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THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DELEGATION
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 14, 2009

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DELEGATION MEMBERS ANNOUNCE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2009 SESSION

ANNAPOLIS – The 32-member Montgomery County Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly today announced 2009 legislative session accomplishments.

Montgomery County Delegation 2009 Session
Member Accomplishments

Montgomery County Senate Delegation:

Senator Richard Madaleno (District 18), Chairman, Montgomery County Senate Delegation:
• Worked with the county delegation and the leadership of the county government and school system to ensure the continued state support for teacher retirement funding. In a tough fiscal climate, we were able to stave off attempts to shift this burden onto our county governments.

• Again working with the county delegation and the leadership of the county government and school system, secured full funding of for the Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI) for the first time. The FY10 state budget includes $625 million to support the Montgomery County Public School System, the highest amount ever.

• Secured funding for Developmental Disabilities Administration and Mental Health Administration community services providers. These providers serve a critical role in making sure this population receives adequate care in the least restrictive environment.

• Sponsored legislation to exempt same-sex domestic partners from inheritance taxes on primary residences. This financial burden was among the most painful for same-sex couples to endure and is a small, but significant, step towards equal rights for gays and lesbians.

Senator Jamie Raskin (District 20), Vice-Chair, Montgomery County Senate Delegation:
• **The Freedom of Association and Assembly Protection Act of 2009** – (SB 266) provides that no law enforcement entity in the state, including the State Police, can engage in covert infiltration of political groups without "reasonable, articulable suspicion" that the groups are engaged in criminal activity and written certification of such suspicion by the chief of the law enforcement unit or his designee. It also forbids the collection of political or ideological files on citizens outside of these requirements. There are a host of

other civil liberties protections built in to prevent the the kind of waste of public resources and trespass on civil liberties that we saw with disclosures over the summer about political spying by the State Police.

• **The Lilly Ledbetter Civil Rights Restoration Act of 2009** - (SB 368) is the state counterpart to the very first bill signed into law by President Obama. It establishes that, in cases of employment discrimination, each new discriminatory paycheck resets the clock on the statute of limitations so that the statute does not run simply after 180 days after the first act of discrimination. This Act will guarantee that the statute of limitations does not run out before victims of employment discrimination even find out about the fact that they have been treated unfairly.

• **Bringing Transparency to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC)** – (HB 1133) brings comprehensive whistleblower protections to all WSSC employees so that they cannot be fired or punished for alerting the public to fraud, negligence or misconduct taking place at the WSSC. (HB 1134) requires the WSSC to submit financial audit statements to the Montgomery and Prince George's delegations to bring greater transparency and sunlight into this vast billion-dollar enterprise.

• **Expansion of Disability Rights** – (SB 670), expands civil rights protections for disabled Marylanders. The bill requires employers to make "reasonable accommodations" for disabled citizens and forbids discrimination against those who have a "record" of having a disability or are "regarded" as having a disability. These provisions strengthen our law and make it a powerful counterpart to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Senator Jennie M. Forehand (District 17):

• Primary Senate sponsor of Governor's bills to enhance penalties for repeat offenders and to crack down on underage drinking, all recommended by the Task Force on Drunk and Drugged Driving. Sponsor of 2007 legislation creating the Task Force and served as its Senate member.

• Senate sponsor of domestic violence legislation to permit the use of police in enforcing child custody provisions of interim, temporary and permanent protective orders.

• Secured $100,000 in State matching funds for the conversion of the historic Rockville Post Office for use as a new city police station. Fought to protect funding priorities for Program Open Space and also to ensure the use of funds for indoor recreational facilities.

• Introduced consumer measure extending the warranty on new cars to 18,000 or 24 months. Also, created study group on requiring health care providers to offer end-of-life counseling and hospice information.

Senator Brian E. Frosh (District 16):

• Sen. Frosh sponsored legislation that achieved a goal the environmental community has held for almost a generation: easing the requirements that people must meet in order to contest environmental decisions made at the administrative level. The bill also gives legal standing to associations.

• Another of Senator Frosh's bills requires MVA to suspend the drivers' licenses of teen drivers found to have committed hit and run, reckless driving or other serious traffic offenses. The bill is largely modeled on Georgia legislation that dramatically reduced traffic accidents and deaths among teen drivers.

