

ANNAPOLIS EVENTS

4/10 Sine Die

BACK IN BALTIMORE

3/30 Trialogue
at Owings Mills JCC

4/23 Yom HaShoah
Commemoration at
Beth El Congregation

5/21 Trialogue at
Church on the Square

R.S.V.P. to Noah
Mitchel at
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Annapolis Update

BALTIMORE JEWISH COUNCIL

BOOST Budget Update

While the House of Delegates approved a version of the state budget last week that would significantly scale back the BOOST tuition scholarship initiative, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee took a different direction in its budget deliberations. The committee supported much of Governor Hogan's proposal to increase funding for BOOST from \$5 million to \$7 million – which would likely enable children of families attending our Jewish day schools to continue to receive this much-needed tuition scholarship assistance. Assuming the final version of the budget approved by the Senate this week continues to include the expanded BOOST dollars, then budget negotiators from the House and the Senate will need to work out their differences. We remain hopeful that lawmakers will remember the 1,400 school children who visited Annapolis earlier this month to talk about the importance of BOOST, and that they will ultimately choose to preserve the program at the reasonable level proposed by the Governor and supported by the Senate.

Earned Sick Leave

Thank you to the advocates and legislators who worked to ensure the earned sick leave bill SB230 received a veto-proof majority in the Senate. There is still some work to be done but we remain confident!

Keep the Door Open

The Keep the Door Open Act just passed unanimously out of the Maryland Senate! We have plenty of work ahead of us to get the bill through the House, but this is a huge step.

Health Care Decisions Act

HB562 - Health Care Decisions Act - Advance Directives and Surrogate Decision Making - Disqualified Individuals just passed out of the Senate. The Baltimore Jewish Council supports this bill which would protect victims of abuse, including CHANA clients, from being placed in the medical care of a spouse or family member who they have sought a separation, divorce or protective order from. Thank you to all of the legislators who supported this important bill!