****

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

January 26, 2018

**USM LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER**

Each Friday afternoon the University System of Maryland (USM) Office of Government Relations produces a newsletter for individuals interested in the political and policy debates in Annapolis. The e-newsletter highlights selected briefings, hearings, and legislative activities while the General Assembly is in session. USM encourages recipients to share the Friday newsletter with those in your campus community who may have an interest in the deliberations in Annapolis.

Although the distribution list has grown during the years, campus officials are reminded that their first and best source of political information is the institution’s designated member to the State Relations Council (SRC). Please take advantage of this person’s expertise and experience should questions arise about the legislative session. If you need the contact information for your respective campus representative in Annapolis do not hesitate to contact me.

Looking for more information about a bill? The official website of the Maryland General Assembly is here:

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frm1st.aspx?tab=home>

**HIGHER EDUCATION OVERVIEW KICKS OFF BUDGET SEASON**

Today in the Education and Economic Development Subcommittee of House Appropriations, members received their first look at the state of higher education in Maryland. The fiscal 2019 budget higher education budget overview includes USM as well as community colleges and independent institutions of higher education. The same overview will be presented in a Senate budget subcommittee on Monday.

Chancellor Caret testified along with the Morgan State University President, Dr. David Wilson and St. Mary’s College of Maryland President, Dr. Tuajuanda Jordan. The Chancellor thanked the subcommittee for the continued support for the USM. The budget overview analyzes trends in Maryland higher education funding, tuition, and graduation rates among other issues.

The Department of Legislative Services analysis can be read here:

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmbgtnfiscal.aspx?pid=bnfpage&stab=01&id=sk001_tab01&tab=subject4&ys=2018RS>

**CLARIFICATION TO OPIOID LAW IN SENATE COMMITTEE**

On Wednesday in Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee, USM offered testimony on Senate Bill 139. Senate Bill 139 clarifies the law that requires USM institutions to establish a policy that addresses heroin and opioid addiction and prevention, including awareness information for incoming students, obtaining and storing naloxone, and campus police training.

Last year the General Assembly recognized the impracticality of requiring the storage of naloxone at USM institutions that do not have residential housing, health centers or police on campus. The intent was to identify the most captive audiences for this important message. The message is most effectively captured at campuses with residential housing. Therefore, the law exempts institutions such as the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science and the University of Maryland, University College from these requirements.

A glitch in last year’s bill, though, still required these institutions to provide training on naloxone even though they were exempt from storing it on campus. This bill corrects that discrepancy by exempting these two institutions from the naloxone training requirement. These institutions will still provide students with educational materials regarding heroin and opioid addiction and prevention.

Given the addictive nature of heroin and opioids, the best way to prevent addiction is to increase awareness of the inherent risks involved in using these substances. The USM wants to be a part of that effort in the most effective ways possible.

**Budget and Briefing Schedule**

Wednesday, February 7th

**University System of Maryland Overview**

House Appropriations Committee; Education and Economic Development Subcommittee

1 p.m.

Room 120 Lowe House Office Building

Monday, February 12th

**University of Maryland, Baltimore (Briefing)**

**University of Maryland, College Park (Briefing)**

**USM Overview**

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee; Subcommittee on Education, Business and Administration Subcommittee

1 p.m.

**Upcoming Bill Hearings**

HB 17 (SB 69)

Higher Education - Student Loan Notification Letter - Modifications

Delegate Hettleman

Hearing 2/6 at 1:00 p.m.

Appropriations

HB 131

Income Tax Subtraction Modification - College Savings Plan Accounts - Contributions (College Savings Tax Enhancement Act)

Delegate Korman

Hearing 1/31 at 2:00 p.m.

Ways and Means

HB 163

University of Maryland University College - Collective Bargaining - Adjunct Faculty Delegate Barnes, B.

Hearing 2/6 at 1 p.m.

Appropriations

HB 199

Higher Education - Collective Bargaining - Graduate Assistants (Graduate Assistant Collective Bargaining Fairness Act)

Delegate Korman

Hearing 2/6 at 1 p.m.

Appropriations

HB 368

Institutions of Higher Education - Hazing - Required Reporting and Education

Delegate Gibson

Hearing 2/06 at 1:00 p.m.

Appropriations

SB 129

Baltimore County - Polling Places on Campuses

Senator Zirkin

Hearing 1/30 at 2 p.m.

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 175

Emergency Medical Services - Emergency Medical Services Board - Appointments

Senator Middleton

Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m.

Finance

SB 204

Higher Education - Cybersecurity Public Service Scholarship Program

Senator Simonaire

Hearing 1/31 at 2:00 p.m.

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 252 (HB 450)

Historically Black Institutions - State Funding - Blount-Rawlings-Britt HBI Comparability Program

Hearing 1/30 at 1:30 p.m.

Budget and Taxation

SB 357

Voter Registration Integrity Act of 2018

Senator Ready

Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 380

Income Tax Credit - Employers - Eligible Internships

Senator King

Hearing 2/14 at 1:00 p.m.

Budget and Taxation

SB 392

Maryland Department of Health - Biosafety Level 3 Laboratories

Senator Young

Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.

Finance

2/8/2018 - 1:00 p.m.

SB 396

Open Meetings Act - Training – Application

Senator Conway

Hearing 2/14 at 2:00 p.m.

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs