

Maryland Business for Responsive Government Publishes 32nd Edition of *Roll Call*

Scores All 188 Maryland Legislators on their Votes Affecting Job Creation & Business Climate

COLUMBIA, Md., June 2, 2017 – Maryland Business for Responsive Government ([MBRG](#)), a statewide, nonpartisan, non-profit organization dedicated to holding state legislators accountable for Maryland’s business climate and economic health, has released the [2017 edition](#) of its annual publication *Roll Call*.

Each year, MBRG’s State Advisory Council selects recorded votes from the most recent General Assembly session that are essential to create jobs and promote a healthy business climate throughout Maryland. MBRG identifies these bills in *Roll Call* and analyzes the votes to produce a score for each legislator.

Based on the actual votes of all 188 Maryland legislators, scores in the Senate ranged from a perfect 100%, or job-promoting score, to a job-destroying low of 17%. Extremes in the House ranged from 100% to just 8%.

A prevalent theme this year was extreme governance, characterized by outright mandates and bans, rather than establishing a middle ground wherein multiple interests could work together to ensure a growing job base and thriving, diverse economy. The ongoing debate regarding the legislature’s involvement in the employer-employee relationship also figured prominently, with the paid leave bill being the primary concern.

Numerous amendments were put forth in an attempt to make paid leave legislation acceptable to all parties. Consistent with this year’s theme of mandates and bans, however, there was little compromise. The bill passed both the House and the Senate, with the Governor recently vetoing the legislation. MBRG scored the bill, as well as three House amendments and four Senate amendments.

The 2017 *Roll Call* analyzed 15 Senate votes and 16 House votes.

About Maryland Business for Responsive Government (MBRG)

MBRG is a statewide, nonpartisan political research and education organization supported by corporations, trade associations, chambers of commerce, and

individuals. Its purpose is to inform Maryland's business community, elected officials, and the general public about the political and economic environment needed to foster economic development and job creation in Maryland. Annual evaluations of the voting records of Maryland's state and federal legislators enable MBRG and its members to hold politicians accountable for the state's economic well-being like no other organization.

About *Roll Call*

Roll Call is compiled by an independent advisory council of roughly 18 organizations (companies, chambers of commerce, and other business and trade organizations) involved in the 90-day session in Annapolis. The purpose of *Roll Call* is to educate, inform, and empower Maryland employers, business owners, and others to engage in a dialogue with elected officials on issues critical to a healthy economic development climate in Maryland. MBRG has been issuing its annual report card for more than 30 years.

The 2017 edition of *Roll Call* can be downloaded at www.mbrg.org/roll-call/.

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