

SENATE BILL 847

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CF HB 157

By: **Senators Kittleman, Brinkley, and Getty**
Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Open Meetings Act – Advance Notice of Meeting – Agenda**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a public body to include an agenda containing certain
4 information in the advance notice of a meeting held by a certain public body;
5 and generally relating to notices of meetings held by public bodies.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – State Government
8 Section 10–506
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article – State Government**

14 10–506.

15 (a) Before meeting in a closed or open session, a public body shall give
16 reasonable advance notice of the session.

17 (b) Whenever reasonable, a notice under this section shall:

18 (1) be in writing;

19 (2) include the date, time, and place of the session; [and]

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) INCLUDE AN AGENDA CONTAINING INFORMATION**
2 **SUFFICIENTLY DESCRIPTIVE TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF THE MATTERS TO BE**
3 **DISCUSSED OR DECIDED AT THE MEETING; AND**

4 **[(3)] (4)** if appropriate, include a statement that a part or all of a
5 meeting may be conducted in closed session.

6 (c) A public body may give the notice under this section as follows:

7 (1) if the public body is a unit of the State government, by publication
8 in the Maryland Register;

9 (2) by delivery to representatives of the news media who regularly
10 report on sessions of the public body or the activities of the government of which the
11 public body is a part;

12 (3) if the public body previously has given public notice that this
13 method will be used:

14 (i) by posting or depositing the notice at a convenient public
15 location at or near the place of the session; or

16 (ii) by posting the notice on an Internet website ordinarily used
17 by the public body to provide information to the public; or

18 (4) by any other reasonable method.

19 (d) A public body shall keep a copy of a notice provided under this section for
20 at least 1 year after the date of the session.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2014.