



Celebrating 50 Years of Advancing Justice

Dear Jessica,

Today is the start of the 445th session of the Maryland General Assembly, and it marks the beginning of a new era. With a new administration poised to take office on January 18th, and nearly 50 new legislators, it will be a session full of change and learning curves for everyone. But one thing remains the same, the WLC will be there, watching both the House and the Senate carefully, and we will be advocating on all the bills that disproportionately affect the physical safety, economic security, and bodily autonomy of women in Maryland.

Every year the WLC follows nearly 200 pieces of legislation, and takes a position on approximately 100 bills. From the Fight for Fifteen, to the fight to end spousal rape, to the fight to ensure our reproductive rights, the WLC works hard to make sure the 188 Delegates and senators know we will not compromise when it comes to obtaining gender justice.

While bill hearings and written testimony are important to the process, nothing is more important than the collective voices of constituents supporting or opposing proposed laws. And that is why we do our best to keep you informed of what bills are being heard, what the challenges are to getting them passed (or blocked!), and when action is needed.

Each Monday we'll be sending out alerts with everything you need to know about that week's bill hearings and when bills are up for a vote. We make it as easy as possible, providing you with a timeline, bill details, and the contact information for the legislators who need to hear from you. But you'll only get that information if you [sign up for our Legislative Alerts](#). And you'll make a difference by taking those steps to reach out – either via email or phone call – to the folks in Annapolis.

Whether you're a long-time subscriber to the legislative alerts, or a general member of the WLC contemplating making the plunge, please know that we count on you to get the word out. Every call is tallied and email read by legislative staffers. Your opinion could be the one that shifts the balance and changes a legislator's vote.

It is an honor and a privilege for us to do this work and we appreciate you following along. The next 90 days are going to be a rollercoaster and we are so glad to have you along for the ride!

Onward,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Michelle Siri".

Michelle Siri
Executive Director

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

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!

[Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault's 2023 Legislative Reception](#) - Thursday, January 19th at 6:30pm at Red Red Wine Bar, Annapolis

[Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women's 2023 Legislative Briefing -](#)
Wednesday, February 1st at 5pm on Zoom

[Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence Annual Memorial Service -](#)
Tuesday, February 21st at 4pm on Zoom

Have an event you'd like to share with us? Send us an [email!](#)

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.



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