# Maryland Nurses Legislative Presentation

January 28, 2014

Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities

### Presentation Overview

- Overview of the 2014 Legislative Session
- The Process: how does a bill become a law?
- Your Involvement
  - How to track bills on the Maryland General Assembly website
  - o Who should you talk to?
    - Committees
    - Individual legislators
  - Additional advocacy opportunities
- Relevant legislation
- Conclusion

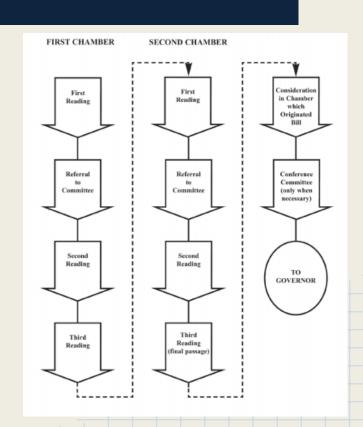
### The 2014 Legislative Session

- Jan. 8 to April 7, 2014 (90 days)
- Jan. 21: bills should be requested by legislators by this date
- Jan. 31: introduction deadline for Senate
- Feb. 7: introduction deadline for House
- Feb. 17: Nurses Lobby Night in Annapolis
- Mar. 3: last day bills can be introduced without suspension of the rules
- Mar. 24: crossover deadline
- April 7: adjournment
- May 27: governor must sign or veto bills by this date
- Oct. 1: effective date for most non-finance bills

During the 2013 session, 2,610 bills were introduced, 766 passed.

#### The Process

- Legislator introduces a bill
- Bill is assigned to a committee for review
- Committee hearing open to the public
- Committee vote: favorable (with or without amendments), unfavorable, or without recommendation
- Second reading: open to amendment from the floor
- 3rd reading: floor vote
- If passed at 3rd reading in one chamber, goes to second chamber
- REPEAT PROCESS
- If passed at 3rd reading in second chamber, considered again in first chamber
- If accepted, sent to Governor for signature



### Your Involvement

- Legislators will likely have introduced the majority of legislation before Lobby Day.
- Use the Maryland General Assembly website to keep track of legislation that is relevant to your interests.
  - Google search: "Maryland General Assembly"
  - mgaleg.maryland.gov
- Individuals or groups can discuss legislation with legislators or their staff.
- Individuals and organizations can submit written or oral testimony for a committee hearing.

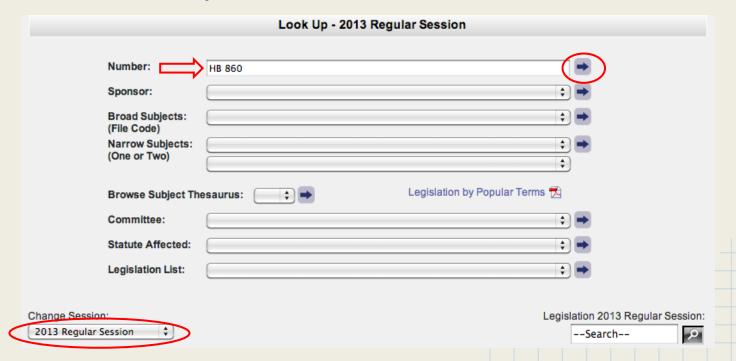
# Tracking Bills: Option 1

Sign up for email alerts:

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About Legislation			Look Up - 2014 Regular Session					
Legis	slation introduced during the 2014 Regular Session	Number:					<b>□●</b>	
	Senate	Sponsor:					• →	
Bills	SB0001 - SB0130	Broad Subject (File Code)	s:				• →	
	House	Narrow Subject (One or Two)	its:				<b>⇒</b>	
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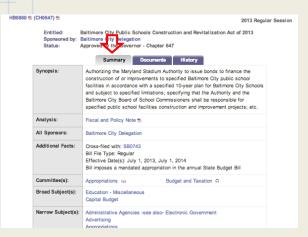
# Tracking Bills: Option 2

#### Track Bills Manually:

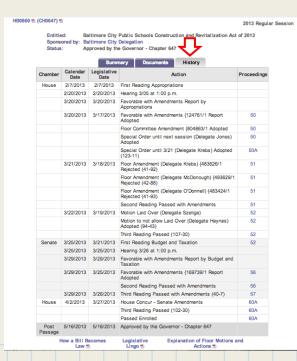


# Tracking Bills: Option 2

#### Track Bills Manually: (continued)

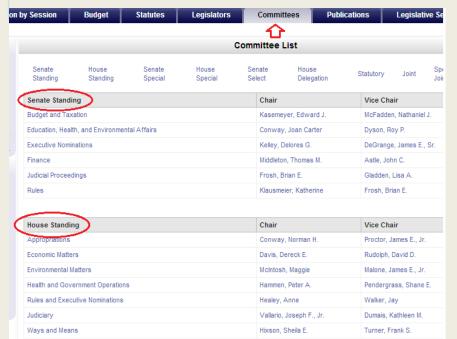






#### Committee Information

- When tracking bills, note which committees the bills are assigned to.
- Look up committee information on the General Assembly website:





### Finding Your Legislators

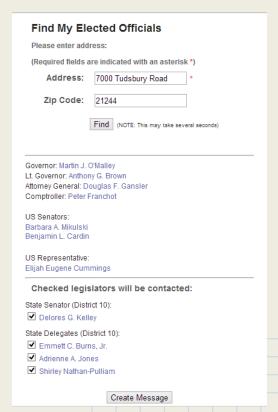
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Search for your legislators: **Statutes** Legislators Committees **Publications Legislative Services** Legislator List - By Name View by: District or County Who represents me? Senate House District District County Contact Delegate County Contact

Number

Input your address and zip code for a list of your elected officials:



### Additional Advocacy

- Talk with your legislators:
  - Visit them in Annapolis
  - Call them or send a letter
- Give Testimony (make sure you follow the rules)
  - Testify at a committee hearing
    - Deadline
    - Duration
  - Submit written testimony
    - Number of copies
    - Deadline

### HB 294: Law Enforcement Officers Entrance-Level and Annual Training Requirements (Christopher's Law)

- The current law establishes standards and requirements for entrance-level and annual in-service officer training.
- HB 294 would amend "Christopher's Law" to include provisions that require police officer training in:
  - Lifesaving techniques including CPR
  - The proper level and use of force
  - Sensitivity to cultural and gender diversity
  - Individuals with physical, intellectual, and developmental disabilities
  - Proper use of electronic control devices (if issued)

Hearing: Judiciary, Feb. 4, 2014

#### **HB 179: Adult Public Guardianship Review Board**

- Changes the membership of an adult guardianship review board.
- Current law: Of the 11 member review committee:
  - in counties other than St. Mary's, "2 shall be physicians, including 1 psychiatrist from a local health department that employs psychiatrists"
  - In St. Mary's County, "one shall be a physician other than a psychiatrist; and "1 shall be a psychiatrist or psychologist"
- Proposed change:
  - 1 shall be a physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, or physician who is not a psychiatrist, and
  - 1 shall be a psychiatrist (or a psychologist if in St. Mary's County)

Hearing: Judiciary, Jan. 30, 2014

#### HB 152/SB 303: Creation of a State Debt—Montgomery County— Intergenerational Center Expansion

- Authorizes the Board of Public Works to take out a loan on behalf of the State to fund the expansion of the Center.
- Easter Seals' Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Inter-Generational Center is a "shared site" for children and seniors with disabilities and their families.

Hearing: House Appropriations, Senate Budget and Taxation

#### SB 103: Public Health Programs for Children—Renaming and Modernization

- Replaces "hearing-impaired infants" and similar language with "infants with hearing loss" and similar language within what is currently the Program for Hearing-Impaired Infants.
- Renames the program: "Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program".
   Hearing: favorably reported by Finance

#### Senate Bill 177: Crimes—Elder Abuse or Neglect—Increased Penalties

- Applies to "vulnerable adults." Under current Maryland law, a "vulnerable adult" is "an adult who lacks the physical or mental capacity to provide for the adult's daily needs." (MD Criminal Law 3-604(a)(10); COMAR 07.02.16.02.B.(21)).
- Any person who has permanent or temporary care or responsibility for the supervision of a vulnerable adult, or a household or family member of a vulnerable adult may not cause abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult that:
  - Results in death,
  - Causes serious physical injury, or
  - Involves sexual abuse of the vulnerable adult
- Felony cases: imprisonment and fine max. doubled to 20 yr., \$20,000, or both
- Misdemeanor cases: <u>doubled</u> to max. of 10 yr., \$10,000, or both

Hearing: Judicial Proceedings, Feb. 12, 2014

#### SB 120: Education—Children with Disabilities—Parent Surrogates

- Concerns children eligible to receive educational services under IDEA and applicable State laws and regulations
- Adds the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, and the Department
  of Public Safety and Correctional Services to the list of public agencies required
  to request the appointment of a parent surrogate when it is suspected that the
  child is disabled, and if, the child is:
  - a ward of the State,
  - unaccompanied homeless youth,
  - the parents are otherwise unavailable, and if
  - the child's rights have not been transferred back to them.

Hearing: favorably reported by Education, Health and Environmental Affairs

### Conclusion and Resources

A good compromise, a good piece of legislation, is like a good sentence; or a good piece of music. Everybody can recognize it. They say, 'Huh. It works. It makes sense.'

- Barack Obama

#### **HELPFUL RESOURCES:**

- Maryland General Assembly Website: http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/
- The Legislative Process PDF:
   http://dls.state.md.us/data/libandinfser/libandinfser\_docandpub/Legislative-Process.pdf

### **Contact Information**

#### Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities (MCDD):

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- Viola Woolums: Spring 2014 Legislative Extern: vwoolums@umaryland.edu

# Questions?