



THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1991

September 10, 2018

The Honorable David R. Brinkley
Secretary, Department of Budget and Management
45 Calvert Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Secretary Brinkley:

The Office of the Attorney General notified us today that a lawsuit has been filed in the Baltimore City Circuit Court challenging the State's decision to move Medicare eligible retirees to Medicare Part D.

As you are aware, we planned to hold a briefing on this issue on September 13. The purpose of the briefing was to provide lawmakers with information about the transition as well as any possible changes that needed to be made to the plan, which they could, in turn, provide to affected retirees. The lawsuit creates a new layer of uncertainty, which will make it difficult for the Department of Budget and Management to provide clear answers on September 13. Therefore, we are removing the briefing from the hearing schedule.

As you are also aware, the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House agreed that the Department of Budget and Management would work hand-in-glove with the Department of Legislative Services to quantify the impact of transition on affected retirees and to develop emergency legislation that the General Assembly can consider when it reconvenes in January. We believe it is exceptionally important that the departments continue to work together to develop a solution.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Phillip S. Anthony at 410-946-5530 or Ms. Hannah E. Dier at 410-946-5510.

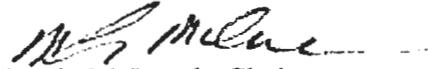
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Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Kasemeyer, Chairman
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee



Maggie McIntosh, Chairman
House Appropriations Committee

EJK:MM/PSA:HED/msh

cc: Members, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Members, House Appropriations Committee
Members, Senate Finance Health Subcommittee
Ms. Alexandra M. Hughes
Mr. Patrick H. Murray