

HOUSE BILL 832

F1

2lr2051

By: **Delegate Ruth**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Maryland Homeschool Advisory Council – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Homeschool Advisory Council in the State
4 Department of Education to gather information on the needs of homeschool parents
5 and homeschool umbrella schools and advise the State Superintendent of Schools,
6 the State Board of Education, the General Assembly, and the Governor on matters
7 relating to homeschooling; and generally relating to the Maryland Homeschool
8 Advisory Council.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Education

11 Section 9.11–101 through 9.11–104 to be under the new title “Title 9.11.
12 Homeschools”

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **TITLE 9.11. HOMESCHOOLS.**

19 **9.11–101.**

20 **IN THIS TITLE, “COUNCIL” MEANS THE MARYLAND HOMESCHOOL ADVISORY**
21 **COUNCIL.**

22 **9.11–102.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) THERE IS A MARYLAND HOMESCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL IN THE**
2 **DEPARTMENT.**

3 **(B) (1) THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

4 **(I) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT, OR THE STATE**
5 **SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

6 **(II) THE SECRETARY OF THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION**
7 **COMMISSION, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;**

8 **(III) TWO INDIVIDUALS EMPLOYED AS HOMESCHOOL LIAISONS**
9 **THROUGH A LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY, APPOINTED BY THE STATE**
10 **SUPERINTENDENT OR THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

11 **(IV) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER**
12 **OF THE HOUSE:**

13 **1. ONE INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYED BY A HOMESCHOOL**
14 **UMBRELLA SCHOOL REGISTERED WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S DIVISION OF**
15 **EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION AND PROGRAM APPROVAL; AND**

16 **2. ONE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A VETERAN HOMESCHOOL**
17 **PARENT WHO HAS SUCCESSFULLY EDUCATED AT LEAST ONE CHILD TO THE**
18 **COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL;**

19 **(V) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT**
20 **OF THE SENATE:**

21 **1. ONE MEMBER EMPLOYED BY A HOMESCHOOL**
22 **UMBRELLA SCHOOL THAT IS REGISTERED WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S DIVISION OF**
23 **EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION AND PROGRAM APPROVAL; AND**

24 **2. ONE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A VETERAN HOMESCHOOL**
25 **PARENT WHO HAS SUCCESSFULLY EDUCATED AT LEAST ONE CHILD TO THE**
26 **COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL; AND**

27 **(VI) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
28 **FOLLOWING MEMBERS, SELECTED BY THE COUNCIL:**

29 **1. ONE INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF**
30 **GIFTED CHILDREN WHO HAS DIRECT EXPERIENCE HOMESCHOOLING AT LEAST ONE**
31 **OF THEIR OWN GIFTED CHILDREN;**

1 2. ONE INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF
2 SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS WHO HAS DIRECT EXPERIENCE HOMESCHOOLING
3 AT LEAST ONE OF THEIR OWN SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN;

4 3. ONE INDIVIDUAL FROM BALTIMORE CITY,
5 BALTIMORE COUNTY OR HARFORD COUNTY;

6 4. ONE INDIVIDUAL FROM CARROLL COUNTY,
7 FREDERICK COUNTY, WASHINGTON COUNTY, ALLEGANY COUNTY, OR GARRETT
8 COUNTY;

9 5. ONE INDIVIDUAL FROM HOWARD COUNTY OR
10 MONTGOMERY COUNTY;

11 6. ONE INDIVIDUAL FROM PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY,
12 CHARLES COUNTY, OR ST. MARY'S COUNTY;

13 7. ONE INDIVIDUAL FROM ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY OR
14 CALVERT COUNTY; AND

15 8. ONE INDIVIDUAL FROM CECIL COUNTY, KENT
16 COUNTY, QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, CAROLINE COUNTY, TALBOT COUNTY,
17 DORCHESTER COUNTY, WICOMICO COUNTY, SOMERSET COUNTY, OR WORCESTER
18 COUNTY.

19 (2) THE MEMBERS SELECTED BY THE COUNCIL UNDER PARAGRAPH
20 (1)(VI) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL:

21 (I) 1. FOR THE FIRST TERM THAT THE COUNCIL IS
22 OPERATING, BE SELECTED BY THE COUNCIL MEMBERS SPECIFIED UNDER
23 PARAGRAPH (1)(I) THROUGH (V) OF THIS SUBSECTION; AND

24 2. FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT TERM THAT THE COUNCIL IS
25 OPERATING, BE SELECTED BY THE FULL MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL; AND

26 (II) BE PARENTS WHO HAVE LEGALLY HOMESCHOOLED A CHILD
27 FOR AT LEAST 4 YEARS.

28 (3) EACH MEMBER SHALL:

29 (I) BE A RESIDENT OF THE STATE;

1 **(II) BE AN INDIVIDUAL OF ABILITY AND INTEGRITY WHO IS**
2 **EXPERIENCED IN HOMESCHOOLING;**

3 **(III) REPRESENT THE DIVERSITY OF HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES**
4 **THAT EXIST THROUGHOUT THE STATE, INCLUDING DIVERSITY OF HOMESCHOOL**
5 **PHILOSOPHY, AGE, RELIGION, RACE, ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AND**
6 **GENDER IDENTITY; AND**

7 **(IV) REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE CITIZENS OF THE**
8 **STATE IN PROMOTING HOMESCHOOLING AS A TRUSTED, PARENT-DIRECTED,**
9 **QUALITY SCHOOL CHOICE.**

10 **(C) (1) (I) THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 3 YEARS.**

11 **(II) A MEMBER MAY NOT SERVE MORE THAN TWO CONSECUTIVE**
12 **TERMS.**

13 **(2) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL**
14 **A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED OR SELECTED AND QUALIFIES.**

15 **(3) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES**
16 **ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED OR**
17 **SELECTED AND QUALIFIES.**

18 **(D) A MEMBER:**

19 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**
20 **COUNCIL; BUT**

21 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
22 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

23 **9.11-103.**

24 **(A) EACH YEAR, THE COUNCIL SHALL ELECT A CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**
25 **FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS.**

26 **(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COUNCIL.**

27 **9.11-104.**

28 **THE COUNCIL SHALL:**

1 **(1) MEET AT LEAST FOUR TIMES EACH YEAR AT A TIME AND PLACE**
2 **DESIGNATED BY THE CHAIR;**

3 **(2) GATHER INFORMATION ON THE NEEDS OF HOMESCHOOL**
4 **PARENTS AND HOMESCHOOL UMBRELLA SCHOOLS IN THE STATE; AND**

5 **(3) ADVISE THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT, THE STATE BOARD, THE**
6 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND THE GOVERNOR ON MATTERS RELATING TO**
7 **HOMESCHOOLING.**

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
9 1, 2022.