

April 9, 2021

To the Members of the General Assembly

Ladies and Gentlemen:

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

Section 17.

(b) If any Bill presented to the Governor while the General Assembly is in session is not returned by him with his objections within six days (Sundays excepted), the Bill shall be a law in the like manner as if he signed it, unless the General Assembly, by adjournment, prevents its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Having chosen not to sign the following bills after formal presentment and allow the provisions of Article II, Section 17(b) to determine the effectiveness of the legislation, the bills will become law without the Governor's signature as of midnight, April 9, 2021, and are assigned the following chapter number:

HB 745
Chapter 43

Delegate Luedtke

ELECTION LAW – EARLY VOTING CENTERS

Altering the number of early voting centers counties are required to establish; clarifying the process by which one additional early voting center may be established in a county in excess of the number of required to be established; and requiring a local board of elections, in determining the location of centers, to take into account the accessibility of centers to historically disenfranchised communities, proximity to dense concentrations of voters, accessibility by public transportation, and equitable distribution of centers in the county.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2021

SB 433

Chapter 44

Senator King

INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – STATE FUNDING – REVISION

Requiring the University of Maryland School of Medicine to provide clinical care at the University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center by assigning faculty who specialize in neuroscience, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology, and vascular neurology; requiring the University of Maryland School of Medicine to provide specialized clinical care at certain rural hospitals by assigning faculty who specialize in essential areas; requiring the Governor, in fiscal years 2023 through 2025, to provide certain appropriations; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021

HB 907

Chapter 45

Delegate Carey

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – STUDY ON SYSTEM REFORMS

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Legislative Services, to conduct a study regarding reforms to the State's unemployment insurance system; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to report monthly to the Department of Legislative Services and the Joint Committee on Unemployment Insurance Oversight on the status of the study, to consult with other stakeholders, and to consider any report of the National Academy of Social Insurance Unemployment Insurance Task Force of 2021; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

SB 817

Chapter 46

Senator Klausmeier (Chair, Joint Committee on Unemployment Insurance Oversight)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – STUDY ON SYSTEM REFORMS

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Legislative Services, to conduct a study regarding reforms to the State's unemployment insurance system; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to report monthly to the Department of Legislative Services and the Joint Committee on Unemployment Insurance Oversight on the status of the study, to consult with other stakeholders, and to consider any report of the National Academy of Social Insurance Unemployment Insurance Task Force of 2021; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

HB 908

Chapter 47

Delegate Carey

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – EMPLOYER
CONTRIBUTIONS AND REIMBURSEMENT PAYMENTS**

Requiring the Secretary of Labor to offer to employing units for certain calendar years a variety of payment plan options that spread certain contribution due dates through the end of August; requiring the Secretary to offer a variety of additional payment plan options; authorizing certain employing units to elect to delay submitting certain contributions for certain calendar quarters; altering the nonprofit organizations and governmental entities that may elect to defer payment of reimbursement bills for calendar year 2021; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

SB 816

Chapter 48

**Senator Klausmeier (Chair, Joint Committee on
Unemployment Insurance Oversight)**

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – EMPLOYER
CONTRIBUTIONS AND REIMBURSEMENT PAYMENTS**

Requiring the Secretary of Labor to offer to employing units for certain calendar years a variety of payment plan options that spread certain contribution due dates through the end of August; requiring the Secretary to offer a variety of additional payment plan options; authorizing certain employing units to elect to delay submitting certain contributions for certain calendar quarters; altering the nonprofit and governmental entities that may elect to defer payment of reimbursement bills for calendar year 2021; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

HB 1002

Chapter 49

Delegate Charkoudian

**UNEMPLOYMENT – INSURANCE REVISIONS AND SPECIAL
ENROLLMENT PERIOD FOR HEALTH BENEFITS**

Requiring the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to open a special or other enrollment period for an individual who consents to share information through a certain system; requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to begin implementing a system, by September 1, 2021, through which an individual who has filed a claim for benefits may consent to the sharing of relevant information by the Department with the Exchange and the Maryland Department of Health to determine whether the individual qualifies for free or low-cost insurance; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

HB 1138
Chapter 50

Delegate Carey

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – MARYLAND DEPARTMENT
OF LABOR – ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to post on its website certain reports on the administration and operation of the State's unemployment insurance laws by the first day of each month; establishing that a disaster exists if the Department, for 4 consecutive weeks fails to pay at least 82% of first payments within a certain time period; requiring that the disaster reporting requirements remain in effect until the Department processes at least 87% of first payments during a certain period of time; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

SB 818
Chapter 51

**Senator Klausmeier (Chair, Joint Committee on
Unemployment Insurance Oversight)**

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – MARYLAND DEPARTMENT
OF LABOR – ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT**

Requiring the Maryland Department of Labor to post on its website certain reports on the administration and operation of the State's unemployment insurance laws by the first day of each month; establishing that a disaster exists if the Department, for 4 consecutive weeks, fails to pay at least 82% of first payments within 21 days after the week ending date of the first compensable week in the benefit year; requiring the Department to submit a disaster report within 7 days after the disaster declaration; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

HB 1139
Chapter 52

Delegate Carey

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT
– INCOME DISREGARD**

Increasing to \$200 the maximum amount of wages disregarded when computing the weekly benefit amount to be paid to an unemployment insurance benefits claimant; and terminating the Act on the date that the COVID-19 pandemic ends under Title 14 of the Public Safety Article.

EMERGENCY BILL

SB 819 **Senator Klausmeier (Chair, Joint Committee on**
Chapter 53 **Unemployment Insurance Oversight)**

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT
– INCOME DISREGARD**

Increasing to \$200 the maximum amount of wages disregarded when computing the weekly benefit amount to be paid to an unemployment insurance benefits claimant; and terminating the Act on the date that the COVID–19 pandemic ends under Title 14 of the Public Safety Article.

EMERGENCY BILL

HB 1143 **Delegate Carey**
Chapter 54 **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE – WORK SHARING (WORK
SHARE EXPANSION ACT OF 2021)**

Altering the definition of “affected employee” for purposes of certain provisions of unemployment insurance law governing work sharing to include certain individuals who were rehired, subject to a certain limitation, by an affected unit following a temporary closure or layoff due to the COVID–19 pandemic; requiring the Department to ensure that the work sharing unemployment insurance program has sufficient staff and resources to complete the processing of complete applications within 10 days after receipt; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

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HB 1372

Chapter 55

The Speaker

BLUEPRINT FOR MARYLAND'S FUTURE – REVISIONS

Altering certain policy and funding provisions and implementation dates relating to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future; requiring the State Department of Education to submit a certain report on information technology; requiring, beginning in the 2022–2023 school year, the Department to review schools where students continue to show learning loss related to the COVID–19 pandemic; requiring a certain workgroup for English language learners to study the effects of the COVID–19 pandemic; etc.

EMERGENCY BILL

Sincerely,

Victoria L. Gruber
Executive Director