

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Announces New Special Secretary of Minority Affairs

Jenkins to Oversee Efforts to Expand Opportunity to Minority-Owned Businesses

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 3, 2007) - Governor Martin O'Malley today announced the appointment of Luwanda W. Jenkins as Special Secretary of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs. Ms. Jenkins will assume her new role on May 21, and oversee efforts to expand opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses in the State of Maryland.

"I am pleased to appoint Luwanda W. Jenkins as the Special Secretary of Minority Affairs for the O'Malley-Brown Administration," Governor O'Malley said. "We are committed to expanding opportunities for all Maryland families and small businesses, and I look forward to working with Ms. Jenkins to encourage minority and women-owned business enterprise while improving services and making the Office of Minority Affairs more accountable."

From 1994-1997, Jenkins served as the Director of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs, where she was instrumental in the passage of Maryland's 1995 minority business law. In her position as Special Secretary, Jenkins will work with the business community to expand minority and women-owned businesses in the State of Maryland, fulfill commitments in state contract spending, and develop performance-measurements for the Office of Minority Affairs.

"I look forward to working with Governor O'Malley and Lieutenant Governor Brown to strengthen minority and women-owned businesses in Maryland," said Jenkins. "Working closely with community leaders, we will strengthen MBEs, increase economic viability, and work to expand opportunity and services to minority-owned businesses."

Prior to accepting this position, Jenkins served as Community Relations Manager for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Maryland, where she worked with her staff to direct charitable giving in the Maryland and Washington, DC area. Previously, she served as Community Relations Director for the Baltimore Sun newspaper, and as Marketing Manager for the Tourism Division of the Maryland Department of Economic Development.

Jenkins received her B.S. in Mass Communications from Towson University, and her Masters of Administrative Science from Johns Hopkins University. She is a member of the Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers, Jack & Jill of America, the Advisory Board of the Towson University School of Mass Communication, and the Community Investment Advisory Board of the United Way of Central Maryland. Jenkins has received the Governor's Distinguished Service Award, the Times Mirror Innovation Award & Publisher's Award, Towson University's Distinguished Black Marylander Award, and has been named to Maryland's Top 100 Women by The Daily Record. Jenkins lives in Owings Mills with her husband and two children.

Current Secretary Sharon Pinder has decided to rejoin the private sector as President and CEO of The Pinder Group, LLC. "Serving the State's minority and women business community has been an amazing experience," said Pinder. "I am looking forward to providing support for Maryland's minority and women's businesses from the private sector, and I wish Ms. Jenkins the very best as she assumes her new duties."

May 3, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

O'Malley Speaks to Students About Affordable Higher Education

Panel Discussion Focuses on Expanding Access, Creating Job Opportunities for Graduates

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 3, 2007) - Today, Governor O'Malley met with student leaders at the University of Maryland, College Park to discuss keeping college education affordable and expanding opportunities for higher education in Maryland. Joined by University of Maryland Chancellor Brit Kirwin, UMCP President Dan Mote, and Secretary of Higher Education James Lyons, Governor O'Malley took questions from students and discussed the Administration's goal to improve higher education in Maryland.

"This year, we have worked closely with the General Assembly to make higher education affordable and accessible for more Maryland families," Governor O'Malley said. "By freezing college tuition, improving funding for the University of Maryland, and increasing community college spending by 18%, we are training tomorrow's highly-educated workforce, today."

After a series of prepared remarks from President Mote, Chancellor Kirwan, a representative from Prince George's County's government, Secretary Lyons, and Governor O'Malley, the panelists opened the floor for a half-hour of questions from the leaders of campus groups at College Park. They discussed keeping education affordable, creating economic opportunities for college graduates, and expanding higher education to more minorities and underserved populations.

During this year's legislative session, Governor O'Malley worked with the legislature to pass the following education initiatives:

- An increase in general funds for higher education of \$166 million - a 12.6% increase
- A tuition freeze - after a 40% increase in tuition over just 3 years - funded by \$16.2 million in general funds.
- \$31.8 million in additional community college funding - a 18.6% increase.
- A record \$400 million for K-12 school construction, to prepare students for college.
- An unprecedented \$5.2 billion in general funds to support K-12 students and improve teacher salaries and pensions.
- Increasing financial aid funding for higher education students.

May 3, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Announces New Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Adkins to Lead Department Supporting Veterans, Troops Returning from Iraq

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 7, 2007) - Governor Martin O'Malley today announced the appointment of James A. Adkins as Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs. A 22-year veteran of the US Army and the Maryland National Guard, Adkins will lead the department focused on supporting veterans when they return from war, and expanding opportunity for veterans already living here.

