



**LARRY HOGAN**  
GOVERNOR

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May 6, 2015

Good morning,

Happy Maryland State Employee Appreciation Day! As a state employee, you play a vital role in our efforts to serve the people of Maryland. Thank you for all that you do.

Over the course of last week, I have once again seen firsthand what state employees are capable of in the face of adversity. As I toured Baltimore City and worked with various state agencies in the days following the violence and unrest, I was continually impressed with the professionalism and genuine commitment our state employees possess. You are truly an asset to our state.

Despite the deep fiscal challenges we are facing, the budget I proposed in January put Maryland on sound financial footing without raising taxes or fees and without laying off a single state employee or implementing furloughs. In an effort to continue this support, I am proud to announce that we are releasing \$68 million from the budget that will maintain the 2 percent cost-of-living adjustment for all state employees into the next fiscal year.

Maryland's state employees are the backbone of our government. It is an honor to serve the people of Maryland alongside you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Hogan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Larry" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Hogan".

Larry Hogan  
Governor