/HB 1357 Electric Cooperatives - Powers - Conducting or Communications Facilities \(H-11\)](#)

[SB 729/HB 735 Technical Study on Changes in Forest Cover and Tree Canopy in Maryland \(K-1\)](#)

[SB 917/HB 1045 Land Use - Comprehensive Plans - Housing Element \(D-1\)](#)

## Public Safety/Legal

[SB 210/HB 138 Law Enforcement - Federal Military Surplus Program - Equipment Acquisition \(E-15\)](#)

[SB 569/HB 1268 Public Safety - Rape Kit Testing Grant Fund – Established \(A-95\) \(E-16\)](#)

[SB 727 Health – Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program \(J-10\)](#)

[SB 767/HB 1096 Criminal Procedure - Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits – Analysis \(E-6\) \(E-17\)](#)

[HB 1348 Public Safety – Markell Hendricks Youth Crime Prevention and Diversion Parole Fund – Establishment \(E-15\)](#)

# Transportation

[SB 116/HB 82 Transportation – Complete Streets – Access to Healthy Food and Necessities \(G-2\)](#)

[SB 770/HB 748 Vehicle Laws - Electric Low Speed Scooters \(G-6\)](#)

[SB 935/HB 939 Vehicle Laws - Electric Bicycles - Equipment and Operation \(G-6\)](#)

[HB 560 Transportation - State Highway Administration - Traffic Calming Devices \(G-1\)](#)