"I am proud to appoint James A. Adkins as the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs," said Governor O'Malley. "As a veteran of both the US Army and our own Department of Veterans Affairs, Jim will carry on Maryland's proud tradition of supporting our veterans who return home from the field of battle and their families and help Maryland fulfill her commitment to our veterans."

"I am honored to serve Maryland's veterans and their families," said Secretary-Appointee Adkins. "For hundreds of years, Marylanders have heeded their nation's call to duty. Today a new generation has answered the call and it is Maryland's duty to ensure that their service and sacrifice is appreciated."

Adkins is a former Deputy Secretary within Maryland's Department of Veterans Affairs. Previously, he was a member of the Maryland Military Department, rising to the position of Assistant Adjutant General for State Operations. Prior to entering state service as a civilian, Adkins served 22 years in uniform before retiring from active duty.

At the press conference, Governor O'Malley also introduced Wilbert B. Forbes, Sr., who will serve as Deputy Secretary for the Department of Veterans Affairs. Forbes currently serves on the 6th District National Executive Committee for the Disabled American Veterans organization. He is a resident of Fort Washington, Maryland in Prince George's County. Forbes earned his B.A. from Morgan State University.

"Jim Adkins' knowledge of the department as well as the workings of state government will be a tremendous asset as we move to make our government more efficient," said Lt. Governor Anthony Brown. "Wilbert Forbes is a strong advocate for veterans with a diverse background in law enforcement and the military. His efforts to help our veterans with disabilities become even more crucial in a time of rising incidences of service-connected disabilities," he said.

Adkins received his B.A. from the University of the State of New York, and his M.A. from Washington College. He also studied at the Defense Language Institute, the US Army Command and General Staff College, and the US Army War College. While in the Army, Adkins earned the Legion of Merit, the Maryland Distinguished Service Cross, and the Order of the White Cross from the Republic of Estonia.

Adkins is a member of numerous organizations, including the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, US Army War College Alumni Association, 2nd Armored Division Association, 29th Infantry Division Association, Military Intelligence Corps Association, Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, Friends of Blackwater, Dorchester County Humane Society, Dorchester Arts Center, Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Washington College's George Washington Society.

Adkins and his wife, Mary Anne, live in Cambridge, MD, where he has served on the James B. Richardson Foundation and Maritime Museum Board of Trustees, the Dorchester County Historical Society's Board of Trustees, the Dorchester General Hospital Community Association, the Salvation Army Advisory Board, the Mid-Shore Community Foundation's Community Advisory Committee for Dorchester County, the Mid-Shore Community Foundation Board of Directors, the Terrapin Institute Research Consortium Board and as Vice President, Upper Eastern Shore Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America.

Governor O'Malley also formally introduced Luwanda W. Jenkins, who was named Special Secretary of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs last week. Ms. Jenkins served as the Director of the

Governor's Office of Minority Affairs from 1994-1997 where she was instrumental in the passage of Maryland's 1995 minority business law. Ms. Jenkins will work with the business community to expand minority and women-owned businesses in the State of Maryland, fulfill commitments in state contract spending, and develop performance-measurements for the Office of Minority Affairs.

May 7, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Signs Legislation to Protect Maryland Families

Living Wage, Ground Rent, Tuition Freeze Bills Signed Into Law; O'Malley Maintains Campaign Commitments in First Session

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 8, 2007) - Today, Governor Martin O'Malley joined with Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr., House Speaker Michael E. Busch, and Lieutenant Governor Anthony G. Brown to sign legislation to support Maryland's working families. Governor O'Malley signed 203 bills and 2 joint resolutions today, including the nation's first statewide living wage law, a bill to make ground rents more fair, and a bill to freeze tuition at Maryland's public colleges.

"When I decided to run for Governor, it was to stand up for the Maryland values of responsibility, community, and family," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "Today, I am proud to sign key legislation that will defend all three of these values. With these bills, we are guaranteeing that a full day's work earns a full day's pay, protecting family homes, and keeping the dream of higher education affordable for Maryland families."

"I am proud that, working with the legislature, we were able to pass a number of bills that support Maryland families working every day to get ahead," said Lt. Governor Anthony Brown. "By expanding opportunity to more of our families this session, we are strengthening Maryland's core foundation."

