

May 29, 2015

To the Members of the General Assembly

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Article II, Section 17(c), of the Maryland Constitution states:

Section 17.

(c) Any Bill presented to the Governor within six days (Sundays excepted), prior to adjournment of any session of the General Assembly, or after such adjournment, shall become law without the Governor's signature unless it is vetoed by the Governor within 30 days after presentment.

Having chosen not to sign the following bills after formal presentment and to let the provisions of Article II, Section 17(c) determine the effectiveness of the legislation, the Bills will become law without the Governor's signature as of May 30, 2015, and are assigned the following Chapter numbers:

SB 146 **Senator Zirkin**

Chapter 476

**PRELITIGATION DISCOVERY – INSURANCE COVERAGE –
PREREQUISITES FOR DISCLOSURE**

Repealing specified requirements that specified claimants provide a specified insurer with specified information relating to health care treatment and economic damages before the insurer is required to disclose to the claimants specified coverage limits in a specified insurance agreement; and repealing the requirement that the amount of health care bills and loss of income documented by a specified claimant be at least \$12,500 before a specified insurer is required to disclose to the claimant specified coverage limits.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

SB 183

Senator King, et al

Chapter 477

EDUCATION – GEOGRAPHIC COST OF EDUCATION – REQUIREMENT

Requiring that the county boards of education receive a specified grant to reflect regional differences in the cost of education that are due to factors outside of the control of the local jurisdiction; repealing a provision that allowed for the reduction of a grant under specified circumstances; and making the Act subject to a specified contingency. EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

SB 264

Senator Miller

Chapter 478

CIRCUIT COURT FOR CALVERT COUNTY – FEES FOR APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL

Increasing to \$20 from \$10 specified appearance of counsel fees collected or charged by the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Calvert County; and altering the purposes for which the appearance fees deposited into the Calvert County Law Library Fund may be used. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

HB 542

Delegates O'Donnell and Jackson

Chapter 479

CIRCUIT COURT FOR CALVERT COUNTY – FEES FOR APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL

Increasing to \$20 from \$10 specified appearance of counsel fees collected or charged by the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Calvert County; and altering the purposes for which the appearance fees deposited into the Calvert County Law Library Fund may be used. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

SB 409

Senator Montgomery, et al

Chapter 480

ENVIRONMENT – HYDRAULIC FRACTURING – REGULATIONS

Requiring the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations to provide for the hydraulic fracturing of a well for the exploration or production of natural gas in the State on or before October 1, 2016; prohibiting specified regulations adopted by the Department from becoming effective until October 1, 2017; prohibiting the Department from issuing a permit for the hydraulic fracturing of a well for the exploration or production of natural gas in the State until October 1, 2017; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

- HB 449** **Delegate Fraser–Hidalgo, et al**
Chapter 481 ENVIRONMENT – HYDRAULIC FRACTURING – REGULATIONS
- Requiring the Department of the Environment, on or before October 1, 2016, to adopt regulations to provide for the hydraulic fracturing of a well for the exploration or production of natural gas in the State; prohibiting specified regulations adopted by the Department from becoming effective until October 1, 2017; prohibiting the Department from issuing a permit to authorize the hydraulic fracturing of a well for the exploration or production of natural gas in the State until October 1, 2017; etc.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015
- SB 416** **Senator Kagan, et al**
Chapter 482 HEALTH INSURANCE – COVERAGE FOR INFERTILITY SERVICES
- Prohibiting insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from requiring specified conditions of coverage for specified infertility benefits for a patient who is married to an individual of the same sex; providing that specified provisions of law relating to health insurance coverage of in vitro fertilization do not apply to insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations that provide specified benefits; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015
- HB 838** **Delegate Hill, et al**
Chapter 483 HEALTH INSURANCE – COVERAGE FOR INFERTILITY SERVICES
- Prohibiting insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from requiring specified conditions of coverage for specified infertility benefits for a patient who is married to an individual of the same sex; providing that specified provisions of law relating to health insurance coverage of in vitro fertilization do not apply to insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations that provide specified benefits; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

SB 743

Senator Lee, et al

Chapter 484

VITAL RECORDS – NEW CERTIFICATES OF BIRTH – SEX CHANGE OR DIAGNOSIS OF AN INTERSEX CONDITION

Requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, under specified circumstances, to make a new certificate of birth for an individual whose sex has been changed or who has been diagnosed with an intersex condition; requiring that a specified sex designation and, under specified circumstances, a specified name be on the new certificate of birth; prohibiting a new certificate of birth from having specified markings or showing on its face specified changes; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

HB 862

Delegate Moon, et al

Chapter 485

VITAL RECORDS – NEW CERTIFICATES OF BIRTH – SEX CHANGE OR DIAGNOSIS OF AN INTERSEX CONDITION

Requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, under specified circumstances, to make a new certificate of birth for an individual whose sex has been changed or who has been diagnosed with an intersex condition; requiring that a specified sex designation and, under specified circumstances, a specified name be on the new certificate of birth; prohibiting a new certificate of birth from having specified markings or showing on its face specified changes; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

SB 905

Senator Kasemeyer, et al

Chapter 486

INCOME TAX – FILM PRODUCTION ACTIVITY TAX CREDIT

Repealing specified termination provisions for the tax credit allowed for specified film production activities; limiting the amount of film production activity tax credit certificates that the Secretary of Business and Economic Development may issue in fiscal years 2015 and 2016 to \$7,500,000; establishing the Maryland Film Production Activity Tax Credit Reserve Fund; stating the intent of the General Assembly that the Governor include an appropriation to the Reserve Fund in the annual budget bill; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

HB 51 **Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial
Chapter 487** **Conference)**

**CIRCUIT COURT REAL PROPERTY RECORDS IMPROVEMENT
FUND – FUNDING**

Extending the termination date from July 1, 2015, to July 1, 2020, of a specified increase in the surcharge on specified recordable instruments that the State Court Administrator is required to establish for the Circuit Court Real Property Records Improvement Fund.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

HB 54 **Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial
Chapter 488** **Conference)**

**CIRCUIT COURT REAL PROPERTY RECORDS IMPROVEMENT
FUND – FUNDING**

Requiring the State Court Administrator to assess a surcharge on specified fees, charges, and costs in specified cases in the Court of Appeals, Court of Special Appeals, and circuit courts; requiring the Chief Judge of the District Court to assess a surcharge in specified civil cases that may not be more than \$3 per summary ejection case and \$8 per case for specified civil cases; and requiring the surcharges to be deposited in the Circuit Court Real Property Records Improvement Fund.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

HB 72 **The Speaker (By Request – Administration)
Chapter 489**

BUDGET RECONCILIATION AND FINANCING ACT OF 2015

Authorizing or altering the distribution of specified revenue; increasing from 2 to 3 years the maximum number of years the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene may renew a registration of specified controlled dangerous substances; expanding the uses for which the Department of the Environment may use money in the Maryland Oil Disaster Containment, Clean-Up and Contingency Fund; requiring a local school system with a specified structural deficit to provide specified notifications under specified circumstances; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

- HB 121** **Delegate Anderson, et al**
Chapter 490 **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE – DRUG-RELATED OFFENSES –
DEPARTURE FROM MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES**
- Specifying that a person convicted of specified drug-related offenses is not prohibited from participating in a specified drug treatment program; authorizing a court to depart from a specified mandatory minimum sentence under specified circumstances; applying the Act prospectively; and requiring the savings realized as a result of the Act to revert to the General Fund to be used for funding drug treatment programs.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015
- HB 135** **Charles County Delegation**
Chapter 491 **CHARLES COUNTY – SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION EXCISE TAX
RATES**
- Authorizing the County Commissioners of Charles County to alter the school construction excise tax base rates on specified types of dwellings in specified fiscal years in a specified manner; and providing that the school construction excise tax rates may not increase in specified fiscal years by more than the percentage change in the average statewide school building cost as calculated by the Interagency Committee on School Construction.
EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015
- HB 137** **Charles County Delegation**
Chapter 492 **CHARLES COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – LICENSE
FEES**
- Altering in Charles County fees for specified holders of alcoholic beverages licenses; altering in Charles County a specified annual fee for providing live entertainment or outdoor table service by a holder of a Class D beer license, Class H beer and light wine license, Class D beer and light wine license, Class C beer, wine and liquor license, and Class D beer, wine and liquor license; etc.
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

HB 345 **Delegates Lierman and Clippinger**

Chapter 493

**LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT – FLEXIBLE LEAVE – USE OF
LEAVE FOR FAMILY ILLNESS**

Providing that an agreement between an employer and employee to waive the employee's right to use flexible leave for illness of the employee's immediate family is void; and prohibiting an employer from discharging, demoting, suspending, disciplining or discriminating against an employee or threatening to take any of these actions against an employee because the employee requested flexible leave.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

HB 552 **Delegates Pendergrass and Hammen**

Chapter 494

**HEALTH INSURANCE – MEDICAL STOP-LOSS INSURANCE –
SMALL EMPLOYERS**

Altering, with specified exceptions, specified attachment points above which a medical stop-loss insurer assumes specified liability for losses incurred by an insured; applying the altered attachment points to renewal of a policy or contract of medical stop-loss insurance; requiring the Maryland Insurance Administration to conduct a study of the use of medical stop-loss insurance in self-funded employer health plans and to submit specified reports to the Governor and specified committees of the General Assembly; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Having chosen not to sign the following bill after formal presentment and to let the provisions of Article II, Section 17(c) determine the effectiveness of the legislation, the Bill will become law without the Governor's signature as of May 31, 2015, and is assigned the following Chapter number:

HB 71 The Speaker (By Request – Administration)
Chapter 495 CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – MARYLAND CONSOLIDATED
 CAPITAL BOND LOAN OF 2015, AND THE MARYLAND
Vetoed in CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL BOND LOANS OF 2004, 2005, 2006,
part¹ 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, AND 2014

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$1,063,670,134, the proceeds to be used for specified necessary building, construction, demolition, planning, renovation, conversion, replacement, and capital equipment purchases of the State, for acquiring specified real estate in connection therewith, and for grants to specified subdivisions and other organizations for specified development and improvement purposes, subject to specified requirements; etc.

VARIOUS EFFECTIVE DATES

Sincerely,

Karl S. Aro
Executive Director

¹ This chapter received a line item veto from the Governor;
Item ZA00 (I) on page 29 – Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts