



February 10, 2012

Dear Friend,

The 2012 legislative session is off to a busy start! There has been a flurry of activity in the first few weeks of the session. Legislators will be facing tough decisions on the budget, taxes, same-sex marriage, land use issues, and other important matters.

I want to encourage you to log onto Facebook and "[Like](#)" my page. Doing so will provide you with timely updates on news here in Annapolis and in the 11th District.



Before discussing my current legislation, I'd like to share some good news about an award I received last month. I was honored to receive the "Outstanding Maryland Elected Official of 2011" award from the U.S. Green Building Council (Maryland

Chapter), for my successful sponsorship of legislation that authorized the use of the International Green Construction Code in Maryland.

In the current session, much of my legislation will focus on improving driver safety and the environment. Below is a summary of four of the bills I've introduced to date. Please let me know if you have any feedback on my legislation or any of the fiscal and social issues the legislature will be grappling with.

[HOUSE BILL 313](#) – **Child Seating and Safety Seats Requirements.** This bill will bring Maryland's child safety seat requirements in line with the current recommendations of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Although Maryland has been a leader in advocating vehicle safety policies, our child safety seat requirements fall below current standards. Car accidents are still a leading cause of injury and death to those under 16.

[HB 369](#) – **Prohibition of the Use of Coal Tar Pavement Products.** This bill seeks to prohibit the use of a pavement sealant applied to asphalt surfaces known as coal tar. Coal tar pitch has been classified as a "known carcinogen" by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Along with being washed into our streams and water ways, coal tar residue can enter the home on the soles of shoes that have come into contact with a sealed surface, which leaves children especially susceptible to contamination. The alternative to coal tar sealants is comparably priced. Passage of this bill will make our environment cleaner and our neighborhoods healthier places to live.

[HB 515](#) -- **Establishment of Financial Education and Capability Commission.** This legislation builds on the success of the Task Force on Improving Financial Literacy in Maryland, which I co-chaired from 2008 to 2010. Among our accomplishments, the task force recommended that the State adopt a financial literacy curriculum for all public schools and create an online clearinghouse of financial education resources. Both of these recommendations have been implemented by State agencies; the clearinghouse can be found at www.MyMoneyMatters-md.org.

While we've made a lot of progress in providing youth and adults with financial education resources, there is still much work to be done. That's why my bill establishes a standing commission that would monitor public and private initiatives to improve financial education and make recommendations on improving these initiatives.

[HB 569](#) -- **Motor Scooters, Mopeds, and Off-Highway Recreational Vehicles.** This bill would require riders of motor scooters, mopeds and off-highway recreational

vehicles (ATVs) to wear helmets, and would require the titling of motor scooters and mopeds.

Scholarships

I would also like to encourage 11th District residents to apply for the H. Allan Lipsitz Memorial Scholarship for higher education, which I award every year. The scholarship can be used for either college or graduate education expenses. Criteria include academic achievement (especially in English and writing), community service, and financial need.

The scholarship is dedicated to my former teacher H. Allan Lipsitz, who taught English at Milford Mill High School for 13 years before teaching students at Towson University and later becoming director of adult education at Beth El Congregation. Scholarship information and applications for the 2012-2013 school year can be found at <http://danastein.com/scholarship/>. Applications must be mailed by March 30, 2012.

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I am proud to be representing you in Annapolis and to be a part of the District 11 legislative team, which includes Senator Bobby Zirkin and Delegates Jon Cardin and Dan Morhaim. Please contact me at 410-841-3527 or dana.stein@house.state.md.us if I can ever be of assistance.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Stein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dana Stein
Delegate

Paid for by Friends of Dana Stein, Jeffrey D. Spokes, Treasurer

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Delegate Dana M. Stein
House Office Building, Suite 304
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
US