Governor O'Malley signed a number of bills into law to protect Maryland families today, including:

- **State Procurement Contracts - Living Wage:** Requires state contractors and subcontractors to pay specified minimum wage rates of \$11.30 and \$8.50, and adds a mandatory change of the living wage based upon the Consumer Price Index.
- **Ground Rents**
 - Remedies for Nonpayment of Ground Rent: Reforms the ejectment system by which the holders of ground rents can redeem their claim.
 - Conversion of Irredeemable Ground Rents: Provides for the conversion of an irredeemable ground rent to a redeemable one unless a notice of intention is recorded; establishes the sum for which a converted ground rent may be redeemed.
 - Redemption - Preferred Interest Rate Loans: Alters the purposes of the Maryland Home Financing Program to include making preferred interest rate loans for the redemption of ground leases.
- **Higher Education - Tuition Affordability Act of 2007:** Prohibits the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland and the Board of Regents of Morgan State University from increasing tuition for resident undergraduate students in the years 2006 and 2007.
- **State Government - Commemorative Month - Black History Month:** Requires the Governor to proclaim the month of February to be "Black History Month."
- **Affordable Housing - Enabling Authority for Counties and Municipalities:** Authorizes counties and municipalities to take specified actions to support, foster, or promote affordable housing for individuals or families of low or moderate income.
- **Maryland Life Sciences Advisory Board:** Establishes the Maryland Life Sciences Advisory Board to support and attract biotechnology companies to our state.

In addition to working with the legislature to pass these bills, Governor O'Malley has worked administratively to support Maryland families. Earlier this year, the Governor appointed an impartial, professional Public Service Commissioners to analyze energy prices, led by Chairman Steven Larsen.

Governor O'Malley has maintained his promise not to raise taxes this year, and is committed to using the StateStat program to identify efficiencies in government.

[[Full list of bills signed today by Governor O'Malley](#)]

May 8, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor Directs Cabinet to Make \$200 Million in Cuts

O'Malley Launches Effort To Close \$1.4 Billion Deficit

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 10, 2007) – In a Cabinet Meeting this morning, Governor Martin O'Malley directed Maryland's Cabinet Secretaries to reduce state spending by \$200 million, as an **initial** step in closing the \$1.4 billion deficit that the state faces next year. Each agency will be given a budget reduction target – averaging 2.5% across state government – and will be asked to find additional savings.

"We need agencies to refocus on their core mission, thin out middle management and squeeze spending by working smarter," said Governor O'Malley. "Closing this deficit will be a difficult challenge. And it must start by tightening our belts."

The budget cutting process will be driven by the Governor's StateStat office. Budget reductions initiatives will include:

- At least \$45 million being shaved from the FY 2007 Budget;
- Re-examining FY 2008 expenditure plans to achieve a 2.5% reduction – with varying individual agency cuts totaling at least \$125 million;
- Reviewing encumbrances – or planned spending;
- Prioritizing cost saving recommendations from Transition reports;
- Identifying and reducing surplus inventories;
- Completing senior staff reorganization plans and scrutinizing vacancies;
- Achieving a double digit percentage reduction in overtime expenditures – which exceeded \$125 million in FY 2006;
- Reducing communications staff;
- Centralizing redundant operations;
- Developing energy conservation programs;
- Centralizing purchasing statewide to achieve savings;
- Limiting travel;
- Consolidating redundant boards, commissions and task forces; and
- Reducing staff.

"These are some of the first steps in what will be a series of hard choices for Maryland," said Governor O'Malley. "But we need to close this budget gap so we can continue to make progress on education, make healthcare more affordable and protect our environment and quality of life."

Initial actions in this cost-cutting effort already have been taken, for example:

- The closure of the House of Corrections at Jessup will save millions of dollars annually.
- The Department of Natural Resources reduced the number of Assistant Secretaries from five to three, which creates a ripple effect of savings with reduced support staff.
- The Departments of Juvenile Services and Public Safety & Correctional Services have reduced overtime during the first months of participation in StateStat.

How Did The Structural Budget Deficit Happen?

Maryland's budget deficit opened up when State government reduced revenue by nearly \$1 billion per year with an income tax cut that was phased in by 2002, and then increased annual government

spending by \$1.3 billion that same year with the Bridge to Excellence school funding reforms – commonly know as the Thornton law.

Either the tax cut or the increased education funding likely would have been affordable by itself. Together they created a structural budget deficit that reaches more than \$1 billion annually – more than \$4 billion over the next four years. This structural problem has gone unaddressed in the years since 2002 – with record spending increases prior to this year, including a 12% hike in FY 2007.

