

O'MALLEY-BROWN: FAMILIES FIRST 2009 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Safer Streets for Families

- Domestic Violence - Temporary Protective Orders***
Allows judges to order the surrender of firearms from a home where abuse has occurred.
- Domestic Violence - Final Protective Orders***
Makes surrender of firearms mandatory for the duration of a final protective order.
- Child Safety Net***
For the sharing of Maryland juvenile records with partner states, DC, and federal agencies.
- Driving While Impaired - Suspension for Repeat Offender***
One-year driver's license suspension for individuals convicted of DUI more than once within 5 years.
- Driving While Impaired- Increased Probation Before Judgment***
Increases the look-back period for impaired driving probation before judgment from 5 years to 10 years.
- Alcohol Restriction on Driver's Licenses, Penalties for Violations***
Adds two-month imprisonment as a sentence for alcohol restrictions violations imposed by the MVA.
- Underage Persons with Alcoholic Beverages - Prohibitions and Sanctions***
An array of new tools to strengthen Maryland's zero tolerance policy for underage drinking.
- Young Driver's Privileges***
Promotes safer driving habits for young people with intermediate steps before full licensing.
- Speed Cameras - Statewide Authorization and Use in Highway Work Zones***
Establishes the use of speed cameras in school and work zones.
- Death Penalty***
Strengthened and enhanced Maryland's death penalty to one of the strictest standards in the nation.
- State Police Surveillance***
Prohibits law enforcement agencies from conducting surveillance on activists not suspected of criminal activity.
- Silver Alert***
A Statewide system for rapid dissemination of information when adults suffering from dementia go missing.

Protecting the Safety Net for Working Families

- Part Time Worker Unemployment Insurance***
Gives part-time employees the right to collect unemployment benefits if they lose their jobs.
- Workplace Fraud***
Stops the misclassification of employees as independent contractors where the practice is most prevalent.
- Fair Share Act***
Allows employee organizations to negotiate to receive service fees for collective bargaining activities.
- Mortgage Lending - SAFE Act***

Ensures that Maryland meets federal mandates to enforce tough lending regulations and consumer protections.

Improving and Investing in Education

- Higher Education Investment Fund Reauthorization***
Reauthorizes the dedicated funding source for higher education that keeps tuition affordable for Maryland families for an additional year.
- Interstate Compact - Educational Opportunity for Military Children***
Enters Maryland into an interstate compact to streamline the school transfer process for military children.

A Smart, Green, and Growing Maryland

- Smart and Sustainable Growth Act of 2008 - Comprehensive Planning***
Clarifies that local jurisdictions must implement and follow the comprehensive plans they adopt.
- Smart Growth Measures and Markers***
Directs the State to develop measures or markers for smart, sustainable growth with local governments.
- Planning Visions***
Updates the planning process to include housing, sustainability, TOD, environmental protection and more.
- Transit Oriented Development - Expansion of Public Financing Options***
Expands transit-oriented development by providing local governments more flexibility with project financing
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act***
Requires a 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and emphasizes the creation of new green jobs.
- Maryland Aquaculture Enterprise Zones***
Calls for establishing Aquaculture Enterprise Zones for shellfish growers considering operations in Maryland.
- Protecting Maryland's Storied Horse Racing Industry***
Gives the State of Maryland the tools necessary to protect our horse racing industry and keep the Preakness in Maryland.

Maintaining Fiscal Responsibility in Tough Times

- A Fiscally Responsible FY2010 Budget***
Puts forward one of the most lean operating budgets in Maryland history while putting Maryland's families first by protecting investments in our top priorities – education, our workforce, public safety and the environment.

Not Passed by the General Assembly

- Testing of Drivers Involved in Fatal or Life-Threatening Crashes***
Requirement for law enforcement to request an alcohol breath test for drivers involved in fatal vehicle accidents.
- Maryland False Health Claims Act of 2009***
Enables Maryland to recover damages and penalties when false claims are filed against State health programs.
- Reauthorization and Enhancement - Maryland Heritage Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit***
Reauthorizes the heritage area tax credit and adds incentives for meeting green LEED standards.
- Rational Reregulation for Maryland's Future Energy Needs***
Gives the Public Service Commission the authority to regulate and direct new energy generation in Maryland.