

# HOUSE BILL 157

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By: **Delegates Krebs, Bates, Elliott, W. Miller, Ready, and Stocksdale**  
Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2014  
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

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

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

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

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

### **Article – State Government**

10–506.

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

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

(1) be in writing;

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

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4) by any other reasonable method.

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

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