



# District 14 Team GOCA Meeting

Senator **Zucker**, Delegates **Kaiser**, **Luedtke** and **Queen**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021**  
**7:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

# Agenda for Tonight

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- Introductions: Team & Annapolis during COVID-19
- 2021 Legislative Update
  - Overall MGA Focus
  - D14 Team Member Focus
- Questions

# Introductions of Team and Annapolis during COVID-19

# Your District 14 Team

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**Craig Zucker** wears so many hats in the State Senate: Democratic Caucus Chair, chair of the Montgomery County Senate Delegation, chair of budget subcommittee dealing with education and Vice Chair of Rules Committee, among others. He works in the Comptroller's office. He lives with his wife, Jenny, and their sons Ben and Sam in Brookeville.



**Pam Queen** serves on the House Economic Matters Committee and chairs the Subcommittee on Banking, Consumer Protection, and Commercial Law. The Speaker selected her to co-chair the House Study Group to Study Economic Stability. Dr. Queen has a PhD in Finance and is an associate Finance professor at Morgan State University. She lives in Olney.

**Anne Kaiser** chairs the powerful House Ways & Means Committee. She grew up in Montgomery County and graduated from MCPS. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland, College Park. She lives with her wife, Nancy, and their daughter Allison Joan "AJ" in the Calverton neighborhood of Silver Spring.



**Eric Luedtke** is the House Majority Leader and chair of the Revenues Subcommittee on the Ways and Means Committee. Not only an MCPS graduate but a former social studies teacher. Currently, he is an adjunct professor at the University of MD and working towards his PhD. He lives with his wife Dawn, and their 4 Brady Bunch kids in Ashton.

# Annapolis During the Pandemic

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- Last year, prematurely ended 19 days early.
- 2021 session will fast-track easy bills.
- Limited in person sessions in House. Senate will convene in person more frequently.
- Frequent COVID testing and limited access to public buildings.
- Hearings by zoom. **Sign up and testify!**



# COVID-19 – State Resources

- Primary portal for all state information at: [coronavirus.maryland.gov](https://coronavirus.maryland.gov)
- Our team continues to work to support constituents who are experiencing unacceptable delays in unemployment insurance benefits.
- COVID-19 Testings:
  - Montgomery County Information Portal - <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/testing.html>
  - Maryland COVID Site Locator - <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/symptoms-testing>
  - Righttime Medical Care – <https://www.myrighttime.com/online-appointments>
- Use Beacon 2 One Stop for unemployment claims:  
<https://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/unemployment.shtml>

# 2021 Legislative Priorities



# Vetoes by the Governor

- Governor Larry Hogan announced vetoes of approximately **three dozen bills**, which may well be a record in Maryland history.
- These include vetoes of school reform and construction, common sense background check laws for gun purchases, a bill to help reduce prescription drug costs, and a bill to correct the issues related to program duplication that disadvantaged Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- Due to the way our budget process works, despite the Governor's claims, **none of these vetoes save the state a dime of money** before July of 2021, and in fact they make our budget situation worse.
- We urge the Governor to work productively with legislators on both sides of the aisle, and expect many high profile **veto overrides** when the legislature reconvenes.



# COVID-19 Workgroup

- The Speaker and Senate President established a bipartisan, bicameral joint work group in March to provide oversight of the state's response to the COVID pandemic
- That work group has investigated all areas of the state's response, but in particular its work has led to the following:
  - Increased **focus on racial disparities** in COVID prevention and treatment.
  - Increased focus on **addressing outbreaks in nursing homes** and assisted living facilities.
  - Forced the Department of Labor to improve its process for **handling unemployment** insurance claims.
  - Improved **access to testing** and Personal Protective Equipment, particularly among state government agencies and facilities.

# Education

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- Blueprint for MD future. A landmark bill to **reduce achievement gaps** and ensure that all students receive a world quality education.
- Enhanced funding for **school construction**. Modernize our schools and take students out of portable classrooms
- Increased funding for three **Historically Black Colleges and Universities** that have been shortchanged in funding for decades.
- **Virtual learning**. Work with our school systems to support virtual learning.
- **Broadband connectivity**. Not only is there an achievement gap, but there is a technology gap that is expanding the achievement gap.

# Police Reform

- The House Work Group on Police Reform and Accountability and the Senate Judiciary Committee are working to develop policing reforms.
- House proposals approved by the work group last week include:
  - A body camera mandate.
  - A statewide use of force law.
  - Independent investigations of officer-involved deaths.
  - Bar police unions from collectively bargaining disciplinary decisions.
  - Mandated mental and physical health screenings for officers.
  - Improved training, including training in implicit bias and its impacts.
- This past September, the Senate held unprecedented hearings on 30 bills on this subject. We will pass meaningful transparency and accountability legislation.

