

## **NEWS:**

# **Governor Calls for Gun Control; Raising Cigarette Age; and Targeted Spending on Child Care, Education**

**January 18, 2019** -- Governor John Carney delivered his 2019 State of the State Address on Thursday to a joint session of the 150th General Assembly in the Senate Chamber of Legislative Hall.

Among the items proposed by the governor during his remarks were:

- Creation of a new \$10 million Transportation Infrastructure Investment Fund so the state could react quickly to important economic development projects.
- Increasing "Purchase of Care" rates to provide low-income parents with better access to quality child care.
- Creating an Opportunity Funding program to spend \$60 million over the next three years aimed at helping public schools educate low-income students, and English Language Learners (unveiled earlier this week).
- Continued support for facilitating high-speed internet access in rural Kent & Sussex counties.
- Support for a law to ban guns made using 3-D printers.
- Support for raising the age for purchasing cigarettes from 18 to 21.
- Support for creating a Budget Stabilization Fund and reforming state spending.
- Creating a program to reward state employees who conceive and implement innovative, cost-saving initiatives.
- Support for a proposed ban on "assault weapons" (specific makes and models of semi-automatic rifles, handguns, and shotguns.)
- Legislation allowing early voting, and same-day registration.



More details on the governor's policy vision will emerge next Thursday when he releases his suggested state capital and operating budgets for Fiscal Year 2020, which begins July 1st.

To read the complete State of the State, [click here](#).