

MD LAND TITLE ASSOCIATION

Weekly Report
Law Office of J. William Pitcher
February 2, 2019

GENERAL:

The tone of this first session of a new four year term has been dominated by news of Senate President Mike Miller's announcement that he has prostate cancer that has metastasized to his pelvis and spine. He's in his second round of chemo and we're all trying to remain positive.

We have met with several freshman legislators to introduce ourselves and offer that they use us as a resource. Most are still in "campaign mode" with their grand ideas and broad policy, and have much to learn as the Session heats up.

UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST:

February 4th - SENATE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE - Senate bills introduced after this date referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

February 8th – HOUSE BILL INTRODUCTION DATE. Ditto, bills introduced after this date go to the Rules Committee.

March 4th - Final date for introduction of bills without suspension of Rules
18th - Opposite Chamber **Bill Crossover Date** - Each Chamber to send to other Chamber those bills it intends to pass favorably. Opposite Chamber bills received after this date referred to Rules Committees.

April 1st —Budget bill to be passed by both Chambers
8th - 90th Day - **ADJOURNMENT “SINE DIE”**

ACTIVITY THIS PAST WEEK

We have been ramping up our efforts for this Session on our priority of reforming the Notary law and legalizing remote electronic notaries in Maryland. I have had numerous meetings with legislators, often joined by MLTA President Bill O'Connell and Legislative Committee Chair Clare Schuller, to discuss the Secretary of State's Workgroup on Notary Law Report. Because the workgroup report did NOT recommend any legislation, it has been left to our private sector coalition to do so. We have drafted legislation, sponsored by Senator J.B. Jennings, the Senate Minority Leader, which is being introduced in the Senate this Monday. It is co-sponsored by Sen. Bobby Zirkin and Sen. Will Smith, respectively the Chair and Vice Chair of the Sen. Judicial Proceedings Committee, along with other members. It is based on the national model act known as RULONA (Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts) and incorporates language allowing for remote electronic notarial acts. It will be printed and published by Tuesday or Wednesday

Below is a status report on some of the more important bills introduced thus far which may be of interest to you. I will update you immediately if there are any changes to the status, for instance when a committee hearing or vote is scheduled. Each week our report will include the status and any new bills introduced. Please let me know if any of them are of particular interest and if you want to weigh in on them, for instance by writing a letter, sending written or oral testimony, or if you want me to testify at the hearing.

If you want to view and read a bill, click on the bill number in the left column. That will take you to the full status page on the MD Legislative website. If you then click on the bill number, it will come up in pdf format. Call anytime to discuss.

MLTA Bill Status

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Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter) Total: 17	Title	Primary Sponsor	Status	Original House Committee(s)) and Hearing Dates	Opposite House Committee(s)) and Hearing Dates
HB0068 (SB0379)	Real Property - Maryland Condominiu m Act - Powers of Council of Unit Owners	Delegate Holmes	Hearing 2/05 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportatio n 2/5/2019 - 1:30 p.m.	
HB0099 (SB0192)	Estates and Trusts - Elective Share of Surviving Spouse	Delegate Dumais	Hearing 2/05 at 2:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations 2/5/2019 - 2:00 p.m.	
HB0107	Real Property - Residential Property Foreclosure Procedures	Chair, Environment and Transportatio n Committee	Hearing 2/05 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportatio n 2/5/2019 - 1:30 p.m.	
HB0222	Real Property - Residential Real Estate Transactions - Escrow Agents	Delegate Holmes	Hearing 2/12 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportatio n 2/12/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB0250 (SB0374)	Real Property - Maryland Condominiu m Act - Priority of Liens	Delegate Stewart	Hearing 2/12 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportatio n 2/12/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB0264	Homestead Property Tax Credit - Calculation of Credit for Dwelling Purchased by	Delegate Long	Hearing 2/12 at 1:00 p.m.	Ways and Means 2/12/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	

<u>HB0425</u>	<p>First-Time Homebuyer Civil Actions - Unfair, Abusive, or Deceptive Trade Practices by Mortgage Servicer - Statute of Limitations</p>	<p><u>Delegate Sydnor</u></p>	<p>Hearing 2/13 at 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Judiciary</u> 2/13/2019 - 1:00 p.m.</p>
<u>HB0497</u>	<p>Real Property - Sales of Mobile Home Parks - Notice Requirements</p>	<p><u>Delegate Sample-Hughes</u></p>	<p>First Reading Environment and Transportation</p>	<p><u>Environment and Transportation</u></p>
<u>SB0025</u>	<p>Real Property - Conservation Easements, Covenants, Restrictions, and Conditions - Recording Notice Passed Senate-now in House</p>	<p><u>Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee</u></p>	<p>First Reading Environment and Transportation</p>	<p><u>Judicial Proceedings</u> 1/22/2019 - 1:00 p.m. <u>Environment and Transportation</u></p>
<u>SB0026</u>	<p>State Department of Assessments and Taxation - Expedited Document Processing- Passed Senate-in House.</p>	<p><u>Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee</u></p>	<p>First Reading Ways and Means</p>	<p><u>Judicial Proceedings</u> 1/22/2019 - 1:00 p.m. <u>Ways and Means</u></p>
<p><u>SB0096</u> (<u>HB0161</u>)</p>	<p>Baltimore City - Tax Sales of Real</p>	<p><u>Senator Washington</u></p>	<p>Hearing 1/30 at 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p><u>Budget and Taxation</u></p>

	Property - Water Liens (Water Taxpayer Protection Act of 2019)		1/30/2019 - 2:00 p.m.
<u>SB0122</u> (<u>HB0160</u>)	Property Tax Credits - Real Property Used for Robotics Programs	<u>Senator</u> <u>Guzzone</u>	Hearing 1/30 at 2:00 p.m.
			<u>Budget and</u> <u>Taxation</u> 1/30/2019 - 2:00 p.m.
<u>SB0136</u>	Corporations - Corporate Records and Electronic Transmission	<u>Senator</u> <u>Waldstreicher</u>	Favorable Report by Judicial Proceedings
			<u>Judicial</u> <u>Proceedings</u> 1/30/2019 - 2:00 p.m.
<u>SB0255</u>	Abandoned Property in Possession of a Museum	<u>Senator</u> <u>Hayes</u>	Hearing 2/13 at 12:00 p.m.
			<u>Judicial</u> <u>Proceedings</u> 2/13/2019 - 12:00 p.m.
<u>SB0374</u> (<u>HB0250</u>)	Real Property - Maryland Condominiu m Act - Priority of Liens	<u>Senator</u> <u>Washington</u>	Hearing 2/19 at 12:00 p.m.
			<u>Judicial</u> <u>Proceedings</u> 2/19/2019 - 12:00 p.m.
<u>SB0379</u> (<u>HB0068</u>)	Real Property - Maryland Condominiu m Act - Powers of Council of Unit Owners	<u>Senator</u> <u>Kelley</u>	Hearing 2/19 at 12:00 p.m.
			<u>Judicial</u> <u>Proceedings</u> 2/19/2019 - 12:00 p.m.
<u>SB0380</u> (<u>HB0069</u>)	Real Property - Maryland Condominiu m Act - Implied Warranties From Developers	<u>Senator</u> <u>Kelley</u>	Hearing 2/19 at 12:00 p.m.
			<u>Judicial</u> <u>Proceedings</u> 2/19/2019 - 12:00 p.m.

Bill

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