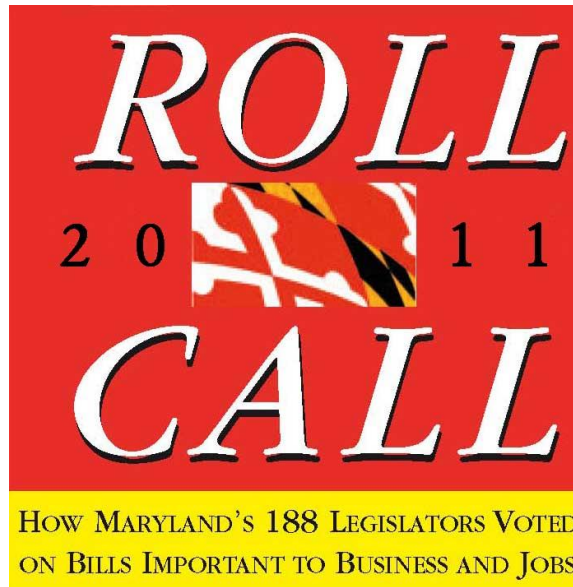


Maryland Business for Responsive Government

MBRG

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“Leading up to and during the 2007 session claps of fiscal thunder could be heard moving closer. Yet, much like the picnickers choosing to ignore the signs until the downpour forces them to take shelter, Maryland’s elected officials chose not to deal with the fiscal problems facing the state. Why Worry? It’s not raining yet.”

-2007 Roll Call

MBRG Issues an “All Hands on Deck” to Maryland Business

In 2007, MBRG’s *Roll Call* Advisory Council anticipated the “Perfect Storm.” Between looming pension obligations, Transportation Trust Fund raids and budget demands, MBRG saw the need for Maryland’s leadership to impose fiscal discipline and face Maryland’s problems immediately.

And, how’d that end?

During the Special Session of 2007 the legislature imposed the trifecta of tax increases, raising the sales, corporate and income tax rates. At \$1.4 billion, it was the largest increase in the state’s tax

history with \$800 million directly hitting Maryland businesses. At the time, it was described by top elected officials as *the* long-term solution to Maryland’s budget deficit.

And, less than five years later, here we are again: only the clouds have grown darker, the glass lower and the morning sky redder.

Since Governor Parris Glendening’s last term in office, Maryland has been carrying a budget shortfall on the books with deficits projected to continue at roughly \$1.8 billion per year or

more through at least 2016.¹ Since Glendening’s second term, these budget deficits have been closed by financial sleight-of-hand through “one time transfers” from dedicated funds, tax and fee increases, and accounting gimmicks that have encouraged unrestrained growth in State government spending. The effect of this approach has been to discourage prudent, effective and fiscally responsible spending and a solid, reliable foundation for prosperity and growth in Maryland.

(Continued on Page 22)

Inside: Results of the 2011 Session

Victories and Defeats

Senate and House Vote Descriptions

Full Record of House and Senate Votes

Commentary on Invest Maryland

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

VICTORIES

Increasing the number of businesses that are eligible to pay their State, County, Municipal Corporation and Special Taxing District property taxes on a semiannual basis was approved.

See Senate Vote 11 (HB 463) on Page 6 and House Vote 6 on Page 9.

Subjecting to sunset review a wide range of tax credits, including all of the states' business tax credits, was rejected.

See Senate Vote 12 (HB 620) on Page 7 and House Vote 7 on Page 9.

Lowering the stringent standards for the award of punitive damages was rejected.

See Senate Vote 4 (SB 483) on Page 4.

Prohibiting health insurers from imposing a copayment that exceeds 50% of the allowed amount established by the insurer for the covered benefit was rejected.

See Senate Vote 6 (SB 579) on Page 5.

Expanding the remedies available for discrimination by a place of public accommodation to include affirmative relief, compensatory damages, and any other equitable relief that an administrative law judge deems appropriate was rejected.

See Senate Vote 7 (SB 642) on Page 5 and House Vote 3 (HB 285) on Page 8.

Requiring the apportionment of non-operational income of a corporation in Maryland if the company's principal place of business is managed or directed in the State was rejected.

See Senate Vote 9 (SB 800) on Page 6.

DEFEATS

Allowing each worker in a unionized workplace to decide whether or not to join the union was rejected.
See Senate Vote 8 (SB 660) on Page 6 and House Vote 11 (HB 743) on Page 10.

Prohibiting employers from using an applicant's credit report or credit history in determining whether to deny employment, discharge the employee, or determine compensation, or the terms, conditions or privileges of employment was approved.

See Senate Vote 1 (SB 132) on Page 4 and House Vote 1 (HB 87) on Page 8.

Imposing union membership and collective bargaining agreements on all independent home health care providers who are compensated by state reimbursement programs was approved.

See Senate Vote 2 (SB 181) on Page 4 and House Vote 2 (HB 171) on Page 8.

Requiring organizations that perform fifty or more binding consumer arbitrations during a five-year period make available information about parties involved, types of claims handled, and arbitration outcomes was approved.

See Senate Vote 3 (SB 309) on Page 4 and House Vote 4 (HB 442) on Page 8.

Altering the provisions for charging an employer with "adverse [retaliatory] action" against an employee for filing a wage and hour claim to include an oral, undocumented complaint was approved.

See Senate Vote 5 (SB 551) on Page 5 and House Vote 15 (HB 1130) on Page 12.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

VICTORIES

Continuing an effective moratorium on the extraction of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale formation in Western Maryland was rejected.

See House Vote 12 (HB 852) on Page 11.

Invalidating a contract made before a dispute arises that waives the rights of any party to resolve a dispute by class action lawsuit was rejected.

See Senate Vote 14 (HB 729) on Page 7 and House Vote 10 on Page 10.

Mandating that property owners participate in a voluntary federal housing program by adding source of income as a protected class in real estate transactions was rejected.

See House Vote 13 (HB 902) on Page 11.

Requiring an employer that has been awarded a building or food service contract as a successor employer to retain the service employees from the previous terminated employer for a 90-day transition employment period was rejected.

See House Vote 14 (HB 976) on Page 11.

DEFEATS

Increasing the sales and use tax rate imposed on the sale of alcoholic beverages by fifty percent (6% to 9%) was approved.

See Senate Vote 10 (SB 994) on Page 6 and House Vote 16 (HB 1213) on Page 12.

Requiring employers to provide to employees an annual notice of the maximum income eligibility for the state earned income tax credit and of the state and federal earned income tax credits was approved.

See Senate Vote 13 (HB 632) on Page 7 and House Vote 8 on Page 10.

Requiring that a regulation that will have a meaningful impact on small businesses to include an economic analysis containing a description of less burdensome methods to achieve its purpose and an assessment of the effect of exempting small businesses from the regulation was rejected.

See House Vote 5 (HB 449) on Page 9.

Raising the value threshold for public works contracts from \$500,000 to \$2,000,000 on which contractors and subcontractors must pay their employees prevailing wage was rejected.

See House Vote 9 (HB 707) on Page 10.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

2011 SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

1 SB 132 - Job Applicant Fairness Act
Senators Pugh, Currie, Jones-Rodwell, Kelley, Madaleno, Manno, Montgomery, Peters, Raskin, and Muse

Prohibits certain employers from using an applicant's credit report or credit history in determining whether to deny employment, discharge the employee, or determine compensation, or the terms, conditions or privileges of employment. The bill authorizes an employer to request or consider a job applicant's credit report or credit history if the applicant has received an offer of employment and the employer has a *bona fide* purpose that is substantially job-related for requesting or using the information. Certain types of employment or businesses are exempt from the bill's requirement. Federal law already provides applicants and employees ample protection from adverse impacts in this area.

A "+" indicates a vote against SB 132 and reflects MBRG's opposition to unwarranted and unnecessary limits on an employer's ability to make fully informed decisions in the workplace on hiring, firing and promoting of workers, detection of employee fraud, setting compensation, managing risk and establishing the general terms and conditions of employment. Disagreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate approved SB 132, 32-14, on March 18, 2011 at 11:51 a.m.

