

CHERYL C. KAGAN  
Legislative District 17  
Montgomery County

Education, Health, and  
Environmental Affairs Committee

Joint Audit Committee

Joint Committee on Federal Relations

Senate Chair, Joint Committee on the  
Management of Public Funds



James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 203  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
301-858-3134 · 410-841-3134  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3134  
Fax 301-858-3665 · 410-841-3665  
Cheryl.Kagan@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

The 2019 legislative session began on January 9th. I am looking forward to another four-year term with 18 new Senate colleagues. Below is a sneak peek at some of my legislative priorities.

## Public Safety:

- Modernizing Our 9-1-1 Emergency Systems
  - As Chair of the statewide 9-1-1 Commission, I am proud of the 65-page report with 23 recommendations that passed unanimously. I'll be sponsoring bipartisan legislation to update our technology in order to enhance reliability and accuracy while defending against cyber attacks. Additionally, we must adjust our funding model to pay for this life-saving service.
- Addressing Police Shortages in Maryland
  - To resolve challenges in police recruitment, Montgomery County Police Chief Tom Manger and I propose to expand the pool of prospects to include Legal Permanent Residents who have been honorably discharged from the military. We can diversify our force while rewarding those with a proven dedication to protecting our communities.

## Environment:

- Banning Polystyrene ("Styrofoam") Statewide
  - Already prohibited in many large Maryland jurisdictions, "Styrofoam" food containers are harmful to both our health and our ecosystem. My ban has strong support from Sierra Club, League of Conservation Voters, Trash-Free Maryland, and other environmental advocates.

## Consumer Protection:

- Safeguarding Our Personal Information
  - Government has access to private information on all of us. My legislation would help increase accountability; oversee government agencies; and keep our information safe.
- Advertising Gas Prices More Accurately
  - Too many gas stations post just their cash price, yet over 70% of Marylanders pay with credit cards. Attorney General Brian Frosh & I agree that we must address this "bait & switch" signage problem by displaying either just the higher (credit) price or both cash and credit prices.

## Election Reform:

- Helping Marylanders Vote
  - Exercising the right to vote should be convenient and affordable. I am proposing legislation to make absentee ballots postage-free; to create secure drop-off boxes at polling locations for absentee ballots; and to give independent voters more access to voting in primary elections.
- Improving Our Elections
  - Authorizing Montgomery County to implement "Ranked Choice Voting" as an alternative method of counting ballots to better reflect the will of the electorate.

Please stay up-to-date via Facebook (@CherylCKagan), Twitter (@CherylKagan), Instagram (@CherylCKagan), and my website (www.CherylKagan.org). You can always send questions or comments to me via email too!