



The Legislative Wrap-Up

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(Click on Issue above for previous Wrap-Ups)

GREEN BAG APPOINTMENTS

Green Bag appointments, as required by the Maryland Constitution, were submitted to the Senate and House on Friday, February 18 (although the official day, the 40th calendar day of the 2005 session, is Sunday, February 20). In the Senate, the Governor's Appointments Secretary delivers the list of gubernatorial appointments in the official Green Bag of Maryland to the President at the morning session. The green leather bag, embossed with the Maryland Great Seal, is modeled on the green bags used by English barristers of old to convey official documents. Except for this annual presentation ceremony, the Green Bag resides at the State Archives.

COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEEDINGS

Legislation that failed in committee this week includes measures that would have:

- prohibited a person from filing a civil action against a food seller for death or injury because of weight gain, obesity, or a health condition that results from obesity or weight gain ([HB 15](#)); and
- granted a child of divorced parents who has reached the age of 18 and is enrolled full time in an institution of postsecondary education the right to receive support and maintenance from both parents until the child graduates, is no longer enrolled full time, marries, is emancipated, or turns 23 ([HB 68](#)) or 21 ([HB 132](#)).

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS ISSUES

Insurance

The House approved legislation that requires continuing education on flood insurance for an insurance agent licensed to sell property and casualty insurance and who sells homeowner's insurance. [HB 160](#) extends 2004 legislation that applied to licensed insurance producers who sold flood insurance. As amended, the bill, which is

designed to help consumers determine if flood insurance is needed, terminates in 2007.

Other bills related to homeowners' insurance are scheduled for hearings next week:

- [SB 387](#) requires the Maryland Insurance Commissioner to adopt regulations that establish a voluntary mediation process in the Maryland Insurance Administration between a consumer and an insurer that issues or delivers a homeowner's insurance policy for the settlement of claims involving property damage and the determination of the loss value of the property;
- [SB 388](#) requires insurers to provide applicants with written notice that states that a standard homeowner's insurance policy does not cover losses from flood; and
- [SB 436](#) provides that flood insurance policies issued in the State be subject to the Unfair Claim Settlement Practices Act.

Legislation ([HB 95](#)) that would have required all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), but not snowmobiles or vehicles used for farm purposes, to be covered by insurance failed to gain committee approval this week.

Labor

Receiving a public hearing this week, [HB 502](#) allows employers who require job-related drug testing to use an evidential breath measurement device to test for alcohol. The device must be on a federal list, be portable, and be operated by a federally qualified breath alcohol technician. Under current law a person's blood, urine, hair, or saliva may be tested for the use or abuse of drugs or alcohol and a laboratory must do the testing. Other provisions of the bill set the alcohol concentration level at or above 0.02 and authorize the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt regulations governing alcohol testing using this device.

Economic and Community Development

Other legislation before a House committee during the week revives the Live Near Your Work program in the Department of Housing and Community Development. [HB 449](#) requires the Governor to include \$250,000 in fiscal 2007 and 2008 budgets and up to \$500,000 beginning in fiscal 2009. The Live Near Your Work program established by regulation in 1997, was a cooperative effort by the State, participating local jurisdictions, and participating employers to provide an incentive for employees to purchase homes near the workplace or in targeted neighborhoods.

EDUCATION

Gaining preliminary approval in the Senate, [SB 233](#) requires the Maryland Department of Education to employ a full-time Director of Physical Education. The director must assist local boards of education in developing and implementing long-range plans to meet the minimum national standards for physical education. The companion measure is [HB 525](#).

This week committees heard public commentary on:

- [SB 246](#), an emergency bill, requiring the State Board of Education to adopt regulations to allow a special education student to substitute other mathematics instruction for the required high school credits in algebra and geometry. (The companion bill is [HB 761](#));
- [HB 256](#), expanding the existing quality teacher incentive tax credit to certified nonpublic school teachers up to \$1,500 of the graduate-school tuition paid by the individual that is not otherwise reimbursed by the teacher's employer during the year. (The companion bill is [SB 323](#)); and
- [HB 349](#), requiring State colleges and universities with teacher education programs to provide teacher education reading curricula aligned with the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Private institutions must comply with the requirements in order to receive State funding under the Sellinger program.

Proposals on the reemployment of teachers were also before a committee recently. [HB 413](#) increases the amount of salary a reemployed retired teacher may earn before the retirement allowance is reduced during the period of reemployment with a participating employer.

Participating employers include the State and any of the 112 participating governmental units including local school boards.

Under [HB 414](#), the reemployed retiree has no limit on salary earned, but forgoes the retirement allowance and rejoins the appropriate retirement system on reemployment by the same participating employer that employed the retiree at the time of initial retirement. After the employee "re-retires," the retirement allowance is reinstated and adjusted to reflect the additional service credit accumulated during the period of reemployment.

Not yet on a hearing agenda, [HB 1347](#) deals with the reemployment of retired principals, as well as retired teachers. The Senate will hold hearings on the same issue next week ([SB 40](#), [SB 663](#), and [SB 692](#)).

A recent introduction offers a tax credit against State income tax for educational purposes. Under [HB 1002](#), the credit is for educational materials purchased by an eligible instructor for use in a home instruction program. The credit may not exceed the lesser of \$300 or the State income tax imposed for the taxable year.

Public school teachers would get another tax break under [HB 965](#), which exempts from State property tax a dwelling owned by a public school classroom teacher, if the teacher lives in the county where he or she is employed.

[HB 1064](#) adds a new section to the Maryland Constitution by requiring the State to fund any amount necessary for the support and maintenance of the public institutions of higher education in the State. If passed, the constitutional amendment would be submitted to the voters at the 2006 election.

Academic guidelines are the subject of [HB 964](#) that requires each governing board of a public institution of higher education to develop guidelines that include the requirement that students be graded solely on their answers and knowledge of the subject matter and not on their political or religious beliefs. Faculty may not use their courses for the purpose of political, ideological, religious, or antireligious indoctrination.

[SJ 10](#) urges the Maryland Congressional Delegation to seek either full funding of the federal No Child Left Behind Act or a waiver for the State from the requirements of the Act.

ELECTIONS AND ETHICS

On Thursday, legislation to establish a Task Force to Study Early Voting was dropped in the hopper. [HB 1381](#) includes on the task force roster appointees from the General Assembly, Governor, League of Women Voters, Maryland Association of Elections Officers, and the public. A report is due this December.

Also on Thursday, a House committee considered bills related to election law. Among the topics covered were absentee voting ([HB 376](#), [HB 622](#)), administrative and reporting matters for campaign finance entities and not-for-profit organizations ([HB 141](#), [HB 178](#)), and identification of voters ([HB 105](#)).

Another bill, [HB 381](#), requires that the statement of election results prepared by each local board of canvassers list results by precinct, legislative district, and for the county as a whole. Local boards of elections are also required to tabulate and publish results in the same manner. Currently, information is listed by precinct.

Committee members also took testimony on an emergency bill that alters the powers and duties of the State Administrator of Elections and repeals provisions establishing the State Board of Elections (SBE). [HB 675](#) creates a State Elections Office, a 12-member State Elections Advisory Committee, and a State Administrator Appointment and Removal Commission. Although the bill would not materially affect SBE's operations or finances, the configuration of the new governing structure is very controversial. The companion measure, [SB 444](#), is on a Senate hearing schedule for Friday, February 18.

ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND AGRICULTURE

This week, committee members were presented with comments on bills that would ban or regulate methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), the gasoline additive used to reduce emissions and pollutants but suspected of polluting ground water. Gasoline reformulated with MTBE is sold in 14 counties in the State. MTBE bills to date include:

- [HB 960](#), [HB 205](#), and [HB 496](#) prohibit as of January 1, 2006, 2008, and 2010, respectively, the sale of gasoline that contains more than 0.5% of MTBE. ([HB 205](#) also requires the Department of the

Environment (MDE) to report by December 1, 2006, on the practicability and effects of replacing MTBE with ethanol in gasoline sold in the State);

- [HB 374](#) requires MDE to notify property owners located within one-half mile of a site found to be contaminated with MTBE at a level of 20 parts per billion or higher of the actions being taken to address the contamination, and actions property owners should take to protect themselves. (The bill also requires a person responsible for an oil spillage to be liable for the costs to MDE of providing the notice);
- [HB 660](#) requires the owner of a gasoline underground storage tank to notify MDE and the public, and develop a corrective action plan, if groundwater tests show the presence of benzene at or above 5 parts per billion; total benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, and xylene at or above 100 parts per billion; or MBTE at or above 20 parts per billion;
- [HB 355](#) requires nontransient noncommunity water systems to test the water provided by the system for the presence of MTBE, report the findings to the MDE, and provide those regularly served by the system with a notice if the level of MTBE in the testing sample meets or exceeds 20 parts per billion; and authorizing MDE to adopt regulations;
- [HB 373](#) requires MDE to request that the United States Environmental Protection Agency waive federal requirements that specified reformulated gasoline be sold in the State, and by December 1, 2006, to develop a plan regarding the phasing-out of the use of MTBE in gasoline sold in the State; and
- [HB 659](#) requires the Secretary of the Environment to negotiate with the surrounding Mid-Atlantic states on the creation of a Mid-Atlantic Regional Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether Compact to study the prevalence and impact of MTBE, and the feasibility and effectiveness of using alternative additives, including ethanol, throughout the region. (A report is due by December 31, 2006. A hearing is scheduled for the crossfiled bill, [SB 669](#), on March 1).

[HB 388](#) would have called for the gradual implementation, to be completed by January 1, 2015, of a ban on marketing gasoline that contains more than 0.5% of MBTE by volume. The bill was withdrawn.

Testimony also was submitted this week on [SB 283](#), which implements some of the recommendations of the Task Force to Study the Economic Development of the Maryland Seafood and Aquaculture Industries. The bill coordinates and creates new programs and responsibilities in the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Natural Resources, addressing seafood marketing, aquaculture, and tidal fisheries.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND COMMERCIAL LAW

Consideration of the sale and regulation of gift certificates continues in committee. [HB 551](#) generally prohibits a person from selling a gift certificate that contains an expiration date, unless it is clearly printed on the certificate and is at least five years after the issue date; or a service fee, including one for dormancy. The companion, [SB 8](#), received a hearing last week. [HB 667](#) allows a seller to assess a service fee of up to \$1 per month for dormancy if the remaining value on the gift certificate is less than \$5.

FISCAL MATTERS

Legislative proposals increasing the income tax exemption for military retirement income are scheduled for committee hearings next week. [SB 211/HB 245](#) and [HB 270](#) gradually exempt military retirement income from State income taxation by 2010 for those retirees with at least 20 years of service. The bills exempt 20% of the income in 2006, and increase the amount of exempt income to 100% by 2010. [HB 1247](#) increases the current deduction of \$2,500 to \$7,500, and raises the income level at which the deduction starts to decrease from \$17,500, to \$30,000.

On tap for a Senate hearing next week, [SB 218](#) establishes an Entrepreneurial Investment Technology Tax Credit to encourage the creation of and investment in bioscience and advanced technology businesses. The companion bill, [HB 249](#), has a hearing next month.

House and Senate budget committees continue to hold hearings on the fiscal 2006 Budget Bill, [HB 150](#). Legislators on these committees will spend many hours listening to testimony from State agency personnel and other interested parties. Decisions on expenditures are expected by the close of the third week in March.

GAMING, RACING, AND SPORTS

The slots debate hit the Senate floor late this week, and on Friday the chamber agreed to approve [SB 205](#). Under the bill, as amended and passed, there will be a limit of 15,500 video lottery terminals (VLTs), or slot machines, with four sites at racetracks and three at non-racetrack destinations in the State. Sites are to be selected through a competitive process by a nine-member Video Lottery Facility Location Commission. Distribution of the proceeds is as follows: 4.3% (5% the first year) of the gross to the State Lottery Agency, up to 36% to racetrack licensees, up to 30% to non-racetrack licensees, 5% to local governments, and 5.8% (the first year 5.1%) to the purse dedication account. The Education Trust Fund will receive the remaining proceeds, 48.9% from the racetrack sites and 54.9% from the non-racetrack locations. The companion measure, [HB 255](#), was heard in House committee this week.

Other gaming bills receiving their first public airing this week included:

- [HB 108](#) authorizes 12,500 VLTs at five race tracks in the State. Proceeds are distributed as follows 5% to the State Lottery Agency, 10% to the local governments in which video lottery facilities are operating, 10% to the Purse Dedication Account, 5% to the William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Fund,. 30% to the video lottery terminal licensees, and 40% to the Public School Construction Fund;
- [HB 673](#) authorizes up to 16,500 VLTs at six racing locations and four at non-racetrack locations. Proceeds are distributed as follows: an unspecified amount to the State Lottery for administrative costs, 2% for the Maryland-bred and Maryland standard-bred race funds, 7% to the Purse Dedication Account, .5% to the Maryland State Fair, 4.75% to the local governments in which the slots are operating, \$500,000 for compulsive gambling programs, and \$500,000 for agricultural and equestrian activities, half the remaining proceeds to the VLT operators, and all remaining proceeds to the Education Trust Fund;
- [HB 720](#) authorizes a total of 12,000 VLTs in the State. Slot licenses are to be competitively awarded based on the estimated net revenue that would be generated to the State. A licensee may also operate table games. The bill requires the Governor

negotiate with any neighboring state that allows slot gaming. Slot machine facilities will not be opened near the border of any state that negotiates such an agreement. After the payout to the players, 5% of the proceeds are distributed to the Community Impact Fund, 5% to the Compulsive Gambling Treatment Fund, 25% to the Maryland-bred Race Fund, and the remainder to the General Fund. Licensees do not receive a percentage of actual slots revenues. A licensee will receive an amount based on the estimated net revenue the slots facility will generate; and

- [HB 1361](#) authorizes a total of 8,500 VLTs at four locations: Anne Arundel, Harford, Frederick, and Dorchester Counties. Proceeds will be distributed as follows: 5% (4.3% after the first year) to the State Lottery Agency for administrative costs, 5% to the local governments in which the slots are operating, 15% to local development grants to all counties and Baltimore City, 9% to the Purse Dedication Account, 3% to the Racetrack Facility Renewal Account, not more than 30% to the operators based on their bid proposal, and the remainder to the Educational Facility Construction Fund (minimum of 33% the first year and 33.7% after).

Two bills proposing constitutional amendments regarding VLT gaming have been heard. Both, if passed, would be submitted to the voters in 2006:

- [HB 722](#) prohibits statutorily expanding gaming except for VLTs, limits the number of licenses to six, with a total of 13,000 terminals to be issued in the State; the State would not issue more than one license in a county or Baltimore City, and only if a majority of votes in that area cast in favor of the amendment; and
- [HB 850](#) proposes that the General Assembly can only authorize expanded forms of gambling after January 1, 2007, if in a general election the majority of voters statewide and in the counties where the expanded gambling is located, approve such gambling.

A late introduction, [HB 1380](#), authorizes up to 17,500 VLTs at six locations with 41% of proceeds designated for the Education Trust Fund.

HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH INSURANCE

Senate and House committee hearings this week focused on a variety of bills that address access and cost of prescription drugs. A Canadian mail drug plan is proposed by both [HB 65](#) and [HB 231](#) for State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefit Program enrollees. Approval by the federal government is required for implementation.

[HB 231](#) expands enrollment to other State prescription programs, local jurisdictions that wish to participate, and Maryland residents without health insurance or prescription drug coverage. [HB 65](#) requires that any savings realized under the mail order plan be allocated to a dedicated purpose account for breast cancer research and prevention for low-income women at the University of Maryland Medical System.

Another measure, [HB 176](#), requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) to evaluate a process for assisting senior citizens in purchasing reduced-cost prescription drugs from sources outside the State. DHMH may implement a process if it is feasible, cost effective, and consistent with federal law and regulation.

Other bills under consideration include:

- establishing a prescription drug repository program to accept and dispense prescription drugs donated for the purpose of dispensing to State residents who meet eligibility requirements ([HB 317](#));
- requiring a pharmacy that participates in the Medicaid program to charge Medicare beneficiaries a price for prescription drugs that does not exceed the price charged to Medicaid recipients plus the Medicaid program's cost for electronic transmissions of claims data ([HB 229](#));
- requiring a pharmacy to post prominently the prices for the 25 most commonly used prescription drugs listed on the Attorney General's web site and a list of the health benefit plans in which the pharmacy participates ([SB 723](#));
- requiring the Health Services Cost Review Commission to regulate prescription drug prices in the State ([HB 366](#)); and
- extending and or revising the Senior Prescription Drug Program which is only funded in the FY 2006

budget through December 31, 2005, when the new federal Medicare drug benefits cover Maryland seniors ([SB 282](#) and [HB 324](#)).

Passed by the House, an amended [HB 21](#) requires nursing homes and assisted living facilities with more than nine residents to maintain on-site automated external defibrillators. Reported to the floor with recommended committee amendments, [HB 20](#) requires an assisted living facility that serves 50 or more individuals to have an emergency electrical power generator on the premises. A generator must be able to operate for 48 hours from fuel stored on-site. Other amendments exempt facilities that can safely transfer residents through an enclosed corridor to a building equipped with an electrical power generator that meets the bill's requirements as well as delaying the effective date of the bill until October 1, 2008.

Introduced this week, [SB 836 /HB 1359](#) address implementation and corrective provisions to 2004 special session legislation enacted in response to medical malpractice and health care access concerns in the State. [HB 1359](#) is scheduled for a hearing next week.

HUMAN RESOURCES

All State residents who have been convicted of a drug-related felony and who otherwise are qualified to receive food stamps are eligible to receive that assistance under [SB 463](#) and [HB 1024](#). Currently only those in that group who are resident custodial parents are eligible for food stamps in Maryland. Federal law bans anyone convicted of a drug-related felony after 1996 from eligibility for food stamps, a 100% federally funded program, but allows states to opt out of the ban.

These bills expand Maryland's current partial opt-out to include non-custodial parents and childless adults with prior drug felonies, with the proviso that they are subject to substance abuse testing for two years. [SB 463](#) has a hearing next week.

REAL PROPERTY, ESTATES, AND TRUSTS

As of Friday, February 18, nearly 40 bills dealing with housing or residential real property have been introduced. The Senate passed [SB 67](#), which affects the way the State Department of Assessments and Taxation values low-income housing. The legislation requires consideration of the impact of rent restrictions and

affordability requirements when assessing commercial property financed by a federal or State affordable housing program. Its companion bill, [HB 235](#), received a favorable with amendments vote from a House committee.

Among the proposals up for committee scrutiny this week, [HB 522](#) requires homeowners associations which base their fees on property assessments to take reduced assessed values into account in determining those fees. The bill applies to developments containing at least 13,000 acres and a population of at least 80,000. Also heard this week, [HB 550](#) authorizes the owner of an owner-occupied, single family detached house to create and rent one apartment within the dwelling. To be eligible the property cannot be part of a condominium or located in a development whose homeowners association does not consent to it.

Next week a House committee will consider several housing bills including:

- [HB 657](#) that protects a tenant's security deposit from being attached by creditors if that deposit is held in a federally insured financial institution;
- [HB 970](#), also protecting security deposits, that stipulates that the interest rate on a security deposit is the rate paid by the financial institution holding it on the date the landlord gives the tenant a receipt for that deposit; and
- [HB 784](#) that grants immunity from civil liability to volunteer board members of a condominium, cooperative or homeowners association.

On Friday, the Senate passed [SB 3](#) to authorize the custodian for a minor to transfer custodial property to a qualified trust without a court order.

STATE GOVERNMENT

Two Senate committees meeting jointly held hearings on bills related to the disposition of State lands:

- [SB 102](#), a constitutional amendment, requires express legislative approval for the sale, lease, transfer, exchange, grant, or other disposition of any state-owned or state-designated outdoor recreation, open space, conservation, preservation, forest, or park land;

- [SB 103](#) requires approval of the General Assembly through legislation for transactions;
- [SB 104](#) establishes new requirements for State government with respect to the determination and notification of excess real property, prohibits approval of the disposition of property except under certain conditions, and provides for review of disposition proposals by the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) under certain conditions; and
- [SB 306](#) prohibits the sale, lease, transfer, exchange, grant, or other disposition of specified state-owned or state-designated land until the Board of Public Works follows specified procedures and the General Assembly by legislation approves the transaction at its next session.

House legislation restricting the disposition of State land is ready for its committee hearings in early March. Two committees are set to meet together to consider [HB 4](#), [HB 67](#), and [HB 903](#).

Another measure on the hearing list, [HB 904](#), intends to discourage diverting land preservation program funds to the General Fund and to discontinue diverting land preservation funds without a plan for repayment. The bill requires that specified transfers from the General Fund to the transfer tax special fund take place beginning in fiscal 2007 and that the Governor submit a repayment plan by December 1, 2005, to the budget committees of the Senate and House.

TRANSPORTATION

Maryland Transportation Authority

Introduced at the request of the Department of Transportation (DOT) and in a committee's spotlight this week, [SB 71](#) revises State policy on the financing of Maryland transportation projects by repealing the law requiring the Maryland Transportation Authority (MdTA) to obtain General Assembly approval before issuing revenue bonds to finance all or part of the cost of a transportation facility project.

Another DOT bill, also heard by committee members, [SB 75](#), modifies the limitations on the use of Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle (GARVEE) bonds issued by MDOT and the Maryland Transportation Authority. Specifically, the bill increases the maximum percentage, from 13% to 20%, of the State's average annual federal

highway aid authorization that may be used for annual debt service on the bonds. Under current law, annual payments of principal and interest on the bonds cannot exceed 13% of the State's average annual federal highway aid authorization. In order to finance the InterCounty Connector, however, MDOT proposes to raise this percentage to 20%.

Licensing and Registration

A number of bills dealing with licensing and registration of motor vehicles are at various stages of the legislative process. Committees will hear testimony on most of the measures during the next three weeks.

One proposal, [SB 13](#), which passed the Senate late in the week, distinguishes between "antique" vehicles and "historic" vehicles based on year of manufacture. The altered definition of a historic motor vehicle (Class L) is a one manufactured in 1946 or later that is at least 20 years old. A new registration class (R) of "antique" vehicles consists of vehicles manufactured before 1946 that are not substantially altered from the manufacturer's original design.

At registration, vehicle owners must certify that the vehicles are maintained for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades, tours, occasional transportation and similar use, and not used for daily transportation or primarily for the transportation of passengers or property on highways. Antique vehicles will be exempt from periodic inspections and emission controls, including the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program, but subject to a one-time permanent registration fee of \$50. There will be a special antique registration plate for these vehicles. The companion bill is [HB 1387](#).

Also this week, committee members heard pro and con statements regarding [HB 424](#), which would have required owners of Class M vehicles, those weighing more than 6,000 pounds, to pay an annual \$750 surcharge in addition to registration fees. While most Class M vehicles are commercial trucks, there are numerous large sport utility vehicles (SUVs) included in that category. Later, the committee gave the bill an unfavorable vote.

Two other bills before the same committee also received an unfavorable vote. [HB 624](#) would have reduced the annual registration fees for Class A passenger vehicles whose owners are at least 65 years of age, in effect returning annual registration fees to pre-fiscal 2005 levels for these vehicles. (The companion proposal is [SB](#)

235.) [HB 58](#) would have reduced fees for seniors and individuals with disabilities under certain circumstances.

Motorcycles, Mopeds, and Scooters

[HB 450](#) provides an exemption from wearing a helmet while riding on a motorcycle for an operator or occupant of any three-wheeled motorcycle equipped with an enclosed cab. Also exempt is an individual 21 years old or older who has been licensed to operate a motorcycle for at least two years, or completed an approved motorcycle-rider safety course, or is a passenger on a motorcycle operated by another exempt individual. Under current law, an individual may not operate or ride on a motorcycle unless the individual is wearing protective standard headgear except for an individual riding in an enclosed cab.

However, an individual may not ride a motorcycle without wearing an approved eye-protective device, unless the motorcycle is equipped with a windscreen. [HB 450](#) had a public hearing this week. The bill is to take effect June 1, 2005.

Another measure seeks to change current law related to head and eye gear for riders of motor scooters and mopeds. Current law provides that a person under the age of 16 may not ride a scooter or inline skates unless the person wears a helmet. [HB 36](#) makes the use of helmets and protective eye gear for riders of motor scooters and mopeds mandatory. With a wider application, [HB 1264](#) includes motor scooters under the motor vehicle classification of motorcycles, repeals law related to operating a scooter under a moped license, and creates licensing and equipment standards for scooters in tandem with those with motorcycles.