

For Immediate Release:  
December 21, 2022

Bill Ferguson  
President of the Senate  
*Legislative District 46*  
Baltimore City



## **SENATE PRESIDENT BILL FERGUSON ANNOUNCES SHIFT IN COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP, JURISDICTION, AND MEMBERSHIP**

**ANNAPOLIS, Md.** – Today, Maryland Senate President Bill Ferguson announced Senate leadership, committee jurisdiction, and membership changes, reflecting a true representation of all Marylanders and signaling a new focus on policy priorities for the next generation.

The Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee is being restructured to tackle the State’s most contemporary and pressing challenges and will now be named the Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment (EEE).

Under this new name, EEE will handle all energy and utilities-related legislation, positioning Maryland to develop policies that reflect the constant intersection of energy and utilities policy with environment and climate change policies. Additionally, the Senate Finance Committee will have jurisdiction over all health occupations and alcoholic beverages legislation to ensure that the Senate is reviewing issues related to public health and business regulation comprehensively.

“After a historic election where voters overwhelmingly approved our legislative agenda, today’s shift in jurisdiction assignments reflects how the chairs, vice chairs, and senators will move forward,” said Senate President Bill Ferguson. “The Senate of Maryland is a thoughtful, deliberative, and responsive chamber, and all whom serve must embody that as we engage in passing new legislation in 2023.”

To help execute the new vision on comprehensive review of policy issues, Senate President Ferguson has named Sen. Melony G. Griffith, D-Prince George’s County, the chair of the Senate Finance Committee, replacing retiring Sen. Delores G. Kelley, D-Baltimore County.

“Senator Kelley has guided the Senate Finance Committee effortlessly as it navigated the COVID-19 pandemic and generational changes in labor and employment policies,” said Ferguson. “Her 28 years of dedicated service to the people of Maryland have been invaluable, and I am incredibly grateful for her leadership, friendship, and wisdom during the last 12 years.”

“I am thrilled that Senator Griffith will lead the Senate Finance Committee,” Ferguson added. “Her thoughtfulness, expertise in health policy and business affairs, and ability to build consensus will be a great asset to the committee.”

Additionally, Senate President Ferguson has named Sen. Brian J. Feldman, D-Montgomery County, the new chair of EEE, following the announcement that Sen. Paul G. Pinsky, D-Prince Georges County, will become the executive director of the Maryland Energy Administration.

“Senator Pinsky has been a longtime champion on issues of environmental stewardship and education, leading the passage of the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 and Blueprint for Maryland’s Future,” said Ferguson. “We will miss his leadership and look forward to working with him in his new capacity in the Moore-Miller Administration.”

As the new chair of EEE, Sen. Feldman will lend his expertise on energy policy to the restructured committee after serving for nearly a decade in the Senate of Maryland.

“I look forward to the steady leadership that Senator Feldman will undoubtedly bring to the newly configured EEE committee,” said Ferguson. “As the Vice Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Feldman has demonstrated the ability to lead on complex legislation and work across the aisle.”

The vice chair of the Senate Finance Committee will be Sen. Katherine Klausmeier, D-Baltimore County, and the vice chair of the Senate EEE committee will remain Sen. Cheryl Kagan, D-Montgomery County.

“As the longest serving member of the Senate of Maryland, Senator Klausmeier’s broad experience will provide great stability to the Senate Finance Committee,” said Ferguson. “Additionally, I am confident that Vice-Chair Kagan will continue to bring her passion and expertise to EEE.”

To fill the critical leadership role of Senate President Pro Tem, President Ferguson recommends Sen. Malcolm Augustine, D-Prince George’s County.

“I know Senator Augustine will bring tremendous energy and a fresh perspective to a position that impacts the policy direction and culture of the Senate of Maryland,” said Ferguson.”

Other leadership changes announced include Sen. Pam Beidle, D-Anne Arundel County, as chair of the Senate Executive Nominations Committee, Sen. Antonio Hayes, D-Baltimore City, as vice chair of Executive Nominations, and Sen. Mary Washington, D- Baltimore City, as Senate chair of the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR).