2 SB 181 - Collective Bargaining - Independent Home Care Providers
The President (By Request - Administration)

Codifies a 2007 Executive Order that imposed union membership and collective bargaining agreements on all independent home health care providers who are compensated by state reimbursement programs. Requires the establishment of a single bargaining unit for these providers, who are then required to join the union or pay a to-be-negotiated service fee.

A "+" indicates a vote in opposition to SB 181 and reflects MBRG's opposition to mandated

unionization of workers and government-imposed labor agreements that violate workers' right to self-determination. Disagreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate approved SB 181, 31-16, on April 8, 2011 at 11:55 a.m.

3 SB 309 - Consumer Protection - Transparency in Consumer Arbitrations Act
Senator Kelley

Requires organizations that perform fifty or more binding consumer arbitrations during a five-year period to collect and make publicly available information about parties involved, types of claims handled, and arbitration outcomes. The information must be updated quarterly and may be considered in determining whether a consumer arbitration agreement is unconscionable or unenforceable.

A "+" indicates a vote against SB 309 and reflects MBRG's opposition to burdensome requirements that could discourage arbitrations, create conflicts of interests for arbitrators, and undermine arbitration, which is an efficient form of dispute resolution for businesses and consumers. Disagreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate approved SB 309, 32-13, on March 10, 2011 at 10:35 a.m.

4 SB 483 - Punitive Damages - High-Risk Drunk Drivers

Senators Forehand, Madaleno, Rosapepe, and Stone

Allows a party to recover punitive damages, in addition to compensatory damages, from a person who causes personal injury or wrongful death while driving under extreme levels of intoxication. By lowering the standard for the award of punitive damages in this circumstance, the bill sets a precedent for the lowering of the standard for other types of activity. The bill also exposes employers and insurers to punitive damages resulting from the acts of their employees and insureds.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

2011 SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

An attractive business climate requires strict limitations on the awarding of punitive damages. Any weakening of Maryland's stringent punitive damages standard impedes competition with neighboring states and has little or no impact on combating drunk driving, a problem better addressed by criminal laws than by civil liability expansion.

A "+" indicates a vote against SB 483 and reflects MBRG's opposition to legislation that expands liability and weakens Maryland's appropriately-stringent standard for awarding punitive damages. Agreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee rejected SB 483, 6-5, on March 17, 2011.

5 SB 551 - Maryland Wage and Hour Law - Prohibited Acts of Employers - Adverse Action

Senators Kelley, Benson, Jones-Rodwell, Madaleno, Manno, Montgomery, Pugh, and Raskin

Alters the provisions for charging an employer with "adverse [retaliatory] action" against an employee for filing a wage and hour claim to include an oral, undocumented complaint. The added term, "adverse action," is vague and susceptible to subjective interpretation, as is the bill language intended to protect employers from malicious prosecution.

A "+" indicates a vote against SB 551 and reflects MBRG's opposition to vague evidentiary standards and a reliance on an unreliable source of evidence as the basis for a claim against an employer, which would diminish due process for employers in wage and hour disputes. Disagreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate approved SB 551, 34-12, on March 28, 2011 at 8:08 p.m.

6 SB 579 - Health Insurance - Limit on Copayments *Senator Rosapepe*

Prohibits health insurers from imposing a copayment that exceeds 50% of the allowed amount established by the insurer for the covered benefit.

A "+" indicates a vote against SB 579 and reflects MBRG's opposition to intrusive restrictions that adversely impact employee benefits and interfere with employers' ability to design health benefit programs that meet employee needs and control costs. Agreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate Finance Committee rejected SB 579, 7-4, on March 1, 2011.

7 SB 642 - Human Relations - Discrimination by a Place of Public Accommodation - Enforcement and Remedies

Senator Gladden (Amendment offered by Senator Kittleman)

Expands the remedies available for discrimination by a place of public accommodation (retail, restaurant, and other establishments open to the public) to include affirmative relief, compensatory damages, and any other equitable relief that an administrative law judge deems appropriate. Permits an individual to file a civil action in court alleging discrimination by a place of public accommodation, in addition to the remedies currently available from the Maryland Human Relations Commission. The bill adds punitive damages to the remedies available under current law. State law already provides adequate remedies in this area.

A "+" indicates a vote against SB 642 and reflects MBRG's opposition to increased, unnecessary penalties and litigation. Agreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate approved an amendment that sent this bill to summer study (effectively defeating it for the 2011 session), 25-21, on April 5, 2011 at 12:30 p.m.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

2011 SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

8 SB 660 - Labor and Employment - Right to Work Senator Kittleman

Permits each worker in a unionized workplace to decide whether or not to join the union. An employee who refuses to join the union shall not be required to pay dues, fees or other charges to the union.

A “+” indicates a vote in favor of SB 660 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to “closed shop” union agreements that require all employees subject to the agreement to join the union. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the Senate Finance Committee rejected SB 660, 7-4, on April 6, 2011.

9 SB 800 - Corporate Income Tax Reform Senators Benson and Montgomery

Requires the apportionment of non-operational income of a corporation in Maryland if the company’s principal place of business is managed or directed in the State. The bill also requires the attribution, or “throwback,” of sales to Maryland for apportionment purposes in the corporate income tax for sales that originate in Maryland but are not taxable in Maryland. In the first five years this legislation is estimated to impose an annual increase of \$80 - \$100 million in corporate income taxes on corporations in Maryland.

A “+” indicates a vote against SB 800 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to tax policy that discourages investment in Maryland by increasing taxes on corporations in Maryland and Maryland-based employers. Agreeing with MBRG’s position, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee rejected SB 800, 10-2, on March 23, 2011.

10 SB 994 - Sales and Use Tax - Alcoholic Beverages - Supplementary Appropriation

Senators Jones-Rodwell, Madaleno, Currie, King, Manno, McFadden, and Forehand

Increases the sales and use tax rate imposed on the sale of alcoholic beverages by fifty percent (6% to 9%) beginning on July 1, 2011. Provides for certain supplementary appropriations in SB 994.

A “+” indicates a vote against SB 994 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to sudden and excessive tax rate increases and the tax policy shift to a variable sales tax rate, which introduces complexity and uncertainty into Maryland’s sales tax law. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the Senate approved SB 994, 26-19, on April 11, 2011 at 9:40 p.m.

11 HB 463 - Property Tax - Semiannual Payment Schedule - Business Property

Delegates Elliott, Ross, Afzali, Arora, Aumann, Barve, Bates, Beidle, Beitzel, Boteler, Branch, Bromwell, Burns, Cardin, Cluster, Conaway, DeBoy, Donoghue, Eckardt, Fisher, Frank, Frick, Frush, George, Gilchrist, Glass, Glenn, Haddaway-Riccio, Haynes, Healey, Hogan, Holmes, Hough, Hubbard, Impallaria, Ivey, Jacobs, James, Jameson, Kach, Kaiser, K. Kelly, Kipke, Krebs, Love, McComas, McConkey, McDermott, McDonough, McMillan, A. Miller, W. Miller, Minnick, Mitchell, Morhaim, Murphy, Myers, O'Donnell, Olszewski, Parrott, Pena-Melnyk, Ready, B. Robinson, Schuh, Schulz, Serafini, Smigiel, Sophocleus, Stocksdales, Stukes, Szeliga, F. Turner, Valentino-Smith, Waldstreicher, Walker, and Wood

Increases the number of businesses that are eligible to pay their State, County, Municipal Corporation and Special Taxing District property taxes on a semiannual basis by increasing the threshold for the total amount of tax due from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

A “+” indicates a vote in favor of HB 463 and reflects MBRG’s support for expanding the number of business properties that qualify for semiannual tax payments, thereby spreading the tax expense over a longer period of time. Agreeing with MBRG’s position, the Senate approved HB 463, 46-0, on April 7, 2011 at 10:31 a.m.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

2011 SENATE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

12 **HB 620 - Tax Credit Evaluation Act** *Delegate Frick*

Subjects to sunset review a wide range of tax credits, to be automatically terminated unless reenacted by the General Assembly. Included under the bill are all of the State's business tax credits, thereby diminishing a vitally essential device for attraction and retention of businesses and jobs in Maryland. As funding for the State's other economic development programs has been greatly decreased in recent years, the use of tax credit incentives has taken on greater importance for economic development. Tax credits subject to termination under the bill include, but are not limited to: franchises, income, telecommunications, enterprise zones, businesses that create new jobs, disability hiring, insurance premiums, research and development, commercial real estate, aquaculture, and various energy sources including Maryland-mined coal.

A "+" indicates a vote against HB 620 and reflects MBRG's opposition to targeting for possible elimination all business tax credits in the State, which would undermine the effectiveness of one of the State's most important economic development tools. Agreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee rejected HB 620, 10-2, on April 9, 2011.

13 **HB 632 - Earned Income Credit Information Act** *Delegates Mizeur, Barkley, Bobo, Carr, Dumais, Frick, Gilchrist, Hixson, Ivey, Lafferty, Luedtke, A. Miller, Murphy, Reznik, Rosenberg, Ross, F. Turner, and Howard*

Requires employers to provide to some or all employees an annual notice, prepared by the Comptroller's Office, of the maximum income eligibility for the state earned income tax credit and of the state and federal earned income tax credits. The Comptroller's Office is required to notify employers individually by mail of this requirement on an annual basis.

A "+" indicates a vote against HB 632 and reflects MBRG's opposition to the imposition of unwarranted burdens on employers, particularly those employers with a transient or seasonal workforce, and the abdication of the Comptroller's responsibility to provide tax information directly to taxpayers. Disagreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate approved HB 632, 35-11, on April 11, 2011 at 6:53 p.m.

14 **HB 729 - Civil Actions - Class Action Waiver in a Written Agreement - Unenforceability** *Delegate Simmons*

Invalidates a contract made before a dispute arises that waives the rights of any party to resolve a dispute by class action lawsuit. Consumer contracts frequently include provisions for waiving a class action lawsuit in favor of resolving a dispute by arbitration.

A "+" indicates a vote against HB 729 and reflects MBRG's opposition to unnecessary restrictions that interfere with private contract rights and limit the use of arbitration, which is an efficient form of dispute resolution for businesses and consumers. Agreeing with MBRG's position, the Senate rejected HB 729, 25-21, on April 11, 2011 at 7:14 p.m.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

2011 HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

1 **HB 87 - Job Applicant Fairness Act**
Delegates Reznik, Barkley, Bobo, Boteler, Braveboy, Bromwell, Carr, Cullison, Feldman, Gilchrist, Gutierrez, Hixson, Howard, Hucker, Kaiser, A. Kelly, Lee, Love, Luedtke, A. Miller, Murphy, B. Robinson, S. Robinson, Valderrama, Vaughn, Weir, Zucker, Carter, and Glenn

See Senate Vote 1, SB 132 on page 4 for description of HB 87, its companion bill.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 87 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to unwarranted and unnecessary limits on an employer’s ability to make fully informed decisions in the workplace on hiring, firing and promoting of workers, detection of employee fraud, setting compensation, managing risk, and establishing the general terms and conditions of employment. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House approved HB 87, 92-46, on March 26, 2011 at 11:14 a.m.

2 **HB 171 - Collective Bargaining - Independent Home Care Providers**
The Speaker (By Request - Administration) and Delegates Barkley, Barnes, Clagett, Gaines, Gutierrez, Haynes, Hubbard, Nathan-Pulliam, Stukes, V. Turner, Valderrama, and Zucker

See Senate Vote 2, SB 181 on page 4 for description of HB 171, its companion bill.

A “+” indicates a vote in opposition to HB 171 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to mandated unionization of workers and government-imposed labor agreements that violate workers’ right to self-determination. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House approved HB 171, 93-45, on April 9, 2011 at 1:55 p.m.

3 **HB 285 - Human Relations - Discrimination by a Place of Public Accommodation - Enforcement and Remedies**

Delegates Pena-Melnyk, Rosenberg, Anderson, Barnes, Barve, Beidle, Braveboy, Cane, Carr, Carter, Cullison, Elliott, Feldman, Frick, Frush, Glenn, Griffith, Gutierrez, Haynes, Hubbard, Hucker, Ivey, Kach, A. Kelly, Lee, Luedtke, Murphy, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Proctor, Ross, Tarrant, V. Turner, Valderrama, Vallario, and Wilson

See Senate Vote 7, SB 642 on page 5 for description of HB 285, its companion bill.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 285 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to increased, unnecessary penalties and litigation. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House approved HB 285, 91-44, on March 28, 2011 at 2:54 p.m.

4 **HB 442 - Consumer Protection - Transparency in Consumer Arbitrations Act**

Delegates Rosenberg, Feldman, and Frick

See Senate Vote 3, SB 309 on page 4 for description of HB 442, its companion bill.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 442 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to burdensome requirements that could discourage arbitrations, create conflicts of interests for arbitrators, and undermine arbitration, which is an efficient form of dispute resolution for businesses and consumers. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House approved HB 442, 98-41, on March 22, 2011 at 12:29 p.m.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

2011 HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

5 **HB 449 - State Government - Regulations Affecting Small Businesses and Economic Impact Analysis**

Delegates Hough, Afzali, Eckardt, Glass, Hogan, McComas, McDermott, McDonough, Minnick, Myers, and B. Robinson

Requires an Executive Branch agency or the Department of Legislative Services to include, in an economic impact analysis of a proposed regulation that will have a meaningful impact on small businesses, a description of less intrusive or less costly alternative methods to achieve the purpose of a regulation proposed by an agency, and an assessment of the effect and practicality of exempting small businesses from the regulation.

A “+” vote indicates a vote in favor of HB 449 and reflects MBRG’s support of legislation that fosters economic efficiencies through careful, thorough cost-benefit analysis of impacts on small businesses. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House Health and Government Operations Committee rejected HB 449, 19-4, on March 4, 2011.

6 **HB 463 - Property Tax - Semiannual Payment Schedule - Business Property**

Delegates Elliott, Ross, Afzali, Arora, Aumann, Barve, Bates, Beidle, Beitzel, Boteler, Branch, Bromwell, Burns, Cardin, Cluster, Conaway, DeBoy, Donoghue, Eckardt, Fisher, Frank, Frick, Frush, George, Gilchrist, Glass, Glenn, Haddaway-Riccio, Haynes, Healey, Hogan, Holmes, Hough, Hubbard, Impallaria, Ivey, Jacobs, James, Jameson, Kach, Kaiser, K. Kelly, Kipke, Krebs, Love, McComas, McConkey, McDermott, McDonough, McMillan, A. Miller, W. Miller, Minnick, Mitchell, Morhaim, Murphy, Myers, O’Donnell, Olszewski, Parrott, Pena-Melnyk, Ready, B. Robinson, Schuh, Schulz, Serafini, Smigiel, Sophocleus, Stocksdale, Stukes, Szeliga, F. Turner, Valentino-Smith, Waldstreicher, Walker, and Wood

See Senate Vote 11, HB 463 on page 6 for description of HB 463.

A “+” indicates a vote in favor of HB 463 and reflects MBRG’s support for expanding the number of business properties that qualify for semiannual tax payments, thereby spreading the tax expense over a longer period of time. Agreeing with MBRG’s position, the House approved HB 463, 139-0, on April 11, 2011 at 3:46 p.m.

7 **HB 620 - Tax Credit Evaluation Act** *Delegate Frick*

See Senate Vote 12, HB 620 on page 7 for description of HB 620.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 620 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to targeting for possible elimination all business tax credits in the State, which would undermine the effectiveness of one of the State’s most important economic development tools. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House of Delegates approved HB 620, 100-38, on March 26, 2011 at 11:17 a.m.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

2011 HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

8 **HB 632 - Earned Income Credit Information Act**

Delegates Mizeur, Barkley, Bobo, Carr, Dumais, Frick, Gilchrist, Hixson, Ivey, Lafferty, Luedtke, A. Miller, Murphy, Reznik, Rosenberg, Ross, F. Turner, and Howard

See Senate Vote 13, on page 7 for a description of HB 632.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 632 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to the imposition of unwarranted burdens on employers, particularly those employers with a transient or seasonal workforce, and the abdication of the Comptroller’s responsibility to provide tax information directly to taxpayers. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House approved HB 632, 92-47, on April 11, 2011 at 10:01 p.m.

