

CHAPTER 34

(Senate Bill 149)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Commission for Women – Appointment of Members

FOR the purpose of altering the manner by which the members of the Maryland Commission for Women are appointed; ~~requiring the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates jointly to nominate all of the individuals to serve as members of the Commission and to submit the names of the nominees to the Governor; requiring the Governor to appoint to the Commission all of the nominees submitted by the President and the Speaker, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate; requiring the President and the Speaker jointly to nominate in a certain manner the individuals to serve as members of the Commission~~ requiring the Governor to appoint certain members of the Commission from among certain applicants with the advice and consent of the Senate; providing that certain current members of the Commission who were appointed by the Governor, the President, and the Speaker and whose terms expire in certain years may be ~~renominated and~~ reappointed to one additional consecutive term of office or replaced by new members in accordance with this Act; and generally relating to the appointment of the members of the Maryland Commission for Women.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Human Services
Section 2–403
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2007 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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Article – Human Services
Section 2–404
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SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Human Services

2–403.

[(a) The Commission consists of:

- (1) nine individuals appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate;
- (2) eight individuals appointed by the President of the Senate of Maryland; and
- (3) eight individuals appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

(b) (1) The following members shall be appointed from among applicants who have been nominated and recommended for appointment by organizations located in the State whose interests relate to the status of women:

- (i) four members appointed by the Governor;
- (ii) four members appointed by the President of the Senate of Maryland; and
- (iii) four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

(2) The following members shall be appointed from applicants applying on their own behalf:

- (i) five members appointed by the Governor;
- (ii) four members appointed by the President of the Senate of Maryland; and
- (iii) four members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates.]

~~(A) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF 25 MEMBERS.~~

~~(B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES JOINTLY SHALL NOMINATE ALL OF THE INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AND SUBMIT THE NAMES OF THE NOMINEES TO THE GOVERNOR.~~

~~(2) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT TO THE COMMISSION, SUBJECT TO THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE, ALL OF THE NOMINEES SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE SPEAKER.~~

~~(3) THE PRESIDENT AND THE SPEAKER SHALL NOMINATE INDIVIDUALS TO BE APPOINTED TO THE COMMISSION IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:~~

~~(I) 13 OF THE NOMINEES SHALL BE FROM AMONG APPLICANTS WHO HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDED BY ORGANIZATIONS LOCATED IN THE STATE WHOSE INTERESTS RELATE TO THE STATUS OF WOMEN; AND~~

~~(II) 12 OF THE NOMINEES SHALL BE FROM AMONG APPLICANTS APPLYING ON THEIR OWN BEHALF.~~

~~(e) To the extent practicable, in making [appointments] THE NOMINATIONS under this section, [the Governor,] the President of the Senate[,] and the Speaker of the House OF DELEGATES shall ensure geographic diversity among the membership of the Commission.~~

(A) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF 25 MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE.

(B) OF THE 25 MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION:

(1) 12 SHALL BE APPOINTED FROM AMONG APPLICANTS WHO HAVE BEEN NOMINATED AND RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT BY ORGANIZATIONS LOCATED IN THE STATE WHOSE INTERESTS RELATE TO THE STATUS OF WOMEN; AND

(2) 13 SHALL BE APPOINTED FROM AMONG APPLICANTS APPLYING ON THEIR OWN BEHALF.

(c) To the extent practicable, in making appointments under this section, the Governor[, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House] shall ensure geographic diversity among the membership of the Commission.

(d) (1) The term of a commissioner is 4 years.

(2) The terms of members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Commission on October 1, 2007.

(3) A commissioner may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

(4) At the end of a term, a commissioner continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(5) A commissioner who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(e) A commissioner who fails to attend at least 50% of the regularly scheduled meetings of the Commission during any 12-month period shall be considered to have resigned.

(f) Commissioners are not entitled to receive compensation for their services.

2-404.

(a) The Commission shall elect a chair and a vice chair from among its members.

(b) The Commission may appoint any officers that it considers necessary.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

~~(a)~~ the members of the Maryland Commission for Women who were appointed by the Governor, by the President of the Senate, and by the Speaker of the House, and whose terms end in 2009, 2010, and 2011, respectively, may be:

(1) ~~renominated jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House and, if so, shall be~~ reappointed by the Governor, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, to one additional consecutive term of office; or

(2) replaced with new members ~~nominated and~~ appointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 1 of this Act, ~~and~~

~~(b)~~ ~~the members of the Commission who were appointed by the President of the Senate and the members of the Commission who were appointed by the Speaker of the House, all of whose terms end in 2009, 2010, and 2011, respectively, may be:~~

~~(1)~~ ~~renominated jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House and, if so, shall be~~ reappointed by the Governor, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, to one additional consecutive term of office; or

~~(2)~~ ~~replaced with new members nominated and~~ appointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 1 of this Act.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2009.

Approved by the Governor, April 14, 2009.