May 10, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Issues Executive Order to Prohibit Discrimination in State Hiring

Strengthens Protections for Minority, Disabled Employees in Maryland's Government

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 15, 2007) - Governor Martin O'Malley today signed an executive to ensure that state employment decisions are based only on merit and fitness. Executive Order 01.01.2007.09 - Code of Fair Employment Practices - protects state employees from discrimination and mandates that state government comply with the Maryland Commission on Human Relations and the United States Equal Opportunity Commission.

"Our state is committed to providing a work environment free from discrimination, and I am proud to issue this executive order to protect our state's employees from discrimination," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "To bring the best workers to Maryland's state government, we need to guarantee every employee the basic protections that they deserve, and that our state government sets an example for equal employment opportunities throughout Maryland."

The executive order requires that the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management appoint a Statewide Equal Opportunity Coordinator, and an Equal Employment Opportunity Unit to oversee equal employment in accordance with state and federal law. The Executive Order also directs the Secretary to create rules and regulations to handle any cases of potential discrimination, and sets penalties for discrimination, including dismissal from employment with the State.

Last week, Governor O'Malley held a cabinet meeting where all cabinet secretaries were briefed on the importance of Maryland's Equal Employment Opportunity Program. EEO Officers for each state agency were also in attendance. Currently, the State of Maryland has 116 EEO officers and 77 Agency Fair Practice Officers. Overall, the State of Maryland has 55,445 employees.

The executive order signed today repeals Governor Parris Glendening's Executive Order 01.01.1995.19, and makes the following updates to the Executive Order regarding Equal Employment Opportunity:

- The Executive Branch cannot make employment decisions based upon genetic information.
- The head of each branch of the Executive Department shall proactively develop and implement programs, activities and events to acknowledge and educate about diversity and cultural differences.
- The Statewide Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Coordinator shall monitor the compliance and effectiveness of each agency's EEO program and make recommendations for improvement.
- Discrimination or retaliation complaints shall be filed with the head of the unit, and may be appealed to the statewide EEO Coordinator's Office.
- No employee shall be retaliated against for seeking a reasonable accommodation for a disability.
- Managers and Supervisors shall receive training concerning reasonable accommodations for disabilities.

The executive order directs that all personnel actions concerning any employee or applicant for employment in the Executive Branch will be taken on the basis of merit and fitness, and without regard to:

- Age;
- Ancestry;

- Color;
- Creed;
- Genetic information;
- Martial status;
- Mental or physical disability;
- National origin;
- Race;
- Religious affiliation, belief, or opinion;
- Sex or
- Sexual orientation

The order also requires each department within the Executive Branch to submit an annual report to the Secretary of Budget and Management of the activities taken in the previous fiscal year to promote fair employment practices within each agency and effectuate the Code of Fair Employment Practices as defined by the Executive Order.

[[View Executive Order](#)]

May 15, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Vetos, Decides not to Sign Two Bills

Vetoes Bill Due to Technical Error; Allows Bill Regarding Educational Master Plans to Become Law Without Signature

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 16, 2007) - Today, Governor Martin O'Malley issued his first veto, and his first decision to allow a bill to become law without his signature.

Governor O'Malley decided to veto House Bill 988 - ***State Board of Dental Examiners - Restructuring and Licensee Protection*** because, due to a technical error on Sine Die, the enrolled bill that actually passed was not the version the General Assembly believed it enacted, and thus it does not reflect legislative intent.

Governor O'Malley also chose to allow Senate Bill 907 - ***Budget Accountability - Master Plans and Evaluations*** to become law without his signature.

[[Governor O'Malley's statements to the legislature regarding these actions](#)]

May 15, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Swears in Cabinet Secretaries

Adkins, Jenkins to Protect Maryland's Veterans and Minorities

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 16, 2007) - Governor Martin O'Malley today officially swore in two cabinet secretaries: James A. Adkins (Department of Veterans Affairs), and Luwanda Jenkins (Governor's Office of Minority Affairs).

"I am proud to officially swear in Jim Adkins and Luwanda Jenkins as the newest additions to Maryland's cabinet," said Governor O'Malley. "Under their leadership, our state will reach out to support veterans returning from abroad and expand opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses. I look forward to working with them over the next four years."