• A third bill requires family day care homes and child care centers to develop written procedures for evacuating or otherwise protecting children, including children with special needs, in case of emergency.

• Building code legislation that Senator Frosh sponsored will result in more energy-efficient residential and commercial buildings throughout Maryland.

Senator Rob Garagiola (District 15):

• **Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee's Health Subcommittee.** As Chairman of the Health Subcommittee, I successfully authored numerous bills that passed the House and Senate to:

- **Make Insurance More Affordable for Small Businesses.** SB 637 reduces premium costs for healthier and younger employees to obtain insurance, allows more innovation for insurance products, and modifies other regulations of insurance that should lead to overall reductions in health care costs for small employers and their employees.
- **Incentivize Health Care Wellness and Prevention.** SB 638 promotes wellness and preventive health care by allowing insurers to offer premium discounts and other incentives for participation in wellness programs, which will save health care dollars and improve outcomes.
- **Increase Reimbursements for Doctors.** SB 380 increases reimbursements for certain physicians by as much as $20 million to help ensure access to quality health care.

• **Secured $32 million in funding for the Germantown Bioscience Education Center at Montgomery College.** The fiscal year 2010 capital budget includes $16 million in funding and an additional $16 million is pre-authorized for fiscal year 2011.

• **Promoted Further Renewable Energy Development.** Sponsored SB 981 (passed the House and Senate), which will further facilitate solar and renewable energy development in Maryland by allowing more homeowners and businesses to meet renewable energy requirements in Maryland law and to obtain credit for renewable energy returned to the electricity grid.

Senator Nancy J. King (District 39):

• Senator King sponsored a bill requiring Internet access providers to offer their subscribers a product or service which will allow parents to block, restrict or monitor their child's use of the Internet. This legislation will empower the parents of our state with technology to allow their children to benefit from all the Internet has to offer while blocking them from harmful sites.

• In 2005, the Biotechnology Investment Incentive Tax Credit Program was established to encourage investment in the growing biotechnology industry. The biotech industry is critical to the economic growth of the state and the I270 corridor in particular. Senator King sponsored a bill which clarified some aspects of the program which will help build this industry which has the capacity for significant job growth in Maryland.

• The MDK12 Digital Library Project was formed to ensure cost effective access to electronic resources for all Maryland students. The grant for this program, which has saved school systems over $600,000 since its inception, will expire in the fall of 2009. Senator King sponsored a bill which will move the program to MSDE to ensure that this type of instructional material will continue to be available for students throughout the state.

• Along with passing state-wide legislation, Senator King was successful in securing funding for three important District 39 projects. They are the addition and upgrading of lighting in Northgate subdivision for safety; repairs and renovations of the Lake Whetstone facility and repairs to group homes dedicated to adults diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Senator Rona E. Kramer (District 14):

Senator Rona E. Kramer and Delegate Ben Kramer this session cross-filed three bills that provide new protections for our elderly population and were successful in their passage.

• Silver Alert Program to provide a system for rapid dissemination of information to assist in locating a "missing person" who suffers a cognitive impairment, including a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or dementia to the extent that the individual requires assistance from a caregiver.

• Financial exploitation of elderly bill, which prohibits a person from knowingly and willfully obtaining by deception, intimidation, or undue influence the property of an individual that the person knows or reasonably should know is at least 68 years old with intent to deprive the individual of the individual's property.

• The Senior Investment Protection Act prohibits the misleading use of senior-specific certifications or professional designations to imply expertise in financial planning or investing.

• Bond funding for the Olney Theatre Center and for the renovations of Fallings Green at the Olney Boys and Girls Club Park.

Senator Mike Lenett (District 19):
• Passed two major environmental bills critical to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. **The Chesapeake Bay Nitrogen Reduction Act** will reduce nitrogen pollution from septic systems in the "Critical Areas" bordering the Bay. The **Chesapeake Bay Phosphorous Reduction Act** will reduce phosphorous pollution from lawn fertilizer.

• Passed a bill to provide **Notice Protection for Tenants in Foreclosure**. The bill requires several advance notices to tenants caught in the foreclosure web before their leases can be extinguished and they can be evicted. The bill is intended to provide notice and time for tenants to take actions to prevent harm to their families.

• Passed two **Community Democracy** bills to provide greater transparency in meetings and decisions of homeowner and condo associations. The bills promote open meetings and make it harder for boards to close meetings and prevent residents from having input on decisions affecting their communities and pocketbooks.

• Part of my legislation to ban the use of hand-held cell phones and text messaging while driving passed this session – the text messaging ban. The **Prohibition on Text Messaging While Driving** will make our roads safer and hopefully lead to the adoption of the cell phone prohibition next session.

Montgomery County House Delegation:

Delegate Brian J. Feldman (District 15), Chairman, Montgomery County House Delegation:
• Introduced and gained passage of legislation to expand the jurisdiction of the Joint House-Senate Technology Oversight Committee of which he is the Co-Chair. The Committee will now focus on biotechnology and information technology issues and provide a forum to specifically promote these sectors;

• Collaborated with Delegate Bronrott, District 16, to persuade the State to locate the **Maryland Clean Energy Center** in Montgomery County. The **Maryland Clean Energy Center** is the State's first clearinghouse to shape the future of clean energy and green technologies;

• Introduced and gained passage of legislation to update our corporate laws, allowing Maryland corporations to compete more effectively with businesses incorporated in other states. Additionally, as Chair of the House Banking Subcommittee, Delegate Feldman gained passage of legislation which brings Maryland's mortgage lending laws into compliance with newly established federal law, thus providing additional consumer protections and enabling our regulators to combat mortgage fraud;

• Introduced and gained passage of legislation creating a tax amnesty program. The program provides incentives to those who have not filed tax returns or paid their taxes to come into compliance and also provides the State with a much needed injection of revenue.

Delegate Susan C. Lee (District 16), Vice-Chair, Montgomery County House Delegation:
Bills introduced and passed by Delegate Susan C. Lee:
• **HB 1124** Includes in the goals of the new Coordinating Emerging Nanobiotechnology Research in Maryland Program, the fostering of public and private partnerships. The bill supports and keeps in Maryland knowledge based industries that create new jobs, generate billions of dollars in revenues, and develop life saving treatments for cancer and other diseases.

• **HB 1117** Provides limited immunity to "Good Samaritan" individuals or facilities that use or have onsite an automatic external defibrillator (AED) to save the life of a sudden cardiac arrest victim. As sensible and good safety and public policy, this immunity will help increase the proliferation of AEDs in facilities and save countless lives.

• **HB 825** Enabling legislation which allows the Montgomery County Council to enact legislation that is more stringent than state law regarding campaign finance disclosures for candidates for Montgomery County Council and Montgomery County Executive. The bill passed the House of Delegates, but was not put up for a vote in the Senate.

• **HB 1118** As one of the recommendations of the Identity Theft Task Force and a tool for prosecutors, the bill would allow personal and business bank records or credit or debit card reports, statements, or notices to be admissible as evidence and presumed authentic. The bill passed the House of Delegates, but did not prevail in the Senate.

Delegate Saqib Ali (District 39):
• **House Bill 1136: The WSSC Financial Oversight Act.** At a time when WSSC is enduring management and maintenance crises, this bill provides Montgomery County's Inspector General – who is charged with reducing waste, fraud and abuse in county agencies – statutory authority and equal access to WSSC records; enabling much needed transparency.

• **House Bill 1292: aka Consumer Card Blacklisting Prevention Act**. This bill prohibits the insidious and Orwellian practice of reducing a consumer's credit limit based on their behavior (where they shop and who holds their mortgage) rather than how they pay their bills. This bill passed the house 132 – 6 and I'll re-introduce next year.

• **House Bill 233: Full Disclosure of Real Estate Taxes Act.** HB 233 mandates that the seller disclose to the buyer the property taxes the seller will pay. This legislation is necessary because, if the seller has lived in their home for a long time, the seller is most-likely benefiting from reduced taxes courtesy of the homestead property tax credit. This bill passed the house 135 - 0. I'll re-introduce this bill next year.

Delegate Kumar P. Barve (District 17):
• Prime sponsor of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act that will soon be signed into law. Passage would not have been possible without the active support of labor, science, industry, and environmental organizations. The bill, which also has Gov. O'Malley as a lead sponsor, requires a 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2020.

