

# O'Malley-Brown: Steady Progress for Maryland's Families

Governor Martin O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown have made steady progress for the working families of our State in tough economic times.

After just 14 months in office, the O'Malley-Brown Administration has restored fiscal accountability to the State of Maryland and – even with a national recession on the horizon – has protected the priorities of Maryland's families.

Since they were elected, Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown have worked tirelessly to:

- Strengthen and grow our middle class and our family-owned businesses and farms.
- Improve public safety and public education in every part of our state.
- Expand opportunity for more people rather than fewer.

According to the *Baltimore Sun*, the O'Malley-Brown Administration has accomplished more in one year than most administrations accomplish in four. And according to the *Washington Post*, O'Malley is a “governor unafraid of government.”

The O'Malley-Brown Administration has made tremendous progress:

- Restoring Fiscal Accountability
- Improving Public Safety
- Fighting for Families, Small Business, and Our Seniors
- Improving Public Education and Making College Affordable
- Enhancing re-entry and mental health services for our Veterans
- Protecting our Environment; Restoring the Chesapeake Bay
- Securing our Energy Future
- Building a Stronger Workforce; and
- Making Government Work



## Restoring Fiscal Accountability

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Under the leadership of Governor O'Malley, we have restored fiscal responsibility to our State, while protecting our priorities. O'Malley has reduced spending, eliminated state positions, and reduced spending growth more than the previous administration.

- Made our tax system more progressive – 95% of Marylanders pay the same or less in income tax
- Led the effort to repeal \$200 million computer services tax on small businesses
- Reduced spending by \$1.8 billion since taking office
- Eliminated 647 positions
- Proposed two consecutive budgets under the Maryland General Assembly's spending affordability guidelines
- Left a cash balance of almost \$1 billion

## Improving Public Safety

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Governor O'Malley has made improving public safety one of the cornerstones of his Administration. He introduced legislation to expand the State's DNA fingerprint database for violent offenders to reduce violent crime in our communities. O'Malley has also established regional partnerships to crack down on gun violence and gang-related activity.



- Expanded DNA fingerprinting to include violent offenders and eliminated DNA backlog left by previous administration
- Enhanced supervision of violent offenders by reforming Parole and Probation
- Provided funding for stab-proof vests for Correctional Officers
- Ended parole for child sex offenders with Jessica's Law, and invested \$2 million in monitoring child sex predators
- Established Regional partnership with Baltimore City and Prince George's County to reduce gun violence, crime and gang-related activity
- Introduced legislation to allow critical information-sharing between the Department of Juvenile Services and the Office of Parole and Probation to continue the much needed reform of our juvenile justice system
- Boosted drug treatment by \$10 million over 2 years
- Closed Maryland's most violent prison – Maryland House of Corrections

## Fighting for Families, Small Business, and Our Seniors

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When they took office 14 months ago, Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown made a commitment to strengthen and grow our middle class and fight to protect Maryland's quality of life.



Together, they restored professional leadership at the Public Service Commission that resulted in \$2 billion in immediate and long-term relief for Maryland ratepayers.

The O'Malley-Brown Administration passed sweeping legislation to protect homeowners from foreclosure, including emergency legislation to lengthen the foreclosure process and keep Marylanders in their homes. *The Washington Post* called this legislation "among the most sweeping in the country" to keep families in their homes.

- Passed sweeping legislation to protect homeowners from foreclosure
- Reformed ground rent system, eliminating the creation of new ground rents
- Fought for and established America's first Living Wage law – providing a decent wage for a full day's work
- Expanded access to healthcare coverage for 100,000 more Marylanders and made healthcare more affordable for small businesses
- Closed the Medicare donut-hole to provide seniors with prescription drug coverage
- Increased funding for the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program for early intervention services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities and their families
- Secured a record \$43 million stem cell research funding over the last two years
- Expanded oral health services for our children
- Provided 2% cost of living adjustment for state employees two years in a row