James Adkins is a former Deputy Secretary within Maryland's Department of Veterans Affairs. Previously, he was a member of the Maryland Military Department, rising to the position of Assistant Adjutant General for State Operations, and he served 22 years in uniform before retiring from active duty. Adkins received his B.A. from the University of the State of New York, and his M.A. from Washington College. He also studied at the Defense Language Institute, the US Army Command and General Staff College, and the US Army War College. While in the Army, Adkins earned the Legion of Merit, the Maryland Distinguished Service Cross, and the Order of the White Cross from the Republic of Estonia. Adkins and his wife, Mary Anne, live in Cambridge, MD

Luwanda Jenkins served as the Director of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs, where she was instrumental in the passage of Maryland's 1995 minority business law. Prior to accepting this position, Jenkins served as Community Relations Manager for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Maryland, where she worked with her staff to direct charitable giving in the Maryland and Washington, DC area. Previously, she served as Community Relations Director for the Baltimore Sun newspaper, and as Marketing Manager for the Tourism Division of the Maryland Department of Economic Development. Jenkins received her B.S. in Mass Communications from Towson University, and her Masters of Administrative Science from Johns Hopkins University. Jenkins lives in Baltimore County with her husband and two children.

May 16, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Announces 50% Cut to Governor's Office Fleet

Cuts Costs by Ending Take-Home Vehicle Policy for Governor's Office Staff

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 16, 2007) - Governor Martin O'Malley announced today that he is cutting the size of the Governor's Office vehicle fleet in half, and eliminating all take-home cars for members of his staff. Governor O'Malley also issued a directive that all state agencies conduct similar audits to reduce the size of their vehicle fleet.

The cost-cutting measure follows Governor O'Malley's order last week to Cabinet Secretaries to cut spending by \$200 million. Today's directive asks state agencies to:

- Identify and reduce the number of underutilized vehicles;
- Scrutinize the need for take home cars, and;
- Use flexible motor pools to meet their needs instead of assigning vehicles to individuals as a perk.

"Across Maryland government, we have to close the State's deficit in a way that is fiscally responsible, provides a long-term solution to the problem, and is fair to middle class families," said Governor O'Malley. "Today, beginning with the Governor's Office, we are proving that cost-savings are possible within state government and that we can find them."

Currently, the Governor's Office has 24 cars assigned to it, but today, Governor O'Malley reduced that to just 12 cars - a 50% reduction in the size of the Governor's Office vehicle fleet.

In addition, 9 staff members have take-home cars; under this new reorganization, none of the Governor's staff will have take-home cars. In addition to the Governor's Executive Office, this action affects the Secretary of State's office, the Maryland Energy Administration, and the Governor's Offices of Children, Community Initiatives, Minority Affairs, and Crime Control and Prevention.

Of the cars present today, some will be sold on the open market, to end recurring costs for the state and raise one-time revenues. Others cars will be reallocated to other state departments who are reconsidering the best way to allocate motor fleets. Two unmarked police cars that were used by senior staffers in the prior administration have been returned to the Maryland Transit Administration Police.

Statewide, Maryland has a motor pool of approximately 9,000 cars. In FY 2007, it cost Maryland taxpayers \$55 million to maintain this fleet.

Next year, Maryland faces a \$1.4 billion structural deficit. Last week, Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown directed Maryland's Cabinet Secretaries to find \$200 million in savings. Maryland has already taken significant steps toward closing this deficit, including

- The closure of the House of Corrections at Jessup will save millions of dollars annually.
- The Department of Natural Resources reduced the number of Assistant Secretaries from five to three, which creates a ripple effect of savings with reduced support staff.
- The Departments of Juvenile Services and Public Safety & Correctional Services have reduced overtime during the first months of participation in StateStat.

May 16, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Vetoes Three Bills

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 17, 2007) - Today, Governor Martin O'Malley vetoed three bills passed this year by the Maryland General Assembly.

Governor O'Malley decided to veto on policy grounds House Bill 564 - Dorchester and Talbot Counties - Unattended Marine Vessel Motor Fuel Retail Service Stations at Marinas - Pilot Program.

Governor O'Malley also chose to veto on legal grounds both Senate Bill 657 - Prince George's County - Board of Education and House Bill 1239 - Prince George's County - Board of Education PG 433-07.

In addition, today Governor O'Malley released a list of all bills that were vetoed because they were duplicative.

[View Governor O'Malley's [statements to the legislature](#) as well as lists of the [duplicative bills](#)]

May 17, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Calls for National, Bi-Partisan Inquiry Into Gasoline Prices

Letter Asks for Investigation Into Rising Prices

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 22, 2007) - Yesterday, Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley joined with Governors from 21 other states to call for an investigation into escalating gasoline prices throughout the United States. Together, they signed and submitted a letter to the Senate and House of Representative leadership asking them to study the perennially high price of gasoline.

"It is difficult to understand how oil companies can be making record profits each quarter without making capital investments in refineries that would address refinery issues," wrote the Governors. "Families and businesses across the nation are straining under these uncontrollable prices."

