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Article published Dec 12, 2007

## **ECONOMIC OUTLOOK: Energy, taxes expected hot topics at MEDA winter conference**

A Daily Times Staff Report

ANNAPOLIS — David W. Edgerley, secretary of the state's Department of Business and Economic Development is the luncheon speaker at the Jan. 10 winter meeting of the Maryland Economic Development Association where the re-regulation of gas and electric utilities and the sales and use tax on computer services are expected to be "hot button issues."

The meeting is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Governor Calvert House on State Circle in Annapolis and registration cost — \$65 for MEDA members and \$80 for non-members — includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

Senate President Thomas Mike Miller Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates Michael Busch, Senate Minority Leader David Brinkley and House Minority Leader Anthony O'Donnell will discuss views on the General Assembly's outlook for economic development.

Business leaders attending will discuss their economic development priorities and speakers include Donald Fry, president and chief executive officer of the Greater Baltimore Committee; Kathleen Snyder, president and chief executive officer of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce; and James Dinegar, president and chief executive officer of the Greater Washington Board of Trade.

"We're looking forward to hearing from the experts about the effects of legislation passed in this fall's special session, and their priorities for the 2008 General Assembly session," said MEDA President Timothy Troxell. "Issues like re-regulation of gas and electric utilities and the sales and use tax on computer services are expected to be hot button issues in the new year."

Annapolis Mayor Ellen O. Moyer will welcome attendees to the conference sponsored by the city's Department of Economic Affairs.

Registered participants also will be offered a tour of Annapolis at no additional cost.

To register or for more information, visit MEDA Web site at [www.medamd.com](http://www.medamd.com).

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