# 2021 Legislative Priorities – D14 Team

# Greater Olney Area Issues

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- **Olney Theatre Center.** Our team is working with the county to help the Theatre return to business with limited crowds.
- The Maryland Transportation Authority Police are coordinating highly visible and targeted enforcement initiatives along the **ICC** and deploying resources from across the agency at the request of the **District 14 & 19 Legislative legislators. Sen. Kramer & Del. Vaughn are taking the lead on increased penalties and fines, which the D-14 Team supports and will co-sponsor.**
- This session we will be working to secure local funding and improvements in the area including:
  - **\$75,000:** Olney Police Satellite Station, in addition to the **\$10,000** already secured.
  - **\$100,000:** Sandy Spring Friends House Retirement Community, in addition to the **\$200,000+** already secured.
  - **\$200,000:** Town of Brookeville's Market Street improvements, in addition to the **\$100,000** already secured.
  - **\$20,000** for the Town of Laytonsville's Miller Park, in addition to the **\$15,000** already secured.
  - Funding to fix the intersection of Brooke Road & Route 108, which will include **relocating the drainage inlet currently located within the roadway, installing a new curb and gutter system, and fixing the pavement.**

# Montgomery County Legislation

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- **MC 12-21**: Draft Beer Off-site Consumption in Damascus
  - Senator **Zucker**, Delegates **Kaiser**, **Luedtke** and **Queen**
- **MC 13-21**: Burtonsville Crossing Acquisition by Montgomery County
  - Senator **Zucker**, Delegates **Kaiser**, **Luedtke** and **Queen**
- **MC 14-21**: Public Campaign Financing – Expansion
  - Delegates **Luedtke** and **Moon**
- **MC 19-21**: Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Annual Fees
  - Delegate **Luedtke**

# Senator Zucker: Legislative Agenda

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- Education Funding
- Mental Health Assistance
- Tax Fairness and Assistance Programs
- Reimbursing Montgomery County Homeowners
- Protecting the Health of State Employees
- Advocating for Foster Youth



# Delegate **Kaiser**: Legislative Agenda

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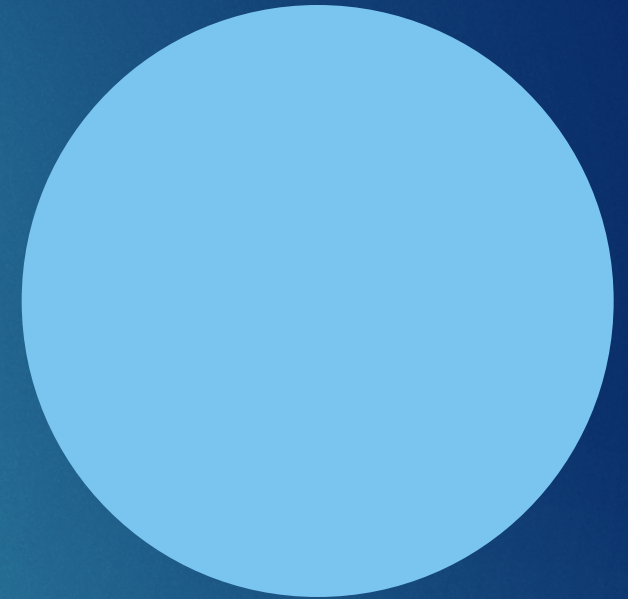
- Topics within Ways & Means Committee, that I chair:
  - Education: funding; virtual learning
  - Election law: updating procedures; creating new auditing method
  - Revenues: reevaluating merits of tax credits; improving tax sale process
  - Racing/gaming: sports betting legislation
- Overriding the Governor's vetoes
- Racial justice and racial equity



# Delegate **Luedtke**: Legislative Agenda

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- Responding to COVID
  - Education
  - Housing
  - Employment
  - Small Business
- The Equity Agenda
- Strengthening Democracy
- The Innovation Economy
- Local Issues



# Delegate **Queen**: Legislative Agenda

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- Access to Justice Task Force – Consumer Protection
- House Speaker's Wealth Equity Package
- 2020 Session Veto Overrides
- Summer SNAP Funding Expansion
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Bills
- 2020 Legislation that passed the House
  - Parole Reform and Firearm Telematics Study

# Thank You and Happy New Year!

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# Contact Us Anytime

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MD General Assembly Website:  
<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite>

# Questions?

