

Subject: One Maryland: 427th Legislative Session
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One Maryland

January 13, 2010



A Message from the Governor

427th Legislative Session

Today, the 427th Maryland General Assembly convened for its 90-day legislative session.

Our task as public servants, as Marylanders, and as Americans is to continue making the choices and connections that will allow our families to get through these tough times even stronger. As I know you'll agree, there is no government program that is as important and empowering as a job that allows a family to raise their kids with dignity and respect and a roof over their heads. In these tough times, everything we accomplish this legislative session must be seen through the lens of whether or not it creates jobs, protects jobs, or improves the environment for creating and protecting jobs.



And it begins with maintaining the era of fiscal responsibility we returned to Annapolis. Rather than increasing spending, for the first time since the Great Depression, spending levels are less today than they were four years ago – and state spending has reduced \$4.6 billion under our Administration. Maryland remains one of only seven states that continue to defend a Triple A Bond rating – a measure of fiscal responsibility certified by all three major agencies.

Every year for the past three years, we've submitted a budget that is not only balanced, but that comes in within the spending affordability guidelines. It is all with the goal and the motive and purpose of maintaining fiscal responsibility so we can make progress on schools, progress on public safety, progress that strengthens and grows our middle class and creates more opportunity for hardworking people in our State.

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Governor O'Malley Positions Maryland as National "Epicenter" for Cyber Security



Addressing the growing global threat of cybercrime, Governor Martin O'Malley recently joined Maryland's Congressional Delegation, federal and military officials and business leaders at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg to

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Maryland Events

Chili Winter Days
January 16-31, Sat. and Sun. 1-5pm at Boordy Vineyards in Hydes. Sample hearty chilies paired with our wines. Tour the winery and sip hot wassail.

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown



[unveil an aggressive policy report](#) that calls for establishing Maryland as the [nation's epicenter](#) for cyber security. Developed with guidance from more than 50 public and private sector information technology and security experts, *CyberMaryland* highlights the State's key role in supporting President Barack Obama's national cyber initiative and is the first comprehensive inventory of any State's cyber security assets. Over the last year, Maryland has led the nation in the creation of computer systems design jobs, growing by 6.6 percent.

Maryland is home to more than 50 key federal facilities and 12 major military installations employing nearly 200,000 well-educated, highly-skilled government employees and contractors, including the Army's Communication and Electronics Command, which will soon be relocating to Aberdeen Proving Ground. The Defense Information Systems Agency is slated to move to Maryland from Virginia in 2011, bringing 4,300 advanced technology jobs.

In total, Maryland has one of the highest concentrations of technology jobs in the nation, with 10 percent of jobs classified as technology-related and led the nation in 2009 with the largest growth in computer systems design jobs.

Governor O'Malley Announces 4-part Strategy to Promote and Sustain Affordable Housing in Maryland

At the Maryland Affordable Coalition's annual meeting last week, Governor Martin O'Malley [announced a Four Point Plan](#) for improving Maryland neighborhoods, reducing foreclosures, and making quality housing more affordable for more people.

In partnership with the Obama administration, The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is implementing the New Issue Bond Program, which will help open up access to affordable housing for low- and middle-income families – whether they are renting or buying.



Governor O'Malley said that Maryland will receive more than \$246 million under the Obama administration's plan to help stabilize the our housing market. The initiative will help developers of multifamily rental projects by providing a low fixed interest rate and making \$90 million available for these projects. Through this program, DHCD will expect to serve nearly 1,600 new homeowners and create or rehabilitate about 1,000 rental units.

Ravens to Play Colts in Second Round of NFL Playoffs



After an impressive win last weekend, soundly defeating the New England Patriots 33-14, the Baltimore Ravens will head to Indiana to take on the Indianapolis Colts in the second round of the NFL playoffs as they continue on their quest for the Super Bowl.

In honor of the Ravens' win Governor O'Malley, who will watch the game while enjoying a fresh New England lobster courtesy of [Governor Patrick of Massachusetts](#), has once again

January 16 and 23, 3pm at Joppa Hall (J108) in Bel Air. Family-oriented musical takes audiences through a typical day in the life of Charlie Brown.

Martin Luther King Days at Annmarie Garden

January 16-18, 10am-5pm at Annmarie Garden Sculpture Park in Solomons. Artful activities in honor of a dream. If you volunteer today, you get in FREE.

Warm It Up, Wine and Soups!

January 11-31, Mon.-Sat. 10am-5pm and Sun. 12N-5pm at Berrywine Plantations in Mt. Airy. Enjoy the warmth of Maryland soups perfectly matched with Lingularo Wines.

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declared this Friday "Purple Friday" and encourages all state employees to wear purple in support of the Ravens in the days and weeks to come. Governor O'Malley also ordered that [the official state website](#) remains decked in Ravens purple and requested that the dome of the state house remain lit in purple during the evening hours to honor the team.

The Ravens will play the Indianapolis Colts this Saturday at 8:15 p.m. in Indianapolis for the second round of the NFL playoffs.

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