9 **HB 707 - State Finance and Procurement - Prevailing Wage Rates - Amount of Public Work Contracts**

Delegates Krebs, Haddaway-Riccio, Hershey, Impallaria, W. Miller, Schuh, Schulz, and Stifler

Raises the value threshold for public works contracts from \$500,000 to \$2,000,000 on which contractors and subcontractors must pay their employees prevailing wage. The threshold has not been changed since 1969.

A “+” indicates a vote in favor of HB 707 and reflects MBRG’s support for reasonable adjustments to the minimum dollar amount, below which the prevailing wage would not apply for workers on state funded construction projects. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House Economic Matters Committee rejected HB 707, 15-7, on March 24, 2011.

10 **HB 729 - Civil Actions - Class Action Waiver in a Written Agreement - Unenforceability**

Delegate Simmons

See Senate Vote 14, on page 7 for a description of HB 729.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 729 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to unnecessary restrictions that interfere with private contract rights and limit the use of arbitration, which is an efficient form of dispute resolution for businesses and consumers. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House passed HB 729, 108-32, on March 17, 2011 at 11:30 a.m.

11 **HB 743 - Labor and Employment - Labor Organizations - Right to Work** *Delegates W. Miller, Bates, Haddaway-Riccio, Hershey, Impallaria, O'Donnell, Schuh, Schulz, and Stifler*

Permits each worker in a unionized workplace to decide whether or not to join the union. An employee who refuses to join the union shall not be required to pay dues, fees or other charges to the union.

A “+” indicates a vote in favor of HB 743 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to “closed shop” union agreements that require all employees subject to the agreement to join the union. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, House Economic Matters Committee rejected HB 743, 15-7, on March 11, 2011.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

2011 HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

12 **HB 852 - The Marcellus Shale Safe Drilling Act of 2011**
Delegates Mizeur, Holmes, Beidle, Bobo, Carr, Frick, Frush, Gilchrist, Glenn, Healey, Hubbard, Lafferty, Luedtke, McHale, A. Miller, Niemann, Pena-Melnyk, Reznik, B. Robinson, S. Robinson, Stein, and Wilson

Requires the Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) and Maryland Department of Natural Resources to convene jointly an advisory commission and undertake a study, with input from an array of other state and local government agencies, environmental and citizen groups, and other designated parties, of the extraction of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale formation in Western Maryland. Except under very limited circumstances, the bill prohibits MDE from issuing a natural gas extraction permit until the publication of a final report on the study due August of 2013. For the past two years, MDE has blocked the issuance of any permit for this type of natural gas extraction in the State, and the moratorium would effectively continue for at least two more years under the bill.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 852 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to creating a de facto moratorium on the issuance of permits for the extraction of natural gas, an affordable energy source that would help preserve the competitiveness of the U.S. economy and that would directly benefit a depressed area of the state with increased economic activity. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House approved HB 852, 98-40, on March 23, 2011 at 11:56 a.m.

13 **HB 902 - Human Relations - Housing Discrimination - Source of Income**
Delegates Lafferty, Arora, Braveboy, Carr, Cullison, Dumais, Glenn, Healey, Hucker, A. Kelly, Luedtke, Mitchell, Mizeur, Reznik, S. Robinson, Waldstreicher, and Zucker

Mandates property owners to participate in a voluntary federal housing program by adding source of income as a protected class in real estate transactions.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 902 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to interfering with reasonable rights of property owners. Agreeing with MBRG’s position, the House Environmental Matters Committee rejected HB 902, 13-10, on March 24, 2011.

14 **HB 976 - Displaced Building Service Workers Protection Act**
Delegates Hucker, Glenn, Carr, Clippinger, Cullison, Frick, Mitchell, Murphy, Pena-Melnyk, S. Robinson, Rosenberg, Ross, Summers, Tarrant, V. Turner, Valderrama, Washington, Wilson, and Zucker

Requires an employer that has been awarded a building or food service contract as a successor employer to retain the service employees from the previous terminated employer for a 90-day transition employment period. This bill would place significant limitations on an employer’s ability to identify and determine its own personnel. Additionally, it would add costs to transactions when a company sells, buys, or changes contracts for commercial property.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 976 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to legislation that interferes with contracts, adds costs to business services, and undermines employer discretion to hire. Agreeing with MBRG’s position, the House Economic Matters Committee rejected HB 976, 16-6, on March 25, 2011.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

2011 HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

15 **HB 1130 - Maryland Wage and Hour Law - Prohibited Acts of Employers - Adverse Action**

Delegates Hucker, Barkley, Feldman, and McHale

See Senate Vote 5, SB 551 on page 5 for description of HB 1130, its companion bill.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 1130 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to vague evidentiary standards and a reliance on an unreliable source of evidence as the basis for a claim against an employer, which would diminish due process for employers in wage and hour disputes. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House approved HB 1130, 91-47, on April 8, 2011 at 12:42 p.m.

16 **HB 1213 - Sales and Use Tax - Alcoholic Beverages - Supplementary Appropriation**

Delegate Howard

Increases the sales and use tax rate imposed on the sale of alcoholic beverages by fifty percent (6% to 9%) beginning on July 1, 2011. Provides for certain supplementary appropriations in HB 1213.

A “+” indicates a vote against HB 1213 and reflects MBRG’s opposition to sudden and excessive tax rate increases and the tax policy shift to a variable sales tax rate, which introduces complexity and uncertainty into Maryland’s sales tax law. Disagreeing with MBRG’s position, the House approved HB 1213, 78-62, on April 11, 2011 at 2:04 p.m.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

Senate Chart Key

- 1 **SB 132** Job Applicant Fairness Act
- 2 **SB 181** Collective Bargaining - Independent Home Care Providers
- 3 **SB 309** Consumer Protection - Transparency in Consumer Arbitrations Act
- 4 **SB 483** Punitive Damages - High-Risk Drunk Drivers
- 5 **SB 551** Maryland Wage and Hour Law - Prohibited Acts of Employers - Adverse Action
- 6 **SB 579** Health Insurance - Limit on Copayments
- 7 **SB 642** Human Relations - Discrimination by a Place of Public Accommodation - Enforcement and Remedies
- 8 **SB 660** Labor and Employment - Right to Work
- 9 **SB 800** Corporate Income Tax Reform
- 10 **SB 994** Sales and Use Tax - Alcoholic Beverages - Supplementary Appropriation
- 11 **HB 463** Property Tax - Semiannual Payment Schedule - Business Property
- 12 **HB 620** Tax Credit Evaluation Act
- 13 **HB 632** Earned Income Credit Information Act
- 14 **HB 729** Civil Actions - Class Action Waiver in a Written Agreement - Unenforceability

House Chart Key

- 1 **HB 87** Job Applicant Fairness Act
- 2 **HB 171** Collective Bargaining - Independent Home Care Providers
- 3 **HB 285** Human Relations - Discrimination by a Place of Public Accommodation - Enforcement and Remedies
- 4 **HB 442** Consumer Protection - Transparency in Consumer Arbitrations Act
- 5 **HB 449** State Government - Regulations Affecting Small Businesses and Economic Impact Analysis
- 6 **HB 463** Property Tax - Semiannual Payment Schedule - Business Property
- 7 **HB 620** Tax Credit Evaluation Act
- 8 **HB 632** Earned Income Credit Information Act
- 9 **HB 707** State Finance and Procurement - Prevailing Wage Rates - Amount of Public Work Contracts
- 10 **HB 729** Civil Actions - Class Action Waiver in a Written Agreement – Unenforceability
- 11 **HB 743** Labor and Employment - Labor Organizations - Right to Work
- 12 **HB 852** The Marcellus Shale Safe Drilling Act of 2011
- 13 **HB 902** Human Relations - Housing Discrimination - Source of Income
- 14 **HB 976** Displaced Building Service Workers Protection Act
- 15 **HB 1130** Maryland Wage and Hour Law - Prohibited Acts of Employers - Adverse Action
- 16 **HB 1213** Sales and Use Tax - Alcoholic Beverages - Supplementary Appropriation

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

Risky Business

Benefits of Invest Maryland Yet To Be Seen

This year's *Roll Call* Advisory Council was tempted to add to the votes in its 2011 publication the Governor's new program, Invest Maryland (HB173/SB180). The idea behind it is solid: to create funds for new jobs and invest in Maryland businesses. At its core, the program promotes the fundamental idea that tax increases are not the only way to fund government. It is outside-the-box in its approach to funding early-stage, high-risk start-ups at a time when these companies likely most need an infusion of funds. The program received a wide range of support from the business community, academicians and industry experts.

