

Maryland Commission for Women

Legislative Agenda for Maryland Women

Tracked Legislation - 1996

HB18: Courts - Family Division - Establishment (LAMW)

Position: Support **Status:** Passed House Judiciary with amendments; Unfavorable in Judicial Proceedings

This legislation would have established family court system in Maryland. The bill failed, but there is \$140,000 given to fund a pilot Family Court Project in Baltimore City. *FYI: - \$225,000 was given to Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, and Washington Counties for Pro Se Project. \$20,000 given to Women's Law Center for Legal Forms Project.

HB39: Insurance - Unfair Trade Practices - Discrimination

Based on Domestic Violence

Position: Support **Status:** Passed

This legislation mandates that life and health insurers cannot discriminate against a victim of domestic violence.

HB49: Family Law - Noncustodial Parent - Child Support

Position: Monitor **Status:** Unfavorable in House Judiciary

HB64: Family Law - Child Support

Position: Support with amendments **Status:** Unfavorable in House Judiciary

HB67: Anti-Discrimination Act (LAMW)

Position: Support **Status:** Unfavorable in Commerce & Government Matters

HB77: Maryland Human Relations Commission - Aiding or Abetting Violation of Article (49B) - Retaliation

Position: Support **Status:** No vote in Senate

HB194: Family Law - Support and Maintenance

Position: Support **Status:** Unfavorable in House Judiciary

HB297/SB215: Maryland Gun Violence Act of 1996

Position: Support **Status:** Passed

Limits handgun buyers to one purchase a month. Will also regulate private handgun transactions in the same manner as in-store purchases, including criminal background checks and waiting periods. **Would prohibit sales to persons who have protective orders filed against them in civil court; would allow police responding to a domestic call to temporarily**

remove guns from the house; makes it a specific offense to disarm police officer and creates a specific penalty for firing a gun from a motor car.

HB324: Child Support Enforcement - Legal Representation

Position: Monitor **Status:** No vote in Judicial Proceedings

HB325: Employment Discrimination - Gender Identity (LAMW)

Position: Support **Status:** Unfavorable report in Commerce & Government Matters

HB334: Domestic Violence - Enforcement of Out-of-State Protective Orders

Position: Support **Status:** Passed

Requires that protective orders issued by courts of other states or Indian tribes be accorded full faith and credit by a court of this State and enforced as ordered of this State. Requires a law enforcement officer to arrest and take into custody a person whom the office has probable cause to believe is in violation of a protective order.

HB335: Domestic Violence - Penalties

Position: Support **Status:** Unfavorable report in House Judiciary

HB336: Domestic Violence - Temporary Ex-Parte Orders and Protective Orders - Surrender of Firearms

Position: Support **Status:** Unfavorable in House Judiciary

Note: Provisions were included in the Maryland Gun Violence Act of 1996 to confiscate weapons in domestic violence cases and prevent purchase of weapons when there is a protective order.

HB337: Family Law - Grounds for Absolute Divorce - Constructive Desertion

Position: Support **Status:** Unfavorable in House Judiciary

HB391: Child Support Arrearage - Revocation & Denial of Professional License

Position: Support **Status:** Unfavorable in House Judiciary

HB749/SB618: Crimes - Assault Laws - Revisions (LAMW)

Position: Support **Status:** Passed

With the passage of this bill, the legislation divides assault into two degrees: second degree misdemeanor