The letter was directed to the Sen. Harry Reid - Senate Majority Leader, Sen. Mitch McConnell - Senate Minority Leader, Speaker Nancy Pelosi - Speaker of the House, and John Boehner - House Minority Leader.

[[View a copy of the signed letter](#)]

May 22, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Statement from Governor O'Malley's Office on Today's Public Service Commission Ruling

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 23, 2007) - Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley's Press Secretary, Rick Abbruzzese, issued the following statement today regarding the ruling by the Public Service Commission.

The Governor is reviewing the Public Service Commission's order. But it makes clear that the way energy has been purchased in Maryland has favored big utilities over consumers.

As a result, the Commission will investigate:

- ***Serious questions about how the relationship between Constellation Energy Group and BGE negatively impacts consumers - while Constellation earns record profits.***
- ***And the legality of the dual roles some executives play within Constellation (which sells energy) and BGE (which buys that same energy).***

Finally, in its two months of existence, the new PSC's order begins to provide a road map toward creating a more fair system than the one developed during the eight years since deregulation. Right now, there is no incentive for BGE to keep rates down. That must be changed. And we need to ensure that we provide help to people living on low and fixed incomes.

May 23, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Appoints Two New Members to Baltimore County Board of Education

O'Malley Appoints Former Teacher, Business Leader to Key Positions

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 25, 2007) - Today, Governor Martin O'Malley appointed two new members to the Baltimore County Board of Education. After consulting with County Executive Jim Smith and other local elected officials, Governor O'Malley has appointed Donna Flynn and Earnest Hines to serve on Baltimore County's Board of Education.

"I am proud to appoint Donna Flynn and Earnest Hines to the Baltimore County Board of Education," said Governor O'Malley. "As our state works to improve K-12 education and expand opportunity for our young children by making historic investments in school construction and fully-funding Thornton, we need strong local school boards to ensure that our children receive the quality public education they deserve."

"Donna Flynn and Earnest Hines will bring a wealth of experience to the Board of Education in Baltimore County," stated Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith. "I applaud Governor O'Malley for making such outstanding choices."

Below is background information on Flynn and Hines:

Donna Flynn (Baltimore County, New Appointment) - Donna Flynn is currently Coordinator of Assessment and Accreditation at Towson University. Previously, Flynn was an educational instructor at Goucher College and has 32 years of experience in the Baltimore County Public School System, including Executive Director of Assessment and Student Data, Northwest Area Superintendent, principal of two different schools, and as an English teacher. Flynn has a M.A. in English and American Literature from the University of Maryland, and a B.A. from Washington College in Chestertown.

Earnest E. Hines (Baltimore County, New Appointment) - Earnest Hines is President and CEO of Diversity Management Group Incorporated. Previously, Hines was a Vice President and Senior Manager at USF&G, and a manager at Allstate Insurance. Flynn has a B.A. from Temple University, and has attended executive training programs at Harvard University, Northwestern University, and the University of Michigan.

May 25, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Appoints Members to County Boards of Education

O'Malley Appoints Qualified Community Leaders to Key Positions

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 25, 2007) - Today, Governor Martin O'Malley appointed seven members to county boards of education throughout Maryland. After consulting with local elected officials and leaders in each of these jurisdictions, Governor O'Malley selected seven people to serve on the school boards of five different counties.

"I am proud to appoint these outstanding leaders to Maryland's local boards of education," said Governor O'Malley. "As our state works to improve K-12 education and expand opportunity for our young children by making historic investments in school construction and fully-funding Thornton, we need strong local school boards to ensure that our children receive the quality public education they deserve."

Below are the seven people Governor O'Malley has appointed to local county boards of education:

Patricia Ray Nalley (Anne Arundel County, New Appointment) - Patricia Ray Nalley is finishing her last year as Principal of Davidsonville Elementary School in Anne Arundel County. Previously, Nalley was an Assistant Principal and a K-5 teacher who worked in schools throughout the nation. Nalley has a Masters in education from George Washington University, and a B.A.E from the University of Mississippi.

Eugene Peterson (Anne Arundel County, Reappointment) - Eugene Peterson works in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Office of Civil Rights, where he monitors Title IV and ADA compliance at the state level. Previously, Peterson has served as the Governor's Representative and Director to the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission, and worked as a Human Resources Administrator for Honeywell Marine Services. Peterson has a M.A. from the University of Washington, and a B.A. from Kenyon College.

Sandra L. Barry (Caroline County, Reappointment) - Sandra Barry is currently the Program Coordinator for the Caroline Mentoring Project, and President-Elect of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education. Previously, was a part-time instructional assistant to in the Caroline County School District, and served as President of the Caroline County Council of PTAs. She is a graduate of Bowie Senior High School in Maryland.

Jeffrey L. Morse (Carroll County, New Appointment) - Jeffrey Morse is currently a teacher in the Littlestown Area School District in Pennsylvania, where he teaches high school biology, environmental science, and agricultural science. Previously, Morse worked in sales and management for three agricultural supply companies, as a teacher in the Baltimore County Public School System, and at Mount Saint Mary's University as a part-time teaching assistant. Morse has a B.A. and a M.P.S. from Cornell University.

Mark M. Wolkow (Harford County, Reappointment) - Mark Wolkow is Chief of the Division of Business Information and Analysis in the Office of the Chief Financial Manager at Fort Meade. Previously, Wolkow has worked for the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Fidelity & Guaranty Corporation in finance, information, and business planning positions. Wolkow has an MBA from Loyola College of Maryland, and a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University.

Ruth R. Rich (Harford County, Reappointment) - Ruth Rich is Director of the Joseph and Cherry Hill Senior Centers of Catholic Charities in Baltimore. A former high school teacher for ten years in Baltimore County Public Schools, Rich has a Masters in Education from the Johns Hopkins University and a B.A. from St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Donna L. Brightman (Washington County, New Appointment Filling a Vacancy) - Donna Brightman is a Landscape Designer and Project Manager at Rivers Edge Landscapes, a member of the Washington County Public Schools' Facilities Enrollment Committee, and a member of the Washington

County Council PTA. Over the past 30 years, she has started her own businesses and is a member of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce. Brightman studied Business and Political Science at James Madison University.

May 25, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on the passing of Congressman Parren J. Mitchell

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 29, 2007) - Governor Martin O'Malley today released the following statement on the passing of Congressman Parren J. Mitchell:

"Congressman Parren Mitchell was a transformational leader. In the midst of a time of upheaval and change, he saw clearly where our nation's ongoing struggle for justice must head next - economic opportunity for all."

"He inspired a generation of Baltimoreans - including my wife Katie and I - to join his cause. We are grateful for his service and leadership. And we will keep his example in mind as we do our best to continue his work. Our prayers are with his family and with all of the many people whose lives he changed."

May 29, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor and Lt. Governor Hold First BRAC Subcabinet Meeting

Executive Director Named for Subcabinet; Organizational Meeting to Discuss Mission, Timeline, and Key Priorities

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 30, 2007) - Governor Martin O'Malley and Lt. Governor Anthony Brown held the first Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Subcabinet meeting this morning in Annapolis and announced the new executive director for the subcabinet. During the organizational meeting, subcabinet members set forth a schedule for future meeting and discussed a timeline for developing a statewide plan for legislative and budgetary BRAC priorities.

"The State of Maryland will face unprecedented challenges and opportunities due to the Base Realignment and Closure process as our state plays an expanded role in the defense of our nation," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "Under Lieutenant Governor Brown's leadership working with our local partners and BRAC coordinators, I am confident that Maryland can maximize the opportunities presented to us by BRAC."

The comprehensive strategic plan, including legislative and budgetary priorities, will be delivered to Governor O'Malley by December 1, 2007. Over the next six months, the Subcabinet will hold meetings throughout Maryland with local officials to get an understanding of each jurisdiction's priorities as well as lessons learned by previous BRAC experiences.

Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown have already toured Aberdeen Proving Ground and Fort Meade and met with officials on both bases. Over the next few months, they will also tour Ft. Detrick and Patuxent Naval Air Station. In addition to the organizational portion of the meeting, the new executive director of the BRAC Subcabinet, Asuntha Chiang-Smith, was introduced.

"Working together as Team Maryland, the State, local jurisdictions, the Maryland Military Installation Council, the Federal Delegation and our private sector, we will ensure that BRAC will sustain and enhance our quality of life for generations to come and that our coordinated approach will streamline the process and assure that priorities are established that meet both long- and short-term needs of the region," said Lt. Governor Brown. "We are at the forefront of our nation's defense. It is imperative that we continue to work together to meet the challenges and embrace the opportunities offered to Maryland by BRAC. I am confident that Asuntha will help us to reach our goal."