• As chair of the Ways & Means Revenue Subcommittee, worked to ensure that funding for education and key programs was protected without raising taxes or fees.

• As Majority Leader, was responsible for defending a wide range of legislation on the House floor.

Delegate William A. Bronrott (District 16): This session, during the toughest of budgetary times, Delegate Bill Bronrott (District 16, Bethesda), worked hard as a member of the House Appropriations Committee to invest Maryland's limited resources into socially responsible and fiscally prudent programs that improve the lives of Marylanders. Some key results from these efforts include:

• Maintaining Maryland's critically important investment in primary education by helping to increase K-12 funding, adding $260 million in public school construction, and fully funding the Geographic Cost of Education Index which benefits larger jurisdictions like Montgomery County.

• Maintaining overall funding levels for addiction treatment and prevention programs and support services for the developmentally disabled -- programs that save lives and money in health care and other state, local and personal costs.

• Strengthening laws against drunk driving and improving regulation of new teen drivers to save lives and improve Maryland road safety for all.

• Successfully sponsoring two Capital Budget bond bills in support of District 16-based Imagination Stage and the National Center for Children & Families. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, Delegate Bronrott also advocated for approval of capital budget funding for numerous other Montgomery County organizations, including the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, the Jewish Council for the Aging, and the Charles E. Smith Life Communities.

Delegate Alfred C. Carr, Jr. (District 18):

• House Bill 199 – Maryland Transit Administration – Public Hearings. As lead sponsor, Delegate Carr successfully championed this bill which gives affected communities a greater voice in transportation decisions by improving the MTA's public hearing process. The MTA operates statewide commuter bus service and the MARC commuter rail service. Delegate Carr thanks Governor O'Malley for his support of this bill.

• House Bill 841 - Montgomery County Public Schools - Funding Accountability and Transparency Act MC 930-09. Requires Montgomery County Public Schools to post information about expenditures on a searchable web site. It is modeled after federal transparency legislation sponsored by President Obama when he was a U.S. Senator and state legislation I co-sponsored last year. MCPS has an annual budget of $2 Billion.

Delegate Kathleen M. Dumais (District 15):

• House Bill 464 – Domestic Violence – Protective Orders – Custody of Minor Child, which Delegate Dumais sponsored with the aim of protecting children in volatile domestic situations. This bill authorizes the court to order a law enforcement officer to use reasonable and necessary force to return a minor child to the custodial parent after service of an interim or temporary protective order.

• House Bill 593 – Criminal Procedure – Offender Registry – Minors. The companion Senate Bill achieved final passage. This initiative aims to protect children from sexual predators who were juveniles when they committed a sexually violent offense or a sexual offense against a child. This bill puts certain juvenile offenders under the same requirement as adult offenders to register as an offender. In order to protect

children from predators, it is necessary that these offenders register upon reaching the age of eighteen if they are deemed likely to strike again.

• Delegate Dumais' work with the Governor's office resulted in passage of two bills designed to protect domestic violence victims from gun violence. One allows judges to take guns from subjects of temporary protective orders. The second bill requires that guns be confiscated upon issuance of a final protective order.

• The work of the Maryland Commission to Study the Death Penalty (a panel that resulted from a 2008 bill Delegate Dumais sponsored) resulted in successful legislation that imposes strict evidentiary standards for death penalty cases. As a result of these strict standards, it is extremely unlikely that an innocent individual will receive the death penalty. Delegate Dumais worked closely with the administration to make these strict standards a reality.

Delegate C. William Frick (District 16):

• Lead sponsor of **HB 1048** legislation that would prohibit two of the most abusive credit card practices: universal default and "anytime for any reason" rate changes. The bill won enthusiastic bi-partisan support in the House of Delegates but the Senate Finance Committee did not act on this important consumer protection legislation.

• Sponsored **HB 19** which enables small municipalities to be eligible for a waiver allowing them to be audited once every four years instead of annually. Delegate Frick and Senator Frosh sponsored this legislation at the request of the Battery Park community.

• Worked with District 16 colleagues to secure much needed funding for the National Center for Children and Families "shovel ready" construction of a Youth Activities Center which will help expand the safety net to some of the most vulnerable children and youth in our community and secured funding for an arts education facility for Imagination Stage in Bethesda.

