



Delegate Shawn Z. Tarrant  
40th District

# THE TARRANT REPORT

Information and News Connecting 40<sup>th</sup> District Constituents with Delegate Tarrant's work in Annapolis, Baltimore, and the entire Maryland community

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE DELEGATE

Dear Constituents:

As your Delegate, I am your voice on issues that affect our community and the state as a whole. While in Annapolis, I not only work to craft and sponsor important pieces of legislation, but I also serve on committees that work on long term legislative projects that directly impact our communities. The Tarrant Report will progressively introduce you to those pieces of legislation that I, along with my colleagues, have worked to craft. You will find specific bills I have

sponsored in the *What's Happening Down in Annapolis* section of the Tarrant Report. In addition, in the newsletter's *Legislative Lingo* section, you will be introduced to terminology and language used throughout the legislative session. Lastly, the Tarrant Report will keep you abreast of all upcoming events in the district and Annapolis and provide a recap of past events. Everything I do in the district and Annapolis directly impacts you as citizens of Baltimore and members of the 40<sup>th</sup> district. It is my hope that

this newsletter will serve as a tool for my constituents and I to become better connected. I look forward to a rewarding year of working with all of you to make our district and our state a better place for our children and families.

Sincerely,

Shawn Z. Tarrant  
Delegate  
40th Legislative District

## LEGISLATIVE LINGO

**What exactly is a bill—you might ask? And what impact do bills have on the constituents of the 40th district.**

- A bill is a proposal to change, repeal, or add to existing state law. A House Bill (HB) is one introduced in the House of Delegates.
- During the legislative session Delegate Tarrant works to introduce bills that improve our state, city and 40th district.
- Examples of recent bills passed by the Delegate can be seen in the next section, *What's Happening Down in Annapolis*.

**What does it mean to sponsor or cosponsor a bill?**

- A delegate who serves as a sponsor to a piece of legislation is the original member of the House of Delegates who introduces the bill.
- When a delegate cosponsors a bill, he or she formally adds their name in support of another member's bills. Cosponsors are not required and therefore, not every bill has cosponsors.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING DOWN IN ANNAPOLIS?

### BILLS SPONSORED THUS FAR IN 2009

#### **Pharmacies--Display of SMARxT Disposal Campaign Poster—HB 83**

- Will require pharmacies to display a SMARxT Disposal Campaign poster containing information on the proper storage and disposal of prescription drugs.

#### **Health Insurance--Rescission of Contracts and Certificates—Restrictions—HB 235**

- Prohibits specified carriers from rescinding a contract or certificate under specified circumstances
- Requires the carrier to have the burden of proof

#### **Cigar—Sales of Less Than Four Per Package—Prohibited—HB 238**

- Prohibits specified retailers from purchasing from manufactures or wholesalers, or selling, reselling, distributing, dispensing or giving away to a person, a package of cigars containing less than four cigars.

### Bills Sponsored in 2008

#### **Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - Center for Urban Families—HB 200**



- State issued up to \$1,500,000 in matching funds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Center for Fathers, Families and Workforce Development, Inc. for the acquisition, design, and construction of the Center for Urban Families, located in Baltimore City
- To view HB 200, visit <http://mlis.state.md.us/2008rs/billfile/hb0200.htm>



#### **Task Force on Health Care Access and Reimbursement - Additional Duties—HB 818**

- Altering the charge to the Task Force on Health Care Access and Reimbursement to develop specified recommendations, including whether there is a need to provide incentives for physicians and other health care providers to be available to provide care on evenings and weekends, and the ability of primary care physicians to be reimbursed for mental health services performed within their scope of practice; etc.
- To view HB 818, visit <http://mlis.state.md.us/2008rs/billfile/hb0818.htm>



#### **Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and Maryland Health Quality and Cost Council - Chronic Care Management Plan—HB 1395**

- This bill requires the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Maryland Health Quality and Cost Council to study chronic care management and develop a specified chronic care management plan to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of care for individuals who have or are at risk for a chronic disease.
- To view HB1395, visit <http://mlis.state.md.us/2008rs/billfile/hb1395.htm>

## TARRANT 2008 EVENT & ACTIVITY RECAP



Community leader forum at Baltimore City Community College hosted by Together Rx Access, where Delegate Shawn Tarrant served as a special guest. Together Rx provides prescription drug coverage to individuals in the US who do not qualify for Medicare, but whose incomes fall within the poverty line.



Delegate Tarrant at Toys and Turkeys event hosted by Wal-Mart and Baltimore City Mayor Sheila Dixon, where toys and turkeys were distributed to needy families.

## TARRANT 2008 EVENT & ACTIVITIY RECAP CONT'D



**Delegate Tarrant and Attorney General Douglas F. Gansler at the Delegate's 2nd Annual Prayer Breakfast recognizing the work of 30 communities within Baltimore's 40th District.**



**Delegate Tarrant distributes trophies to members of James Mosher Baseball's little league.**

**Delegate Tarrant makes visits to local churches within his district.**

Contact Delegate Tarrant

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Below are churches he recently visited:

- New Shiloh Baptist Church
- Empowerment Temple
- New Psalmist Baptist Church
- Mt. Zion United Church

Contact his office to request that he visit your church!