Both sides of the aisle rightly had serious questions about the legislation and the program; it is not without risks. "The states have to be willing to invest enough money in this process to make it worthwhile," said Jim Jaffe, president and CEO of the National Association of Seed and Venture Funds in a March article in *Governing* magazine, who expressed some concern that Maryland's investment of \$70 million is too conservative for a significant return to the State. Some legislators said it was inappropriate for the State to interfere in private investment and conventional market forces. "Maryland government should not be in the position of picking winners and losers," one legislative critic of Maryland's program said.

(Continued on Page 24)

MBRG RATING SYSTEM

* Legislators with stars next to their names served at least four years in the House or Senate and achieved an MBRG Cumulative Percentage (CUM %) of 70% or greater. Every four years, these legislators are recognized with *John Shaw Awards*.

+ A "right" vote, supporting MBRG's position for business and jobs.

- A "wrong" vote, opposing MBRG's position for business and jobs.

○ Legislator excused from voting, resulting in no effect on a legislator's rating.

nvc As committee chairperson, legislator chose not to vote, resulting in no effect on a legislator's rating.

nv Legislator did not vote on a bill that MBRG has taken a position of opposition, resulting in no change in the legislator's rating.

nv- Legislator did not vote on a bill that MBRG has taken a position of support, resulting in the lowering of a legislator's rating. Therefore, a legislator is penalized when his or her vote could have helped to achieve a constitutional majority (24 of 47 votes in the Senate and 71 of 141 votes in the House) for the passage of a bill.

■ Legislator did not serve on the committee that voted the bill, resulting in no effect on the legislator's rating.

MBRG 2010 A legislator's score for 2010, provided for comparative purposes.

MBRG CUM % Cumulative percentage is based on a legislator's voting record since the year MBRG began rating the legislator, as early as 1986 or since that legislator's first year in an earlier House seat, through 2011. The percentage is derived by dividing the total number of "+" votes by the number of bills on which the legislator voted plus the number of "nv-" marks. A short red dash (-) in this column means a legislator is a freshman and therefore has no cumulative record.

2011 %tile (Percentile) In order to compare a legislator's score with his or her colleagues, both Senate and House members have been ranked by percentiles. The percentile represents where a legislator's 2011 MBRG % rating ranks in relation to other legislators' ratings. For example, a Senator with a percentile ranking of 78 has a 2011 MBRG rating greater than 78 percent of his or her fellow Senators during this time period.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

MARYLAND SENATE VOTES

	SB 132	SB 181	SB 309	SB 483	SB 551	SB 579	SB 642	SB 660	SB 800	HB 994	HB 463	HB 620	HB 632	HB 729	MBRG 2011	MBRG 2010	MBRG CUM %	2011 %tile
Allegany, Garrett & Washington Counties 1 George C. Edwards (R) *	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	89%	84%	80
Washington County 2 Christopher B. Shank (R) *	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	■	+	+	100%	89%	89%	80
Frederick & Washington Counties 3 Ronald N. Young (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	+	■	-	+	44%	-	-	56
Carroll & Frederick Counties 4 David R. Brinkley (R) *	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	89%	92%	80
Baltimore & Carroll Counties 5 Joseph M. Getty (R) *	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	■	+	+	100%	-	95%	80
Baltimore County 6 Norman R. Stone, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	■	■	+	+	■	-	-	20%	38%	45%	28
Baltimore & Harford Counties 7 J.B. Jennings (R) * **	+	+	o	■	o	■	o	■	■	o	+	■	o	o	100%	100%	91%	80
Baltimore County 8 Katherine A. Klausmeier (D)	-	-	+	■	-	-	+	-	■	+	+	■	-	+	45%	58%	62%	60
Carroll & Howard Counties 9 Allan H. Kittleman (R) *	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	■	+	+	100%	100%	97%	80
Baltimore County 10 Delores G. Kelley (D)	-	+	-	■	-	-	-	-	■	-	+	■	-	-	18%	40%	38%	21
Baltimore County 11 Robert A. Zirkin (D)	-	-	o	-	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	11%	38%	36%	8
Baltimore & Howard Counties 12 Edward J. Kasemeyer (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	+	■	+	-	+	+	-	+	45%	56%	59%	60
Howard County 13 James N. Robey (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	+	■	+	-	+	+	-	+	45%	29%	41%	60
Montgomery County 14 Karen S. Montgomery (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	11%	30%	23%	8
Montgomery County 15 Robert J. Garagiola (D)	-	-	-	■	-	+	+	-	■	-	+	■	-	-	27%	33%	37%	36
Montgomery County 16 Brian E. Frosh (D)	-	-	-	+	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	20%	38%	31%	28
Montgomery County 17 Jennie M. Forehand (D)	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	10%	38%	39%	2
Montgomery County 18 Richard S. Madaleno, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	+	-	+	-	-	-	18%	33%	23%	21
Montgomery County 19 Roger P. Manno (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	-	-	+	+	-	-	18%	21%	24%	21
Montgomery County 20 Jamie B. Raskin (D)	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	10%	38%	20%	2
Anne Arundel & Prince George's Counties 21 James C. Rosapepe (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	11%	38%	35%	8
Prince George's County 22 Paul G. Pinsky (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	o	+	■	-	-	13%	38%	28%	19
Prince George's County 23 Douglas J.J. Peters (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	+	■	+	-	+	nv	-	+	40%	44%	35%	52
Prince George's County 24 Joanne C. Benson (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	11%	30%	34%	8

** For significant intervals during the 2011 Legislative Session, Senator J.B. Jennings was absent for reason of military service obligations occurring outside the State of Maryland. In those instances where he received a “no vote” designation, this was due to his military service.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

MARYLAND SENATE VOTES

	SB 132	SB 181	SB 309	SB 483	SB 551	SB 579	SB 642	SB 660	SB 800	SB 994	HB 463	HB 620	HB 632	HB 729	MBRG 2011	MBRG 2010	MBRG CUM %	2011 %tile
25 Ulysses Currie (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	+	-	+	+	-	-	27%	33%	47%	36
26 C. Anthony Muse (D)	-	-	-	■	-	-	+	-	■	-	+	■	-	+	27%	43%	42%	36
Calvert & Prince George's Counties																		
27 Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	11%	50%	58%	8
Charles County																		
28 Thomas M. Middleton (D)	-	-	-	■	-	+	+	-	■	-	+	■	-	+	36%	50%	57%	50
Calvert, Charles, & St. Mary's Counties																		
29 Roy P. Dyson (D)	+	+	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	+	+	■	-	+	56%	75%	54%	69
Anne Arundel County																		
30 John C. Astle (D)	+	-	+	■	-	+	+	+	■	+	+	■	-	+	73%	75%	68%	71
31 Bryan W. Simonaire (R) *	+	+	-	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	■	+	+	88%	88%	91%	76
32 James E. DeGrange, Sr. (D) *	-	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	91%	78%	73%	78
33 Edward R. Reilly (R)	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	■	+	+	100%	100%	100%	80
Cecil & Harford Counties																		
34 Nancy Jacobs (R) *	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	■	+	+	100%	100%	92%	80
Harford County																		
35 Barry Glassman (R) *	+	+	-	■	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	■	-	+	82%	92%	82%	73
Caroline, Cecil, Kent, & Queen Anne's Counties																		
36 E. J. Pipkin (R) *	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	■	+	+	100%	100%	83%	80
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot & Wicomico Counties																		
37 Richard F. Colburn (R) *	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	71%	84%	80
Somerset, Wicomico & Worcester Counties																		
38 James N. Mathias, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	■	-	+	+	-	■	+	+	■	-	+	45%	64%	54%	60
Montgomery County																		
39 Nancy J. King (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	+	■	o	-	+	+	-	+	40%	56%	31%	52
Baltimore City																		
40 Catherine E. Pugh (D)	-	-	-	■	-	-	+	-	■	-	+	■	-	+	27%	33%	36%	36
41 Lisa A. Gladden (D)	-	+	-	+	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	30%	25%	31%	47
Baltimore County																		
42 James Brochin (D)	nv	-	+	+	-	■	-	■	■	+	+	■	-	-	44%	43%	39%	56
Baltimore City																		
43 Joan Carter Conway (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	+	22%	43%	33%	32
44 Verna L. Jones-Rodwell (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	-	-	+	-	-	-	9%	50%	31%	0
45 Nathaniel J. McFadden (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	+	-	+	+	-	-	27%	33%	44%	36
46 William C. Ferguson, IV (D)	-	-	-	■	-	■	+	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	22%	-	-	32
Prince George's County																		
47 Victor R. Ramirez (D)	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	■	-	-	10%	33%	25%	2

