

# **Commission on Maryland's Fiscal Structure**

## **Detailed Meeting Schedule**

(as of December 2, 2002)

*(NOTE: Meeting dates and topics are subject to change.)*

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### **Thursday, August 8 – Organizational Meeting/Briefings**

- Review Commission goals (House Bill 1).
- Discussion of organizational items.
- Overview of Maryland's fiscal structure and general fund outlook.
- Revenue and expenditure comparisons of Maryland and selected states.

### **Thursday, September 12 – Transportation Issues**

- Presentations by the Department of Legislative Services and the Maryland Department of Transportation regarding the Transportation Trust Fund and transportation policy issues.

### **Thursday, September 26 – K-12 Education and Higher Education Issues**

- Presentations by Legislative Services and the Maryland State Department of Education on the funding of K-12 education in Maryland, the work and recommendations of the Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence, and the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act of 2002.
- Presentations by Legislative Services and the Maryland Higher Education Commission regarding the 1999 recommendations and legislation from the Task Force to Study the Governance, Coordination, and Funding of the University System of Maryland, as well as an overview of higher education in Maryland.

### **Thursday, October 10 – State Tax Policies/Tax Compliance and E-Commerce Issues**

- Presentation by Dr. Alice Rivlin of the Brookings Institution on state tax policies.
- Presentation by the Comptroller's Office on tax compliance issues.
- Presentation by the Comptroller's Office and the Maryland Retailers Association on e-commerce issues.

### **Thursday, October 24 – Budget Issues**

- Overview by Legislative Services on the formulation of the annual State operating and capital budgets, the Spending Affordability Committee process, and the Capital Debt Affordability Committee process.
- Presentation by Fitch Ratings on bond ratings.
- Presentation by the Department of Business and Economic Development on taxation from an economic development perspective.

### **Thursday, November 7 – Health Care Issues**

- Presentations by Legislative Services and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene on State health care funding and policy issues.
- Overview of Speaker Taylor's proposed health care initiative.
- Overview of the health care initiative proposed by the Maryland Citizens Health Initiative.

### **Thursday, November 14 – Overview of Maryland's Tax Structure/Budget and Commission Work Session**

- Presentation by Legislative Services on the State's major taxes and the fiscal 2004 budget outlook.
- Discussion of recommendations.

### **Thursday, November 21 – Public Testimony/Work Session**

- Public testimony from interested parties.
- Discussion of recommendations.

### **Friday, December 6 – Discussion of Draft Interim Report**

### **Tuesday, December 10 – Discussion and Approval of Final Interim Report**