

Minutes Public Policy Com
Sept. 10, 2015

Attendees: Amoke Alakoye, Mort Faller, Doug Newton, Chuck Kauffmann, John Honig, Jack Sprague, Isabelle Schoenfeld, DaCosta Mason, Noelle Heyman, Rudy Oswald, Odile Brunnetto, Stephanie Edelstein

Reviewed the Role of the Public Policy Committee

Report on Legislation passed since last meeting:

1. County passed Sick leave legislation providing that employers provide 7-8 days of sick leave for employees of employers of 5 or more. Effective 10-1-16
2. County passed legislation dealing with a tax on Uber etc. Setting up a tax on Uber rides to pay for additional cabs for disabled & seniors. Effective 12-29-15
3. County passed a renter's tax relief supplement to state program.

Discussed renter's protection bill 19-15. More study was needed for next meeting.

Isabelle reported on the summer study on Age Friendly /livable communities and it's policy recommendations. They call for the creation of a new position in the executive's office to coordinate activities to bring about a livable community. A fall-back proposal would be to support a senior fellow in the executive's office. It also called for the establishment of an advisory board with input from the COA.

Noelle reported on the other summer study committee on nursing home care. She emphasized the need for nursing home quality. She reported on Medicare's rating system and that of Voices of Quality Care.

DaCosta reviewed the last state legislative bills:

3 bills of interest were passed:

- a. Dealt with attorney's fees in the guardianship of disabled persons
- b. provided for the freezing of assets in the prosecution of criminals involved in financial crimes against vulnerable adults.
- c. Regulation of Uber etc. on a state-wide basis & provision of a tax to support handicapped accessible vehicles

Other bills considered but not passed include:

- a. An adult abuse registry
- b. Increased penalties for elder abuse or neglect
- c. Maryland uniform real property Transfer on-Death
- d. Income tax – long-term care insurance
- e. Sick- leave
- f. Grandparent visitation
- g. CARE Act

Leventhal hearing Oct. 15 Priorities due Oct. 6

Stakeholder's meeting Oct. 28

Senior Summit Dec. 3

Next PPC meeting Oct. 8