## Improving Public Education, Making College More Affordable

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- Historic \$5.3 billion investment in K-12 public education, including \$733 million for school construction over the last two years to get children out of trailers and crumbling classrooms
- Provided funding for the Geographic Cost of Education Index for the first time
- Established first-ever Higher Education Trust Fund to stabilize tuition costs for families
  - Froze college tuition for three consecutive years – making college more affordable for Maryland families (6<sup>th</sup> highest Public University tuition state in the country to the 16<sup>th</sup>)
  - Increased aid for community colleges by 9% and invested a record \$150 million over the last two years in better facilities at community colleges around our State
  - Created the SEED School – Maryland's first statewide public boarding school



## Enhancing Re-Entry and Mental Health Services for our Veterans

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Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown provided funding to improve transition services for our veterans coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan, and eliminate gaps in services by providing crisis intervention, case management, improved outreach and direct health-related services to veterans and their families.

Governor O'Malley and Lt. Governor Brown introduced legislation to establish a Maryland Veterans Behavioral Health Advisory Board to identify gaps in behavioral health services for veterans and their families; and increase coordination among state and federal government agencies and the Maryland Defense Force for veterans who have served in the Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts.



## A Greener Maryland; A Cleaner Chesapeake Bay

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- Created the Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund to help restore the health of the Chesapeake Bay; Secured \$25 million for the Trust Fund in its first year
- Updated Maryland's Critical Area Legislation for the first time in almost 25 years to better control development in the critical area
- Made Transit Oriented Development a priority for the State to reduce sprawl and over-development
  - Fully-funded Program Open Space two years in a row to prevent sprawl and preserve Maryland open space
  - Restored Maryland's leadership by restoring the Office of Smart Growth to deal with overdevelopment, sprawl and traffic
  - Passed the Stormwater Management Act and increased funding for nutrient removal programs, septic system upgrades and sewer rehabilitation projects
  - Passed the Oyster Restoration Act to restore oyster population of the Bay.
  - Passed the Clean Cars law to reduce auto emissions and tackle global warming
  - Invested a record \$17.4 million in cover crop programs for Maryland farmers; and provided \$3.25 million to keep farming profitable in Maryland (MARBIDCO)



## Securing our Energy Future

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- Launched the EmPOWER Maryland Initiative, setting the most ambitious goal in the nation to decrease per capita electricity consumption 15% by 2015, which when fully implemented will save Marylanders \$5.7 billion (an average of \$190 per household annually) and avoid at least three new power plants
- Proposed Strategic Energy Investment Fund to allow Maryland to take control of its energy future by investing in energy efficiency technology and clean renewable power
- Promoted diversification of Maryland's electricity sources and "green buildings" to establish a more secure, sustainable energy future
- Created the Climate Change Commission to develop an action plan to address climate change in Maryland and rising sea levels in the Chesapeake Bay
- Led efforts to implement Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative with 10<sup>th</sup> states to control carbon dioxide emissions in United States and supported the Global Warming Solutions Act



## Building a Stronger Workforce

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- Led efforts to repeal \$200 million computer services tax on small businesses and middle class families
- Introduced legislation to improve adult education programs by linking workforce one-stop centers, community colleges, nonprofit providers, state agencies and the business community
- Established BRAC Zones to help promote jobs and economic expansion in areas of the state expecting BRAC-related growth. Directs growth to areas of the state that have the capacity for additional housing, public facilities and infrastructure. Total amount of funds per year provided to local jurisdictions is \$5 million. Gives the state and the counties greater flexibility to negotiate a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) and balance federal, state and local interests.
- Created a Workforce Creation Sub-cabinet, part of a strategic re-alignment among state agencies, to identify potential synergies and increase collaboration
- Expanded the P-20 Leadership Council to better align our educational system with workforce goals
- Established the Maryland Life Sciences Advisory Board to support and attract biotechnology companies to our state.
- Invested \$43 million in healing stem cell research over two years
- Helped farmers protect the land by keeping farming profitable, with record investments in cover crops and agricultural innovation



## Making Government Work

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- Created new Department of Information Technology to make state government more accountable and more efficient
- Established StateStat, a performance measurement system for State agencies that will improve accountability and efficiency
- Established BRAC Subcabinet to work with local governments and military installations to coordinate planning for base realignment
- Reconstituted the Public Service and Banking commissions with independent, professional regulators
- Closed an inherited \$1.7 billion structural deficit to secure the State's future