Delegate Ana Sol Gutiérrez (District 18):

• The major accomplishment this session was working with the House Appropriations Committee to prepare a balanced 2010 Operating Budget, especially after receiving significantly lower State and local revenue projections for 2009 and 2010 due to the severe economic crisis.

• Serving on the Health and Human Resources Subcommittee, I worked hard to protect welfare programs and health and human services for the most vulnerable in our society, including the poor, needy children and families, the unemployed, the uninsured, as well as developmentally disabled individuals.

• Worked with our Montgomery County delegation to reject extremist anti-immigrant legislative measures that would lead to large increase of unlicensed drivers of our roads, and to support legislation permitting current foreign-born license holders to keep and renew their licenses until July 1, 2015.

Delegate Sheila E. Hixson (District 20) – Chairman, Ways and Means Committee:

• **HB 311 – The Freedom of Association and Assembly Protection Act of 2009** restricts police covert investigations involving First Amendment activities including maintenance of files. I was the initiator of the original House Bill. Much of that bill was amended into HB 311 the Administration's bill.

• **HB 712 – Family Day Care Homes and Child Care Centers – Emergency Preparedness Plans** requires family day care providers and child care centers to have emergency preparedness plans for emergency situations that require evacuation or protection of children including children with special needs.

• **HB 893 – Election Law – Voting Systems – Requirements** allows the State to proceed with the procurement of a paper ballot-voting system for the 2010 election. Amendments permit the State to temporarily implement a hybrid voting system. Voters would have the option of casting a paper ballot; however, at least one current touch screen voting machines would also be available.

• **HB 1215 – Inheritance Tax – Exemption – Domestic Partners** provides an exemption from the inheritance tax that passes from a decedent to a domestic partner as long as the joint primary residence was held in joint tenancy by the decedent and the domestic partner and passes from the decedent to or for the use of the domestic partner.

Delegate Tom Hucker (District 20):

• **Expanding Preschool:** 90% of a child's brain growth occurs before age five. Children need a safe, fun, and learning-rich environment to prepare them to excel in school. My bill, HB184, requires Maryland to finalize plans to expand to universal pre-kindergarten and do a reliable cost estimate. It puts us in the strongest position to win some of the $10 billion in federal grants President Obama is investing in early education. This bill is on the Governor's desk.

• **Mercury Poisioning**: Scrapped cars are one of the largest sources of mercury entering the environment. My bill, HB1263, requires auto recyclers to remove and recycle the switches, and it requires auto manufacturers to remove and recycle their mercury. It should keep about 400 pounds of mercury each year out of our environment – and makes the polluters pay for it.

• **Community Democracy:** Too often, homeowners associations and condo associations raise fees or approve budgets without a public meeting. So I introduced HB 552 and HB 553 to ensure that homeowners and condo association boards have an approved reason to hold a closed meeting. The boards can close a meeting to discuss personnel matters, legal issues, or other sensitive topics that we list in the new laws. These bills passed unanimously and are on the Governor's desk.

• **Roadside Trees:** Trees are great natural resources that help cool our neighborhoods, absorb greenhouse gases, and uptake polluted stormwater before it reaches the Bay. But too often, contractors tear down neighborhood trees before local governments can stop them. My bill, HB 800, allows local governments to enact tough local rules and stop construction work that destroys neighborhood trees. This bill is also on the Governor's desk

Delegate Anne R. Kaiser (District 14):

• I am proud to be the primary co-sponsor of the Governor's bill to help reduce the education barriers that many children of military families face when they are forced to move to different states because of their parent's service to our country. As chair of the Education Subcommittee, I advocated for this initiative and others that enhance our state's ability to provide a quality education to every student.

• Good data is a cornerstone of good policy. That's why I introduced and passed two bills requiring the public school system to track key data to answer important questions in the near future: do certain teacher training programs have greater impacts in the classroom? Are more minority students enrolling in and passing advanced placement courses? These bills will ultimately expand the state's ability to measure student performance.

• I also introduced and pass two other education initiatives: 1) a bill to prohibit school principals from suspending or expelling a student from school solely for attendance-related offenses; 2) a bill providing

financial aid to part time students. In these tough economic times, making higher education more accessible must be a priority.

• In the community: Prime sponsor of initiative to help Sandy Spring Methodist Church get a $50,000 matching grant to build a new food pantry to better serve those in need in our community. Prime sponsor of initiative to help Olney Boys and Girls Club (OBGC) to receive $150,000 to preserve an historic building and convert it into OBGC office and caretaker residence.

Delegate Benjamin F. Kramer (District 19):

• Silver Alert Program provides a system for rapid dissemination of information to assist in locating a "missing person" who suffers a cognitive impairment, including a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or dementia to the extent that the individual requires assistance from a caregiver.

• Financial exploitation of elderly bill, which prohibits a person from knowingly and willfully obtaining by deception, intimidation, or undue influence the property of an individual that the person knows or reasonably should know is at least 68 years old with intent to deprive the individual of the individual's property.

• The Senior Investment Protection Act prohibits the misleading use of senior-specific certifications or professional designations to imply expertise in financial planning or investing.

• The Hate Crimes Bill adds age, gender and disability to the protected classes under the hate crime statutes. The bill also adds the attempt to commit a crime motivated by bias as a prohibited offense under the statute.

Delegate Roger Manno (District 19):

• **Small Business Health Insurance Expansion Act (HB 4):** Expanding health insurance coverage has been my highest legislative priority during my tenure in public office. That's why I introduced and passed HB4, to assist employers in providing health insurance for their workers by substantially expanding eligibility under a state subsidy program. A key priority of Maryland businesses and health care reform groups, HB4 passed both the House and Senate.

• **Maryland Organic Transition Investment Pilot Program ("MO-TIPP", HB 449):** Organic farming advances significant public benefits, including higher revenues for small/family-owned farms, green space preservation, healthier lifestyles, job growth, and environmental sustainability. That's why I introduced "MO-TIPP", an innovative program to assist farmers in transitioning to organic agriculture. A key priority of farmers, agribusiness and environmentalists, MO-TIPP passed both the House and Senate.

• **Apprenticeship Opportunity Act (HB 644):** Workforce development is critical in ensuring that Maryland's workers have the very best training to succeed in the highly competitive regional and global economies. That's why I introduced the "Apprenticeship Opportunities Act" to require that State contracts either provide or contribute to state-approved apprenticeship training programs. A key priority of labor unions and non-labor contractors, HB 644 passed both the House and Senate.

• **Maryland Antitrust Act (HB 657 /SB 239):** Consumers and businesses sometimes fall victim to price-fixing by unscrupulous retailers, wholesalers, and distributors. A recent controversial U.S. Supreme Court ruling, however, frustrated the ability of states to address this issue and to protect consumers. That's why Senator Frosh and I introduced HB 657/SB 239 to codify and clarify that price-fixing is illegal is illegal in Maryland. HB 644 passed both the House and Senate.

Delegate Heather R. Mizeur (District 20):

• Foster Kids Coverage Act: In Maryland, foster children who leave the system at age 18 typically lose their health care coverage at a particularly vulnerable time in their lives. This legislation will allow former foster

children to retain health coverage on the Medicaid program until age 21, providing support as they transition to adulthood.

• Earned Income Credit Information Act: Each year, thousands of Marylanders fail to claim their federal and state earned income tax credits, which annually lift more than 4 million Americans – including 2 million children – out of poverty. This legislation will direct employers to notify workers that they may qualify for the federal and state credits.

• Freedom of Association and Assembly Protection Act of 2009: Last year, the Maryland State Police infiltrated the meetings of lawful, nonviolent advocacy groups and designated peace activists as domestic terrorists. This legislation establishes First Amendment protections for all Marylanders, helping us turn the page on this dark chapter in Maryland history.

• Prosthetic Parity Act: Unfortunately, not all Marylanders with limb loss – including those with health coverage – have access to prosthetics, and many take out loans, use savings, or resort to credit cards to afford prosthetics that allow them to keep working and lead active lives. This legislation will improve insurance policies for prosthetic devices and components.

Delegate Karen S. Montgomery (District 14):

• To achieve greater transparency in government and the health care industry, one of my bills requires hospitals and health care plans to submit to the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) annual reports of the compensations of officers, directors and executives of the health care facilities and of regulated lobbyists engaged by those facilities.

