

Celebrating 50 Years of Advancing Justice

Dear Jessica,

Today marks the half-way point for the legislative session. We have just 45 more days for all the bills to be heard and passed out of both chambers. If a bill doesn't pass before *sine die* it cannot become law.

The first big step in becoming law is getting voted out of Committee. And today FOUR bills that we've been supporting will be voted on by the House Judiciary Committee.

Please take a minute to <u>SEND AN EMAIL</u> asking the members of that committee to VOTE FAVORABLY on the following 4 bills:

<u>HB3 – Maryland State Police Gun Center – Firearms Surrendered Under Final</u> Protective Orders

Tracks data on guns surrendered under Final Protective Orders

HB4 - Criminal Law - Sexual Crimes - Repeal of Spousal Defense

Makes sure married people have the same rights and protections asunmarried couples when it comes to sexual assault

HB13 - Hate Crimes - Civil Remedy

Creates a civil remedy for victims of hate crimes

HB14 - Family Law - Grounds for Divorce

Allows people who need to get a divorce do so without undue time constraints

Sometimes all a legislator who is on the fence about a bill needs is to hear from someone who cares about the issue.

Can you be that someone today?

Onward together,

P.S. As always, if you appreciate the work we do, whether in the General Assembly or through our <u>direct legal services</u> across the State, <u>give here!</u> And if this email was forwarded to you by a friend, make sure to sign up for our legislative alerts <u>here!</u>

P.P.S. Save the Date for the WLC's Annual Celebration and Awards Ceremony on May 3rd at 6pm at Citron! Join us in presenting the Rosalyn B. Bell Award to Marla Zide, Esq.; the Dorothy Beatty Memorial Award to Robyn Elliott; and the Access to Justice Award to Natasha M. Dartigue, Esq. and Debbie Feinstein, Esq. For more information or to buy tickets, click HERE.

P.P.P.S. Save the date for these upcoming events from our partners and friends!

 Hosted by the Women Legislators of Maryland, Executive Alliance, Planned Parenthood of Maryland, and Pro Choice Maryland, the 2023 Gender Justice Rally will be held March 6th at 6pm at Lawyer's Mall in Annapolis. Register to attend <u>HERE</u>!



• Join Leadership Baltimore County for a <u>Rebalance</u>, <u>Rediscover</u>, <u>Reinvent</u> event on how leaders support women at home, and work, and in the community on Thursday, March 16th 8:30-10:30am in Owings Mills.



Have an event you'd like to share with us? Send us aremail!

About The Women's Law Center of Maryland

The vision of the Women's Law Center of Maryland is a legal system that provides justice and fairness for women. The Women's Law Center's mission is to ensure the physical safety, economic security, and autonomy of women throughout the State. We work towards this goal by providing direct legal representation, information and referral services, and legislative advocacy.

Our efforts to promote justice, fairness, and equality for women are only possible because of friends like you.

Give Today

The Women's Law Center of Maryland, Inc. is a charitable organization designated as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3). A copy of our financial statement is available upon request. Documents and information submitted under the State of Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State of Maryland, Annapolis, MD 21401 for the cost of copying and postage.









Women's Law Center | 305 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson, MD 21204

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