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES VOTES

	HB 87	HB 171	HB 285	HB 442	HB 449	HB 463	HB 620	HB 632	HB 707	HB 729	HB 743	HB 852	HB 902	HB 976	HB 1130	HB 1213	MBRG 2011	MBRG 2010	MBRG CUM%	2011 % tile
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
Allegany, Garrett & Washington Counties																				
1A Wendell R. Beitzel (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	-	+	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	+	82%	67%	78%	71
1B Kevin Kelly (D)	-	+	+	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	+	55%	67%	65%	69
1C LeRoy E. Myers, Jr. (R) *	o	o	+	+	■	+	o	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	71%	85%	82
Washington County																				
2A Andrew A. Serafini (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	83%	87%	82
2B Neil C. Parrott (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	-	-	82
2C John P. Donoghue (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	+	■	■	-	+	25%	60%	57%	62
Frederick & Washington Counties																				
3A Galen R. Clagett (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	18%	33%	35%	57
3A Patrick N. Hogan (R) *	+	+	-	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	-	+	■	+	+	83%	-	83%	73
3B Michael J. Hough (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	-	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	91%	-	-	75
Carroll & Frederick Counties																				
4A Kathryn L. Afzali (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	-	-	82
4A Kelly M. Schulz (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	100%	-	-	82
4B Donald B. Elliott (R) *	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	+	67%	70%	84%	70
Baltimore & Carroll Counties																				
5A Justin D. Ready (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	-	-	82
5A Nancy R. Stocksdale (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	-	+	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	+	82%	78%	86%	71
5B A. Wade Kach (R) *	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	■	+	■	-	■	■	+	+	83%	80%	80%	73
Baltimore County																				
6 Joseph J. Minnick (D)	+	+	+	-	■	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	■	+	+	+	64%	79%	65%	70
6 John A. Olszewski, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	+	14%	44%	28%	49
6 Michael H. Weir, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	+	■	-	■	+	+	■	+	+	50%	67%	58%	67
Baltimore & Harford Counties																				
7 Richard K. Impallaria (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	100%	82%	88%	82
7 Patrick L. McDonough (R) *	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	80%	87%	82
7 Kathy Szeliga (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	-	-	82
Baltimore County																				
8 Joseph C. Boteler, III (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	78%	92%	82
8 Eric M. Bromwell (D)	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	42%	50%	55%	65
8 John W.E. Cluster, Jr. (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	o	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	-	93%	82
Carroll & Howard Counties																				
9A Gail H. Bates (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	78%	93%	82
9A Warren E. Miller (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	100%	86%	95%	82
9B Susan W. Krebs (R) *	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	80%	83%	82
Baltimore County																				
10 Emmett C. Burns, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	nv	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	o	17%	43%	38%	53
10 Adrienne A. Jones (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	38%	29%	18
10 Shirley Nathan-Pulliam (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	o	-	9%	40%	30%	18
11 Jon S. Cardin (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	25%	18
11 Dan K. Morhaim (D)	-	-	-	-	-	o	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	0%	40%	35%	0
11 Dana M. Stein (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	+	■	-	-	17%	36%	31%	53

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES VOTES

	HB 87	HB 171	HB 285	HB 442	HB 449	HB 463	HB 620	HB 632	HB 707	HB 729	HB 743	HB 852	HB 902	HB 976	HB 1130	HB 1213	MBRG 2011	MBRG 2010	MBRG CUM%	2011 %tile
Baltimore & Howard Counties																				
12A Steven J. DeBoy, Sr. (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	18%	67%	42%	57
12A James E. Malone, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	+	17%	73%	47%	53
12B Elizabeth Bobo (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	8%	33%	24%	5
Howard County																				
13 Guy Guzzone (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	26%	18
13 Shane E. Pendergrass (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	8%	38%	36%	5
13 Frank S. Turner (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	32%	18
Montgomery County																				
14 Anne R. Kaiser (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	24%	18
14 Eric G. Luedtke (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	-	-	18
14 Craig J. Zucker (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	-	-	18
15 Kathleen M. Dumais (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	25%	18
15 Brian J. Feldman (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	nv	-	-	8%	29%	27%	3
15 Aruna Miller (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	-	-	18
16 C. William Frick (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	22%	36%	18
16 Ariana B. Kelly (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	8%	-	-	5
16 Susan C. Lee (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	22%	18
17 Kumar P. Barve (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	40%	18
17 James W. Gilchrist (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	8%	33%	25%	5
17 Luiz R.S. Simmons (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	24%	18
18 Alfred C. Carr, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	8%	27%	27%	5
18 Ana Sol Gutiérrez (D)	-	-	-	o	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	o	■	■	-	-	11%	50%	26%	47
18 Jeffrey D. Waldstreicher (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	26%	18
19 Sam Arora (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	-	-	18
19 Bonnie F. Cullison (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	8%	-	-	5
19 Benjamin F. Kramer (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	14%	33%	31%	49
20 Sheila E. Hixson (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	38%	36%	18
20 Tom Hucker (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	o	-	8%	38%	22%	3
20 Heather R. Mizeur (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	14%	24%	18
Anne Arundel & Prince George's Counties																				
21 Benjamin S. Barnes (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	-	7%	33%	22%	1
21 Barbara A. Frush (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	8%	42%	30%	5
21 Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	8%	30%	25%	5
Prince George's County																				
22 Tawanna P. Gaines (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	24%	18
22 Anne Healey (D)	-	-	o	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	o	o	■	-	-	11%	36%	33%	47
22 Justin D. Ross (D)	-	o	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	10%	33%	23%	44
23A James W. Hubbard (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	8%	40%	25%	5
23A Geraldine Valentino-Smith (D)	-	-	+	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	18%	-	-	57
23B Marvin E. Holmes, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	+	■	-	-	17%	42%	27%	53
24 Tiffany Alston (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	-	-	18
24 Carolyn J. B. Howard (D)	o	-	o	-	■	+	o	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	13%	33%	36%	48
24 Michael L. Vaughn (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	14%	46%	33%	49