Chiang-Smith is a former Administrator of the Office of Federal and Military Affairs and Director of Policy Development at the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development. In addition, she has been a Special Assistant on Economic Development to Governor Parris N. Glendening and handled military and immigration work for U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski. She also worked five years in the U.S. House of Representatives for the Honorable Norman Mineta as a legislative aide. Prior to accepting her position as Executive Director to the BRAC Subcabinet, Chiang-Smith spent several years as a certified Project Manager for CACI's Veteran's Health Administration and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services contracts.

"I am honored to be given an opportunity to enhance the mission of our brave service men and women and at the same time serve the residents of my home state," said Asuntha Chiang Smith. "Working together with the Federal and local governments as well as with the Military Alliances, the Maryland Military Installation Council, and the private sector, we will sustain and enhance the extraordinary quality of life we enjoy in Maryland."

Other members of the Subcabinet include: Department of Budget and Management Secretary T. Eloise Foster, Department of Business and Economic Development Secretary David W. Edgerley, Department of the Environment Secretary Shari T. Wilson, Department of Higher Education Secretary Dr. James Earl Lyons, Sr., Department of Housing and Community Development Secretary Ray Skinner, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation Secretary Tom Perez, Department of Planning Secretary Richard Hall, Department of Transportation Secretary John Porcari, and State

Superintendent of Schools Nancy Grasmick.

As passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor O'Malley, the BRAC Subcabinet shall coordinate and oversee the implementation of all State action to support the missions of military installations in the State affected by the BRAC recommendations; Coordinate and oversee the development of BRAC-related initiatives in the areas of workforce readiness, Grades K-12 and Higher Education, Health Care facilities and services, community infrastructure and growth, environmental stewardship, workforce housing and transportation. In addition, the Subcabinet was tasked with working with the local jurisdictions and federal government, allow for a forum of interdepartmental discussions and deliver a report of legislative and budgetary priorities to the Governor.

May 30, 2007

Press Release - Office of the Governor

Governor O'Malley Announces New Secretary of Maryland State Police

Sheridan to Bring Decades of Experience to Statewide Law Enforcement

ANNAPOLIS, MD (May 31, 2007) - Governor Martin O'Malley today announced the appointment of Terrence B. Sheridan as Secretary of the Maryland State Police. A 42-year veteran of Maryland law enforcement, Sheridan will lead a department with nearly 2,500 employees and a budget for FY 2008 of over \$300 million.

"I am proud to appoint Chief Sheridan to lead the Maryland State Police," said Governor O'Malley. "Lieutenant Governor Brown and I envision the Maryland State Police as an agency that works closely with local law enforcement to improve public safety and homeland security at the same time. After months of consideration, it became clear that Terrence - with his record of success on the state and local level - is uniquely qualified to lead the Maryland State Police and protect our citizens."

"I look forward to working with Chief Sheridan to protect our families and strengthen public safety throughout Maryland," said Lt. Governor Brown. "With more than four decades of experience in Maryland's police forces, Terry is well qualified to lead this critical agency."

"Baltimore County has been blessed to have Terry Sheridan as its police chief for the past 11 years," said Baltimore County Executive Jim Smith. "Under his leadership, the County has been a leader in public safety across the region and the nation. Governor O'Malley is adding yet another outstanding individual to his leadership team. People all across Maryland will now benefit from Chief Sheridan's experience and expertise."

Prior to become Secretary of the Maryland State Police, Sheridan is retiring as Chief of the Baltimore County Police Department, a position which he has held for more than a decade. Before leading Baltimore County's police force, Sheridan worked in the Baltimore County Public School System as an Executive Assistant for Student Safety. Sheridan also served for 30 years in the Maryland State Police, reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of the Bureau of Drug Enforcement. In his career, Sheridan has worked in the specialty areas of internal affairs, special operations, drug enforcement, criminal intelligence, and student safety.

Chief Sheridan will assume the rank of Colonel in the Maryland State Police.

"I look forward to serving our citizens as Secretary of the Maryland State Police," said Secretary-Appointee Sheridan. "Working with local police forces, we will bring safety and security to every Maryland neighborhood."

Sheridan received his B.A. from Loyola College of Maryland, and received undergraduate and graduate credit through the Police Management Program offered by the University of Virginia and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Sheridan also received training at the National Executive Institute at the FBI headquarters in Quantico, Virginia. Sheridan lives in Lutherville, and is a long-time resident of Baltimore and Harford Counties.

O'Malley was joined by County Executive Smith as he announced Colonel James W. Johnson as his nominee to become Baltimore County Police Chief. A career officer in the Baltimore County Police Department, Johnson will assume control of the department within the next two weeks as Sheridan assumes his statewide duties.

May 31, 2007