“As the new administration begins, these new chairs will serve crucial roles over the next year and beyond,” said Ferguson. “Each of these senators will bring a unique perspective and a responsive style of leadership, and each understands the importance of collaboration.”

The new Senate committee and subcommittee assignments for 2023 are listed below.

**BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE**

Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair  
Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice Chair

Senator Jack Bailey  
Senator Joanne C. Benson  
Senator Paul D. Corderman  
Senator Sarah Elfreth  
Senator Shelly Hettleman  
Senator Michael A. Jackson

Senator J.B. Jennings  
Senator Nancy J. King  
Senator Cory V. McCray  
Senator Johnny Ray Salling  
Senator Craig Zucker

*Capital Budget Subcommittee*

Senator Craig Zucker, Chair  
Senator Cory V. McCray, Vice Chair

Senator Paul D. Corderman  
Senator Sarah Elfreth  
Senator J.B. Jennings

Senator Nancy J. King  
Senator James C. Rosapepe

*Education, Business, and Administration Subcommittee*

Senator Nancy J. King, Chair

Senator Jack Bailey  
Senator Joanne C. Benson

Senator Paul D. Corderman

*Health and Human Services Subcommittee*

Senator Cory V. McCray, Chair

Senator J.B. Jennings  
Senator Shelly Hettleman

Senator Craig Zucker

*Pensions Subcommittee*

Senator Michael A. Jackson, Chair

Senator Jack Bailey  
Senator Joanne C. Benson  
Senator Sarah Elfreth

Senator Shelly Hettleman  
Senator James C. Rosapepe  
Senator Johnny Ray Salling

*Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee*

Senator Sarah K. Elfreth, Chair

Senator Michael A. Jackson  
Senator James C. Rosapepe

Senator Johnny Ray Salling

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ENERGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair

Senator Malcolm Augustine  
Senator-elect Benjamin Brooks  
Senator Mary Beth Carozza  
Senator Jason C. Gallion  
Senator Katie Fry Hester

Senator-elect Karen Lewis-Young  
Senator Bryan Simonaire  
Senator Mary Washington  
Senator Ron Watson

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Senator Melony G. Griffith, Chair  
Senator Katherine Klausmeier, Vice Chair

Senator Pamela Beidle  
Senator Arthur Ellis  
Senator-elect Dawn D. Gile  
Senator Antonio L. Hayes  
Senator Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.

Senator Benjamin F. Kramer  
Senator Clarence K. Lam  
Senator-elect Johnny Mautz  
Senator Justin Ready

**JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE**

Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair  
Senator Jeff Waldstreicher, Vice Chair

Senator Jill P. Carter  
Senator-elect William G. Folden  
Senator-elect Mary-Dulany James  
Senator Susan Lee  
Senator-elect Mike McKay

Senator-elect C. Anthony Muse  
Senator Charles H. Sydnor III  
Senator Chris West  
Senator from District 22

**RULES COMMITTEE**

Senator Joanne C. Benson, Chair  
Senator Shelly Hettleman, Vice Chair

Senator Brian J. Feldman  
Senator Bill Ferguson  
Senator Melony G. Griffith  
Senator Guy Guzzone  
Senator Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.

Senator J.B. Jennings  
Senator Nancy J. King  
Senator Katherine Klausmeier  
Senator Justin Ready  
Senator William C. Smith, Jr.

**EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS**

Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair  
Senator Antonio L. Hayes, Vice Chair

Senator Malcolm Augustine  
Senator Mary Beth Carozza  
Senator Brian J. Feldman  
Senator Bill Ferguson  
Senator Melony G. Griffith  
Senator Guy Guzzone  
Senator Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.  
Senator-elect Mary-Dulany James  
Senator Nancy J. King

Senator Clarence K. Lam  
Senator Susan C. Lee  
Senator-elect Mike McKay  
Senator Justin Ready  
Senator James C. Rosapepe  
Senator William C. Smith, Jr.  
Senator Charles Sydnor III  
Senator Craig Zucker