

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE

Bills to be Signed by the Governor on November 19, 2007

HB0001 The Speaker (By Request – Administration)

BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT

Repealing specified provisions relating to State aid to specified counties; altering the calculation of State aid for public elementary and secondary education; altering the calculation of State aid to community colleges, Baltimore City Community College, and specified nonpublic institutions of higher education; authorizing the governing body of a county to increase the percent of the assessment of specified personal property that is subject to the county property tax under specified circumstances; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

SB0002 The President (By Request – Administration)

TAX REFORM ACT OF 2007

Altering the rates and rate brackets under the State individual income tax; applying income tax rates to nonresidents; expanding the sales and use tax to specified services; increasing the corporate income tax rate from 7% to 8.25%; imposing recordation and transfer taxes on the transfer of controlling interest in specified real property owning entities; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

SB0003 The President (By Request – Administration)

MARYLAND EDUCATION TRUST FUND – VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINALS

Requiring the State Lottery Commission to regulate the operation of video lottery terminals for commercial gaming; creating a Video Lottery Facility Location Commission; authorizing the Commission to issue a limited number of video lottery operation licenses; limiting the number of terminals; requiring that video lottery terminal gaming proceeds be distributed to the Education Trust Fund for educational purposes and to the Purse Dedication Account for horse racing; requiring services for problem gamblers; etc.

HB0004 The Speaker (By Request – Administration)**VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINALS – AUTHORIZATION AND LIMITATIONS**

Adding a new article to the Maryland Constitution to authorize video lottery terminal gaming in the State for the primary purpose of providing funds for public education; limiting the number of video lottery terminals; limiting the number of licenses that the State may issue to operate video lottery terminals; limiting the number of locations for the operation of video lottery terminals; requiring a video lottery facility to comply with planning and zoning laws of the local jurisdiction; etc.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**HB0005 The Speaker (By Request – Administration)****TRANSPORTATION AND STATE INVESTMENT ACT**

Increasing tobacco tax rates for cigarettes; imposing a State admissions and amusement tax on net proceeds from bingo games and tip jars; increasing the sales and use tax rate from 5% to 6%; designating tax-free periods; requiring distribution of tax revenues to the Transportation Trust Fund; increasing the maximum amount of specified bonds; altering the definition of “total purchase price” of a motor vehicle to allow a trade-in allowance in tax computation; establishing the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES**SB0006 The President (By Request – Administration)****WORKING FAMILIES AND SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH COVERAGE ACT**

Establishing a Small Employer Health Benefit Plan Premium Subsidy Program; establishing the purposes, administration, eligibility and other requirements, and funding for the Program; requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission to adopt regulations to establish eligibility requirements and levels of subsidies; authorizing the Maryland Health Care Commission to alter subsidy amounts; requiring the amount of subsidies to be subject to State budget limitations; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL