

Weekly Legislative Updates

The following is an update on legislation the Chamber is following as well as legislation introduced that businesses would have an interest.

LABOR/EMPLOYMENT

House and Senate at Odds Over Paid Leave, Governor Promises Veto

HB001 (SB230) – After passing the House of Delegates, the Maryland Healthy Working Families Act has been delayed in the Senate. While the House



version calls for seven days of leave, the Senate’s would decrease the number to five. The Senate has also made modifications for seasonal workers. If this is to pass, both Chamber’s must reach agreement. Regardless, the Governor has already stated his intent to veto calling the legislation, “business killers.” Stay tuned as a vote is expected as soon as Thursday, March 16.

Three Wins for Business

While sick leave, predictive scheduling, and minimum wage have garnered significant attention, there have been a host of other bills that would have been detrimental to business had they passed. One bill is [HB0665/SB0607](#), an overtime exemption bill that would result in fewer available positions, hours and benefits for employees, as well as a reduction in raises for anyone working in a salaried position. Other bills include [HB0215](#), [HB0691](#) and [HB1332/SB0697](#). All bills would have raised the cost of doing business in Maryland if they would have passed

Chamber Presents Written Testimony on Fair Scheduling, Wages, and Benefits

Fair Scheduling legislation has been introduced once again. This legislation was brought forth last year and received an unfavorable in committee. In [HB1614 \(SB1116\)](#) and [HB1615 \(SB1145\)](#), employers would be required to post job schedules within certain timeframes. The Chamber is extremely concerned about the negative effects this bill would have on business as it would limit employer flexibility and cause undue punitive damages. [Click here](#) to view the Chamber’s commentary.

HOSPITALITY & TOURISM

“Airbnb” Bill Fails to Make It Out of Committee

A bill to require short term rentals, such as Airbnb, and individuals who hosts on those platforms to be registered with the Comptroller and regulated hit a road block in the Senate Finance Committee on Friday. It is unlikely to make it out of



committee. Senate Finance Committee Chair Mac Middleton felt that local governments were better suited to address these issues rather than the state. SB463 would require short-term rentals posted on websites like Airbnb, HomeAway and FlipKey to file paperwork with the state, pay state sales taxes and pay local hotel taxes.