

RMC Legislative Committee  
March 27, 2017  
2pm-3pm  
Conference Call  
Meeting Minutes

Participants:

Lindsay Thompson, Co-Chair

Odette Ramos, Co-Chair

Matt Teffeau

Mike Pennington

Bill Christopher

Joanne Richart-Young

Don Mulrine

John Hartline

Steve McHenry

Kim Kratovil

Alice Settle-Raskins

Senator Addie Eckardt

RMC Staff:

Charlotte Davis, Executive Director

Meredith Donaho, Program Administrator

The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:02 pm.

Review of March 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the March 13, 2017 Legislative Committee were reviewed. No recommendations were made. The minutes were unanimously accepted.

Legislative Tracking

Several item requests for the Legislation Committee to review included:

- **SB 717/HB 1169 - Task Force on Internet, Wireless, and Cellular Service on the Eastern Shore.** The bill has been amended to implement a statewide taskforce and names members to serve on the taskforce. Charlotte Davis has been named as Chair of the taskforce. The purpose of the taskforce is to investigate why the State and eligible communities are not applying for available federal funding for broadband initiatives. The bill is expected to pass, and will continue to be monitored.
- **SB 1190 – Bay Restoration Fund - Upgraded Municipal Wastewater Facilities – Grants.** The bill was discussed for informational purposes. The bill will continue to be monitored, no position will be taken.
- **SB 1196 – Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland - Financing Purchase or Lease of Property - Exemption From Procurement Law.** The bill was discussed for informational purposes. No position will be taken.

Several other bills were identified for discussion, including:

- **SB 273 - State Forest, State Park, and Wildlife Management Area Revenue Equity Program.** The bill has been amended to make specified annual payments to certain counties based on the assessed property value determined by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of all State forests, State parks, and wildlife management areas currently exempt from the property tax. The RMC will submit support of amendments testimony for the March 29<sup>th</sup> hearing in the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

- **SB 716 - Admissions and Amusement Tax - Exemption - Agricultural Tourism and Promotion of Agricultural Products.** It was discussed that there was some concern that the bill was not needed because agriculture tourism can be defined locally. The bill may be revisited this session, or it may return next session. The bill will continue to be monitored.
- **SB 931/ HB 1592 - Local Jurisdictions - Zoning Authority - Generating Stations.** The Committee submitted written support testimony on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The bill will continue to be monitored.

Other Updates

No other issues or business were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:33 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, April 10, 2017, 3pm-4pm, Conference Call