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES VOTES

	HB 87	HB 171	HB 285	HB 442	HB 449	HB 463	HB 620	HB 632	HB 707	HB 729	HB 743	HB 852	HB 902	HB 976	HB 1130	HB 1213	MBRG 2011	MBRG 2010	MBRG CUM%	2011 %tile
Prince George's County																				
25	Aisha N. Braveboy (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	-	-	7%	29%	26%	1
25	Dereck E. Davis (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	nvc	-	nvc	-	■	-	-	8%	33%	37%	5
25	Melony G. Griffith (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	9%	33%	32%	18
26	Veronica L. Turner (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	8%	40%	26%	5
26	Kris Valderrama (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	9%	33%	24%	18
26	Jay Walker (D)	-	o	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	10%	29%	37%	44
Calvert & Prince George's Counties																				
27A	James E. Proctor, Jr. (D)	-	-	o	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	10%	33%	39%	44
27A	Joseph F. Vallario, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	9%	33%	38%	18
27B	Mark N. Fisher (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	91%	-	-	75
Charles County																				
28	Sally Y. Jameson (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	nv	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	23%	43%	51%	62
28	Peter F. Murphy (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	8%	33%	26%	5
28	C.T. Wilson (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	+	■	-	25%	-	-	62
Calvert, Charles, & St. Mary's Counties																				
29A	John F. Wood, Jr. (D) *	+	+	+	-	■	+	+	+	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	82%	67%	76%	71
29B	John L. Bohanan, Jr. (D)	+	-	nv	-	■	+	-	nv	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	33%	67%	55%	65
29C	Anthony J. O'Donnell (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	+	■	+	100%	92%	94%	82
Anne Arundel County																				
30	Michael E. Busch (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	9%	33%	50%	18
30	Ronald A. George (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	-	■	■	+	91%	89%	84%	75
30	Herbert H. McMillan (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	-	+	■	+	■	-	+	■	+	83%	-	83%	73
31	Donald H. Dwyer, Jr. (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	100%	78%	89%	82
31	Nicholaus R. Kipke (R) *	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	■	-	■	+	■	■	-	50%	90%	75%	67
31	Steven R. Schuh (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	■	+	+	93%	100%	89%	81
32	Pamela G. Beidle (D)	+	-	+	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	+	■	+	50%	67%	50%	67
32	Mary Ann E. Love (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	14%	43%	48%	49
32	Theodore J. Sophocleus (D)	+	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	27%	67%	61%	64
33A	Tony McConkey (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	91%	90%	82%	75
33A	Cathleen M. Vitale (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	-	+	■	+	92%	-	-	80
33B	Robert A. Costa (R) *	+	-	nv	-	-	+	-	+	■	-	■	-	■	■	+	45%	80%	78%	66
Cecil & Harford Counties																				
34A	Glen Glass (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	100%	-	-	82
34A	Mary-Dulany James (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	18%	63%	60%	57
34B	David D. Rudolph (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	21%	71%	51%	61
Harford County																				
35A	Wayne Norman, Jr. (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	+	■	+	100%	83%	84%	82
35A	Donna M. Stifler (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	100%	79%	86%	82
35B	Susan K. McComas (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	100%	78%	83%	82
Caroline, Cecil, Kent, & Queen Anne's Counties																				
36	Stephen S. Hershey (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	100%	-	-	82
36	Jay A. Jacobs (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	+	■	+	100%	-	-	82
36	Michael D. Smigiel, Sr. (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	91%	67%	73%	75

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES VOTES

	HB 87	HB 171	HB 285	HB 442	HB 449	HB 463	HB 620	HB 632	HB 707	HB 729	HB 743	HB 852	HB 902	HB 976	HB 1130	HB 1213	MBRG 2011	MBRG 2010	MBRG CUM%	2011 %tile
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot & Wicomico Counties																				
37A Rudolph C. Cane (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	nv	-	9%	42%	35%	18
37B Adelaide C. Eckardt (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	89%	86%	82
37B Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	■	+	+	+	93%	86%	82%	81
Somerset, Wicomico & Worcester Counties																				
38A Charles J. Otto (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	+	■	+	+	100%	-	-	82
38B Norman H. Conway (D)	-	-	nv	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	+	20%	50%	59%	60
38B Michael A. McDermott (R)	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	+	■	■	+	+	100%	-	-	82
Montgomery County																				
39 Charles E. Barkley (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	14%	29%	25%	49
39 Kirill Reznik (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	8%	40%	33%	5
39 Shane Robinson (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	8%	-	-	5
Baltimore City																				
40 Frank M. Conaway, Jr. (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	50%	31%	18
40 Barbara A. Robinson (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	24%	18
40 Shawn Z. Tarrant (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	8%	40%	30%	5
41 Jill P. Carter (D)	nv	-	-	-	■	nv	nv	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	0%	33%	26%	0
41 Nathaniel T. Oaks (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	8%	44%	35%	5
41 Samuel I. Rosenberg (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	38%	18
Baltimore County																				
42 Susan L. M. Aumann (R) *	+	+	+	+	■	+	+	+	■	+	■	-	■	■	+	+	91%	78%	82%	75
42 William J. Frank (R) *	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	■	-	■	+	■	■	+	+	92%	89%	86%	80
42 Stephen W. Lafferty (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	+	17%	33%	31%	53
Baltimore City																				
43 Curtis S. Anderson (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	33%	18
43 Maggie L. McIntosh (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	8%	27%	36%	5
43 Mary L. Washington (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	-	-	18
44 Keith E. Haynes (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	30%	18
44 Keiffer J. Mitchell Jr. (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	-	-	18
44 Melvin L. Stukes (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	26%	18
45 Talmadge Branch (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	o	■	■	-	-	10%	33%	42%	44
45 Cheryl D. Glenn (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	-	-	8%	33%	27%	5
45 Hattie N. Harrison (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	-	■	+	-	14%	43%	48%	49
46 Luke Clippinger (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	-	-	18
46 Peter A. Hammen (D)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	8%	40%	38%	5
46 Brian K. McHale (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	7%	36%	36%	1
Prince George's County																				
47 Jolene Ivey (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	33%	24%	18
47 Doyle L. Niemann (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	+	■	-	-	17%	33%	29%	53
47 Michael G. Summers (D)	-	-	-	-	■	+	-	-	■	-	■	-	■	■	-	-	9%	-	-	18

Maryland Business for Responsive Government



Senator Allan H. Kittleman

This Carroll & Howard County Senator achieved the highest MBRG Cumulative score (97) among all Republican veterans in the Senate.
(Minimum 4 years service)



Senator James E. DeGrange, Sr.

This Anne Arundel County Senator achieved the highest MBRG cumulative score (73) among all Democratic veterans in the Senate.
(Minimum 4 years service)



Delegate Warren E. Miller

This Howard County Delegate achieved the highest MBRG cumulative score (95) among all Republican veterans in the House of Delegates.
(Minimum 4 years service)



Delegate John F. Wood, Jr.

This Charles and St. Mary's County Delegate achieved the highest MBRG cumulative score (76) among all Democratic veterans in the House of Delegates.
(Minimum 4 years service)

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

(Continued from Page 1)

Even in the face of "the longest and deepest [recession] of the post-World War II period,"² Maryland's budgets have soared. In 2003, Maryland's budget was roughly \$22.4 billion and ballooned to \$30 billion by 2007. So far this year, our State budget stands at roughly \$34 billion and growing.

Entitlement programs and mandates continue to exert enormous pressure on Maryland's budget resources. The Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act of 2002 (or "Thornton Act") is projected to consume an increasing share of Maryland's budget as legislators wrestle with ways to fund the ever-growing obligation while ensuring system adequacy. Skyrocketing pension and retiree healthcare costs further strain State funds. Teachers' pensions alone are estimated to cost taxpayers about \$1 billion in 2012--"as much as our entire structural deficit if Maryland continues on its current course."³ And, as the third highest beneficiary per capita of federal spending behind Virginia and Alaska⁴ and as massive cutbacks loom on the federal horizon, Maryland's economy

stands to be tested by its disproportionate reliance on Uncle Sam.

The trend in this year's Roll Call is pretty clear: the business divide is widening in Maryland. Some legislators are clearly turning more anti-business, while other's scores improved dramatically. With fewer and fewer legislators coming to Annapolis with the experience of actually owning and operating a business, there is an even more critical need for business to reach out and educate them about the fundamentals of good business policy.

The perfect storm is upon us. Maryland businesses can't risk being dismissed again as collateral damage in Annapolis. We need to stand strong and stand united in the face of the rough waters ahead and hold elected officials accountable for truly representing the best interests of Maryland's businesses and working families.

Now, it's not just raining; it's *pouring*. And it's time for Maryland businesses to act--or drown. 🌪

¹ Issue Papers, 2011 Session, Maryland Department of Legislative Services (DLS) (2010), page 6-7 note this is a projected cash shortfall; however, the difference between ongoing spending and revenues in 2011 approximates \$2.1 billion. According to DLS, "the large shortfall is primarily due to the expiration of short-term revenue" such as federal stimulus funds supplanting general funds.

http://mlis.state.md.us/2011rs/misc/2011_IssuePapers.pdf.

² Issue Papers, 2011 Session, Maryland Department of Legislative Services (2010), page 1.

http://mlis.state.md.us/2011rs/misc/2011_IssuePapers.pdf.

³ Letter from Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller to Governor Martin O'Malley, May 9, 2011.

