

# RWL || REPORT

## **PASSING OF MARYLAND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES MICHAEL E. BUSCH**

It is with great sadness that our firm relays the news that Maryland Speaker of the House Michael E. Busch passed from us on Sunday, April 7, 2019. The 2019 legislative session was his 17<sup>th</sup> as Speaker, making him the longest serving Speaker in the history of Maryland. The outpouring of love and affection for the only Speaker many Delegates have ever known is a big part of this final day of the Legislative Session.

For us, our relationship with Speaker Busch – as a delegate, a committee chairman and as Speaker of the Maryland House – was marked by his ability to make a personal connection with everyone he met. For Speaker Busch, there was no “them,” no “other.” He made everyone from the oldest legislator to the newest member of staff feel as if they were part of the team. Even when he was on the opposite side of an issue from you, you never thought of him as an adversary. You could never be “against” him. You knew his efforts were motivated by a collective good he saw. We will miss his smile, his handshake, his open door and his ability to forge consensus in the most divided situations. We have his family in our thoughts and prayers as they face this difficult time.

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