• I was able to help a number of small Maryland companies stay in business through reduction of the cost of surety bonds.

• As President of Women Legislators of Maryland Caucus, with the help of the Governor, Speaker of the House and President of the Senate, we met our priorities for: Equal pay for equal work (Lilly Ledbetter bill); no further cuts to the Developmental Disabilities Administration; and further protecting women and children in domestic violence situations have been achieved.

Delegate Kirill Reznik (District 39):

• **MC/PG 103-09 HB 1135 – PASSED** - This bill will expand a Lyme disease presumption to all full time employees of the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission who regularly work in an outdoor wooded environment as part of their regularly assigned duties. What this means is, that if a covered employee were to contract lyme disease, it would be assumed for the purposes of workers compensation that they contracted lyme disease on the job.

• **HB 374 PASSED** – This bill will make sure that the Board of Physicians has the tools they need to regulate radiation therapists, radiographers and other professions. This bill passed the House and Senate unanimously and should be signed by the Governor soon.

• Helped to pass several vital pieces of legislation through his committee including the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and a bill to make sure insurers are covering breast cancer screenings. In addition, working with his fellow members of the State Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission he helped to pass a bill to increase funding to vital Drug and Alcohol Abuse programs.

Delegate Craig L. Rice (District 15):

Delegate Rice continues to champion education and environmental issues in 2009. The following Bills all passed and he was the main sponsor.

• HB 85 The College Textbook Competition and Affordability Act of 2009, addresses the issue of textbook pricing and usage. The bill provides price recourse by considering changes in textbook content from one edition to another, the fiscal impact of bundling required materials, as well as the cost and availability of used texts. The bill also requires faculty to consider previous editions of a required text unless a significant amount of the educational content of the textbook has changed, and to avoid requiring supplemental materials unless they plan to use a majority of that material in the course.

• HB 792 Representation of non-certificated Employees was submitted on behalf of non-certificated staff in public schools across the state. Non-certificated employees include building maintenance staff, school bus drivers, cafeteria staff, office support staff, and other staff who do not require professional teaching certification. This bill provides parity between teachers and non-certificated services staff regarding rights and procedures for discipline and discharge. In essence, it protects our lower paid, hard-working employees from the threat of suspension or termination without cause, just like the rights our certificated teachers have right now.

• HB 1290 Recycling in Public Schools is a bill is designed to help Maryland recycle more, waste less, save the State money and promote a more prosperous environmental future. This bill requires each county in the State to have a county recycling plan that addresses the collection, processing, marketing, and disposition of recyclable materials from county public schools and requires the county to submit a revised recycling plan by October 1, 2010

Delegate Herman L. Taylor Jr. (District 14):

• It has become apparent that Electric Customer Choice and Competition Act of 1999 that deregulated our State's electricity has failed miserably. A decade after its passage, we have realized that this legislation has come far from reaching its original purpose. For this reason, I was the primary cosponsor of legislation to reregulate electricity and put power back into the hands of the Public Service Commission. By returning to regulatory protection, we can create a system that is reliable and paves the way for stabilizing utility rates.

• This session I cosponsored the Governor's part-time workers bill that expands unemployment benefits to part-time workers. Thirty states and the District of Columbia are ahead of us in allowing part-time workers to receive benefits. We must recognize the importance of these workers in fueling our economy, making up 14% of our State's workforce.

• I sponsored legislation to prohibit a prime contractor from taking advantage of a minority business enterprise in ways such as withholding payments, paying off minority business subcontractors, or listing these minority vendors on contracts with no intention of using them. It is important for our state to recognize the importance of small, women, and minority owned business in economic development. Ultimately, this piece of legislation will remedy the perpetuating gap between minority and majority owned business.

Delegate Jeff Waldstreicher (District 18):

• As a fervent advocate for safe roads, Delegate Waldstreicher authored a bill to ban texting while driving. Texting while driving is extremely dangerous, requiring drivers to take both their hands and eyes off the road. This important legislation passed both chambers and will be signed by Governor O'Malley.