⁴ Impact of the Federal Government on Maryland's Economy, Maryland Department of Legislative Services (2010), <http://mlis.state.md.us/2010rs/misc/ImpactFederalGov.pdf>.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

A Message to our Legislators

Before introducing or voting on legislation, we encourage legislators to consider the following questions:

1. Will the legislation increase or decrease the cost of doing business for companies in Maryland? If the answer is increase, will the added costs of the legislation and subsequent regulations exceed the added benefit to Maryland's residents?
2. Will the legislation and subsequent regulations be more or less stringent than, or contradictory to, federal law and regulations; or will it give Maryland a competitive advantage or disadvantage with other states?
3. Will the legislation encourage or discourage companies from adding new jobs or keeping current jobs in Maryland?
4. Will the legislation encourage or discourage individuals and businesses from investing and building?
5. Will the legislation promote or impede the competitive market by removing or imposing legal, economic and/or regulatory burdens, taxes, or costs?
6. Is there another way to solve the problem or address the issue without legislation; or is there existing legislation addressing the matter?
7. Will introducing the bill send a positive or negative message about Maryland's business climate? 🌟

How the Votes are Selected

To determine an accurate picture of the Maryland legislature's attitudes toward business, jobs, economic growth, and investment in the state, MBRG's 30-member State Advisory Council selects recorded votes from the last General Assembly session that have practical or philosophical importance to the widest possible range of Maryland businesses, trade associations, and chambers of commerce.

In order to arrive at the most accurate measure of the legislature's position on business matters, we include votes from different stages of the legislative process: final (third reader), committee, votes on amendments and critical motions, and votes on gubernatorial nominations. We may at times omit a particular piece of legislation due to lack of strong consensus in the business community.

Although this evaluation process summarizes a legislative system that involves weeks of debate,

amendment, and compromise, voting records remain the best indicators of a legislator's inclination. MBRG neither gives pass/fail scores nor expressly or implicitly endorses or rejects any incumbent on the basis of certain selected votes.

A complete evaluation of a legislator's support for business should be made by examining committee and floor votes and considering unrecorded matters such as performance on subcommittees, communication with business representatives, and service to constituent businesses.

Roll Call is intended to improve the understanding by elected and appointed officials of the effect of public policy on businesses and the willingness and ability of businesses to create jobs, invest, and prosper in Maryland. It is our belief that a positive business climate is critical to all other social progress. 🌟

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

(Continued from Page 14)

Nonetheless, together with the Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED), legislators worked throughout the session to understand the nuances of the proposal the best they could and the risks to State funds. The program establishes an auction for tax credits on insurance premium taxes in early 2012 at a discounted rate with a floor of \$.70 on the dollar and a maximum of \$100 million in tax credits as authorized by the legislation. In exchange, the insurance companies will claim the credits over five years beginning in 2015. A panel of 3 or 4 private venture capital firms will invest 67% of the funds raised from the auction. Of the funds invested through these private firms, state law requires 100% of the capital and 80% of the profits to go to the State's general fund.

The success of the program is dependent, as we see it, on three things. First, the interest rate ("auction price") of the premium tax credit at the time the credit is purchased in the next three years. Second, the effectiveness of the program and its success, and how DBED deals with the inevitable challenges that have traditionally presented themselves with these types of programs around the country. Third, the degree of independent legislative oversight to manage the risks associated with these investments.

Yes, Invest Maryland is innovative and, yes, Maryland's model might be different than more traditional models, reducing some of the risks and maybe some of the costs. Still, states' experiences with these funds all around the country are mixed and have brought uncertain rewards. It's just too early to tell how Maryland's investment adventure ends, but we certainly hope our legislators will be watching; we will. 🌟

A Word About MBRG

MBRG's purpose is to inform Maryland's business community, elected officials, and the general public about the political and economic environment needed to foster economic development and job creation in Maryland.

Annual evaluations of the voting records of Maryland's state and federal legislators enable MBRG and its members to hold politicians accountable for the state's economic well-being like no other organization.

MBRG is a statewide, nonpartisan political research and education organization supported by corporations, trade associations, chambers of commerce, and individuals. 🌟

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

The Meaning of “Business Friendly”

The following are elements of a positive business climate that have been identified by MBRG business leaders. MBRG urges Maryland’s elected and appointed officials to strive for a balanced public policy approach that includes the consideration of the impact of new laws and regulations on the state’s business climate. The following attributes of “business friendly” public policy would have significant, measurable, and positive impact on all citizens in the state.

Fiscal Responsibility

- A budget process that limits new spending and prohibits unfunded mandates that inevitably result in new taxes, fees or surcharges.
- A tax structure that is focused on attracting and retaining private jobs and investment in Maryland.
- A stable, consistent investment program to maintain and upgrade critical infrastructure and education needs.

Regulations

- A regulatory process that does not interfere with the free market’s economic forces and upholds existing contracts to give businesses and institutions the confidence to continue bringing jobs and investment to Maryland.
- A regulatory framework that is fair, clear, and updated to take advantage of changes in technology and market forces.
- A regulatory structure that does not exceed federal standards and ensures that the costs of rules and regulations - which are always passed on to the public - are justifiable and consistent with public benefit.

Employer - Employee Relations

- A market based wage and benefit structure that reflects changes in the U.S. economy and ensures that all workers are compensated based on performance and value in the marketplace.

- A workers compensation, unemployment, and health insurance system that yields benefits consistent with the reasonable needs of the beneficiary.

- A labor environment that allows every worker free choice concerning union affiliation.

Civil Liability and Business Law

- A predictable, consistent legal system that treats all parties and resolves all disputes in civil actions fairly, efficiently and within reasonable time periods.

- A system of clearly written statutory and common laws that protects businesses and other defendants from frivolous or unwarranted lawsuits, imposes reasonable limits and standards for the award of damages for liability, and encourages investment and economic and job growth.

Social Responsibility

- A business climate that promotes a strong commitment to corporate and social responsibility, including charitable contributions, volunteer initiatives and other activities to advance development of Maryland and its communities.

Maryland Business for Responsive Government

MBRG Membership Form



YES! I want to help MBRG and *Roll Call* improve Maryland's business climate.

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

I am interested in joining at the following level:

Trustee Level (\$15,000)

Invitation to join Board of Directors ★ Exclusive Invitation to VIP Events ★ Named Table and Display Sponsors for all events (includes 2 tickets to each event) ★ Open invitations to statewide policy meetings ★ Invitation to during the Session webcasts ★ Invitation to Expert Webcast ★ Copies of Roll Call ★ Quarterly newsletter that includes policy analysis, education and interviews with elected officials ★ MBRG Website Banner Advertisement ★ All-access to special, members only passworded site.

Chairman (\$5,000)

Consideration for Board of Directors ★ Invitation to MBRG After the Session Exclusive VIP Event ★ Table & Display Sponsorships to one MBRG event (includes 2 tickets to event) ★ Open invitation to statewide smaller policy meetings ★ Invitation to during the session webcasts ★ Invitation to Expert Webcast ★ Copies of Roll Call ★ Quarterly MBRG Newsletter that includes

policy analysis, education and interviews with elected officials ★ MBRG Website Banner Advertisement ★ All-access to special, members only passworded site.

President (\$2,500)

Member rates to MBRG's Before and After the Session Events ★ Invitation to attend ★ Invitation to attend special webcasts during the 2012 General Assembly ★ Invitation to attend Expert Webcast in the Interim ★ All-access to special, members only passworded site ★ Copies of Roll Call ★ Quarterly MBRG Newsletter that includes policy analysis, education and interviews with elected officials ★ MBRG Website Banner Advertisement ★ All-access to special, members only passworded site.

Leadership (\$1,000)

Member rates to MBRG's Before and After the Session Events ★ Invitation to attend special webcasts during the 2012 General Assembly ★ Copies of Roll Call ★ Quarterly MBRG Newsletter that includes policy analysis, education and interviews with elected officials ★ All-access to special, members only passworded site.

Benefactor (\$500)

Member rates to MBRG's Before and After the Session Events ★ Notification of Roll Call publication ★ Quarterly MBRG Newsletter that includes policy analysis, education and interviews with elected officials ★ All-access to special, members only passworded site.

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