

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

152ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



DSCC SUPPORTED:

HS 2 for HB 168: Short-Term Rental Tax - ENACTED

Requires short-term rental agencies to pay the same short-term rental tax paid by all hotels, motels, and tourist homes.

HB 317: Notice Involving Gift Cards - ENACTED

Requires all sellers of third-party gift cards to display a notice of potential scams involving gift cards at the point of sale or display.

HB 433: Unemployment Insurance - ENACTED

Revises the experience rating methodology for assigning unemployment assessment rates to employers under the Unemployment Insurance Code in Delaware.

SB 58: Removal of Copay Requirements for Delaware Families in Need

Provides financial support to Delaware families seeking childcare by removing copays for those earning up to 200% of the federal poverty level and reimburses Purchase of Care providers for 15 absent days per child per month.



DSCC MONITORED:

HB 333: Artificial Intelligence

Commission - ENACTED

Creates the Delaware Artificial Intelligence Commission which will be tasked with making recommendations on AI utilization and safety within the state.

HS 1 for HB 383: 340B Program - ENACTED

Prohibits discrimination against 340B drug distribution by manufacturers, third-party logistics providers, and wholesale distributors.

SS 1 for SB 22: Delaware Workforce Housing Program - ENACTED

Creates the “Delaware Workforce Housing Program,” which allows workforce housing investors to be reimbursed up to 20 percent of the costs associated with workforce housing units they create.

SS 1 for SB 245: Foreclosure Prevention Programs - ENACTED

Removes sunsets for the Office of Foreclosure Prevention and Financial Education and the Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program.

HB 103: Traffic Impacts

Creates a transportation impact fee for areas that are not currently within an approved Transportation Improvement District to help fund off-site improvements.

HB 36: Realty Transfer Tax

Decreases by 1% the rate of the realty transfer tax to be received by the State, thereby returning it to the rate that was applicable prior to August 1, 2017.

SB 59: Statewide Rate of Purchase of Care for Child Care Providers

Directs the Department of Health and Social Services to pay a statewide rate to all childcare providers that is aligned with the New Castle County rate through existing program funds.

HB 89: Standard Deduction for PIT

Increases the standard deduction for personal income tax purposes of resident individuals and spouses of Delaware for tax years beginning after December 31, 2023.

SB 246: Housing Repair and Modification Fund - ENACTED

Codifies the Delaware State Housing Authority’s Housing Repair and Modification Fund serving low-income homeowners.

SB 25: Realty Transfer Tax Exemption - ENACTED

Exempts contracts for the construction of affordable housing units from the 2% realty transfer tax imposed under 30 Del. C. § 5402(f).

SB 237: County Comprehensive Plan - ENACTED

Requires all counties and municipalities with populations over 2,000 to increase community resiliency and address the impacts of climate change in their comprehensive plans.

SB 244: County Taxes - ENACTED

Allows a county that imposes a lodging tax to spend that tax money on workforce and affordable housing programs.

SB 313: General Corporation Law - ENACTED

Creates a new subsection of the Delaware General Corporation Law that allows corporations to enter stockholder agreements without the full approval of the board of directors.

The Delaware State Chamber of Commerce is uniquely positioned to bring parties together to solve problems, create jobs, promote business, and improve the quality of life for all Delawareans.

2024



DSCC MONITORED:

SB 222: Electrician Apprenticeship Ratios

Changes current law which allows all the work being completed on a jobsite to be done by workers with an apprentice license.

HB 41: Digital Right to Repair

Requires the manufacturer of electronic products to make parts, documentation, tools, and updates available on fair and reasonable terms.



DSCC OPPOSED:

HS 2 for HB 350: Hospital Cost Review Board - ENACTED

Establishes the Diamond State Hospital Cost Review Board that will review every Delaware hospital's budget annually and could either approve or reject their budget after several steps have been exhausted.

HB 440: Housing Status Discrimination - ENACTED

Adds "housing status" as a protected characteristic in employment and professional activities.

SB 233: Service Worker Protection Act - ENACTED

Establishes employment protections for service employees during changes of ownership.

HS 1 for HB 17: Paid Sick and Safety Leave

Requires all employers to provide 1 hour of sick and safety leave for every 30 hours worked. Employers with fewer than 25 employees may offer this as unpaid, job-protected time.

HB 128: Change in PIT Brackets

Adds a new top-tier tax bracket at \$100,000 or more, at a rate of 6.9% versus the current rate of 6.6% and amends current tax brackets.

HB 220: Green Amendment

Creates an inherent and inalienable right for all Delawareans to a clean and healthy environment.

HS 1 for HB 248: Pre-Permit Outreach in Underserved Communities

Establishes a pre-permit community outreach process for any qualified project, as defined in DNREC Regulations, that wishes to apply for a permit within 3 months, in an underserved community.

HB 249: Permitting Fees

Updates certain statutory fees in Title 7 and establishes or updates certain permit and licensing fees.

HB 415: Act Relating to Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

Establishes rights for individuals experiencing homelessness and outlines a process to address complaints of discrimination, including conciliation and law enforcement referrals if needed.

HB 422: Environmental Permits in Overburdened Communities

Requires any businesses seeking permits in an overburdened community to provide an environmental justice impact report, reviewed by a new "Environmental Justice Board" that advises and makes recommendations to DNREC.

HB 455: Rent Increases in Residential Rental Agreements and Rental Unit Data Collection

Creates a 10-year program to address the lack of affordable housing in Delaware by establishing statewide limitations on the amount that rent can be increased.

SB 255: Wage Payment and Collection Act

Makes a prime general contractor jointly and severally liable for a violation of the Wage Payment and Collection Act that is committed by a subcontractor, regardless of whether the subcontractor is in a direct contractual relationship with the prime general contractor.

SS1 for SB 258: Autonomous Vehicles

Prohibits any autonomous vehicle with a gross weight of 10,001+ pounds from being operated on a Delaware highway for certain purposes without a human safety operator being physically present.

SB 263: Plastic Beverage Container Rings & Shrink Wrap

Prohibits the sale of beverages in containers connected by plastic rings, shrink wraps, or plastic tops.

SB 290: Protection of Wetlands

Institutes a State nontidal wetlands program and leaves intact the current State tidal wetlands program under Chapter 66 of Title 7.

*Unless it's denoted that the legislation was enacted, it did not complete the legislative process and will have to be reintroduced this year if the sponsor intends to work the bill.