• A member of the Judiciary Committee and its Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Delegate Waldstreicher was the lead sponsor of a bill to make possession of child pornography a felony. Currently, Maryland is one of

four states where child pornography is only a misdemeanor. The legislation passed both chambers and will be signed by Governor O'Malley.

• Fulfilling a promise to crack down on sprawl and mansionization, Delegate Waldstreicher was proud to co-sponsor the Governor's smart growth package. These historic bills severely limit overdevelopment, protect sensitive wetlands, and promote transit. The "Smart, Green, and Growing" package passed both chambers and will be signed by the Governor.

• A recognized leader on child protection, Delegate Waldstreicher authored and sponsored HB 144: The Birthmatch Bill. Currently, social service agencies cannot share crucial information to protect our most vulnerable children. This bill changes that. It passed both chambers and will be signed by Governor O'Malley.

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Montgomery County
Direct State Operating Aid Funding Comparison
Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010

CATEGORY OF AID	Fiscal 2009	Fiscal 2010	DIFFERENCE FY 09 vs. FY 10	% Inc.
Education	431,516,961	474,399,536	42,882,575	9.9%
Libraries	2,609,967	2,606,276	-3,691	-0.1%
Community College	43,263,124	44,285,131	1,022,007	2.4%
Health	4,637,969	4,637,969	0	0.0%
Public Safety	16,456,911	16,456,911	0	0.0%
Transportation	39,751,554	14,917,305	-24,834,249	-62.5%
Program Open Space	3,245,919	1,109,136	-2,136,783	-65.8%
DIRECT AID TOTAL	541,482,405	558,412,264	16,929,859	3.1%

Montgomery County Office of Intergovernmental Relations, 4/14/09

MONTGOMERY COUNTY - FISCAL YEAR 2010 CAPITAL PROJECTS (draft)

Public School Construction *		26,021,000
Bannockburn Elementary School	558,000	
Galway Elementary School	4,795,000	
Robert Frost Middle School	503,000	
Sherwood High School	563,000	
Strathmore Elementary School	520,000	
Thomas W. Pyle Middle School	121,000	
Walter Johnston High School	13,595,000	
Watkins Mill High School	710,000	
Stonemill Elementary	401,000	
Fox Chapel Elementary	389,000	
Burning Tree Elementary	267,000	
Poolesville Elementary	232,000	
McAuliffe Elementary	196,000	
Ritchie Park Elementary	166,000	
Germantwon Elementary	144,000	
Oakview Elementary	111,000	
Quince Orchard High School	100,000	
Francis Scott Key Middle School	2,650,000	
Montgomery College		17,096,500
Germantown Bioscience Center	16,081,500	
Rockville Science West/Science East	1,015,000	
Other Projects		4,595,000
Black Rock Center for the Arts	50,000	
Capital Area Food Bank	300,000	
Charles E. Smith Life Communities, Revitz House	650,000	
Dance Exchange	50,000	
Easter Seals Inter-Generational Center	70,000	
Gaithersburg Community Museum	250,000	
Housing Opportunities Commission	1,000,000	
Imagination Stage	275,000	
Jewish Council for the Aging	275,000	
Jewish Foundation for Group Homes	75,000	
Lake Whetstone Facilities	80,000	
LEDC Facility	175,000	
MacDonald Knolls Center	100,000	
National Center for Children & Families Youth Activities	250,000	
Northgate Homes Corporation	40,000	
Olney Theatre Center Campus	150,000	
Poolesville Skate Park	175,000	
RCI Group Home	30,000	
"Falling Green" at Olney Boys and Girls Club Park	150,000	
Rockville Historic Post Office	100,000	
Rockville Senior Center	350,000	
Environment and Natural Resources		11,240,000
Damascus Wastewater Treatment Plant nutrient removal	625,000	
Seneca Wastewater Treatment Plant nutrient removal	7,089,000	
Seneca Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade	2,439,000	
Booze Creek Stream restoration	440,000	
Germantown Estates stormwater management	306,000	
Rockville Civic Center Park	153,000	
Rockville Senior Center Park	112,000	
Woottons Mill Park	76,000	
TOTAL	58,952,500	

* $26 million of public school construction funds have yet to be allocated among the 24 subdivisions

Montgomery County Office of Intergovernmental Relations, 4/14/09