
By: Senators Hafer, Currie, Middlebrooks, Lawlah, Trotter, Teitelbaum, Della, Stone, Hogan, Colburn, Craig, and Hughes

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 1996

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 20, 1996

CHAPTER ____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland School for the Blind - Board of Directors**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a State Board of Directors of the Maryland School for
4 the Blind; specifying the status and composition of the Board and the terms of the
5 members of the Board; providing for the powers and duties of the Board; defining
6 a certain term; and generally relating to the establishment of a State Board of
7 Directors of the Maryland School for the Blind requiring the Board of Directors of
8 the Maryland School for the Blind to include certain persons; and requiring the
9 Board to comply with the State's Open Meetings Act.

10 BY adding to

11 ~~Article 41— Governor— Executive and Administrative Departments~~
12 ~~Section 18-310~~
13 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
14 ~~(1993 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)~~
15 Article - Education
16 Section 8-313
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

20 Article - State Government
21 Section 10-502(h)(2)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (1995 Replacement Volume)

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

3 ~~Article 41—Governor—Executive and Administrative Departments~~

4 ~~18-310.~~

5 (A) ~~IN THIS SECTION, "BOARD" MEANS THE STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF~~
6 ~~THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.~~

7 (B) ~~THERE IS A STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MARYLAND SCHOOL~~
8 ~~FOR THE BLIND.~~

9 (C) ~~THE BOARD IS AN INDEPENDENT UNIT IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF~~
10 ~~THE STATE GOVERNMENT.~~

11 (D) ~~(1) THE BOARD IS COMPOSED OF SEVEN MEMBERS.~~

12 ~~(2) OF THE SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:~~

13 ~~(I) ONE MEMBER SHALL BE APPOINTED FROM THE SENATE OF~~
14 ~~MARYLAND BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;~~

15 ~~(II) ONE MEMBER SHALL BE APPOINTED FROM THE MARYLAND~~
16 ~~HOUSE OF DELEGATES BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;~~

17 ~~(III) ONE MEMBER SHALL BE APPOINTED FROM THE STATE BOARD~~
18 ~~OF EDUCATION BY THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION;~~

19 ~~(IV) ONE MEMBER SHALL BE APPOINTED FROM THE FINANCE~~
20 ~~OFFICE OF THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE~~
21 ~~SCHOOL; AND~~

22 ~~(V) THREE MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR~~
23 ~~WITH THE CONSENT OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND.~~

24 ~~(3) OF THE THREE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD APPOINTED BY THE~~
25 ~~GOVERNOR:~~

26 ~~(I) ONE SHALL BE A PARENT OF A STUDENT AT THE MARYLAND~~
27 ~~SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND; AND~~

28 ~~(II) TWO SHALL BE BLIND PERSONS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC~~
29 ~~APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM A LIST OF NOMINEES PROVIDED BY THE~~
30 ~~NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF MARYLAND.~~

31 (E) ~~BEFORE TAKING OFFICE, EACH APPOINTEE TO THE BOARD SHALL TAKE~~
32 ~~THE OATH REQUIRED BY ARTICLE I, § 9 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION.~~

33 (F) ~~(1) THE TERM OF EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD IS 2 YEARS.~~

34 ~~(2) THE TERMS OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ARE STAGGERED AS~~
35 ~~REQUIRED BY THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS ON OCTOBER 1, 1996.~~

1 ~~(3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL A~~
2 ~~SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED.~~

3 ~~(4) AT THE END OF THE TERM OF A MEMBER OR ON THE RESIGNATION~~
4 ~~OR REMOVAL OF A MEMBER, THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY FOR THAT MEMBER~~
5 ~~SHALL APPOINT A NEW MEMBER TO THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH~~
6 ~~SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION.~~

7 ~~(5) THE GOVERNOR MAY REMOVE A MEMBER FOR INCOMPETENCE,~~
8 ~~MISCONDUCT, OR FAILURE TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF THE POSITION.~~

9 ~~(G) FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS, THE BOARD SHALL SELECT A CHAIRMAN.~~

10 ~~(H) (1) FOUR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ARE A QUORUM.~~

11 ~~(2) THE BOARD SHALL DETERMINE THE TIMES AND PLACES OF ITS~~
12 ~~MEETINGS.~~

13 ~~(3) A MEMBER OF THE BOARD:~~

14 ~~(i) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION; BUT~~

15 ~~(ii) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE~~
16 ~~STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.~~

17 ~~(I) THE BOARD SHALL:~~

18 ~~(1) DEVELOP AND APPROVE THE BUDGET REQUEST THAT THE~~
19 ~~MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND SUBMITS ANNUALLY TO THE SECRETARY OF~~
20 ~~EDUCATION; AND~~

21 ~~(2) ADMINISTER AND OVERSEE THE USE OF THE FUNDS PROVIDED IN~~
22 ~~ANNUAL STATE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.~~

23 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial~~
24 ~~members of the Board of Directors of the Maryland School for the Blind appointed by the~~
25 ~~Governor under Article 41, § 18-310(d)(3), as added by Section 1 of this Act, are as~~
26 ~~follows:~~

27 ~~(1) the member of the Board of Directors who is a parent of a student at the~~
28 ~~Maryland School for the Blind shall serve a term of one year; and~~

29 ~~(2) one of the two blind persons from the general public who is appointed~~
30 ~~from a list of nominees provided by the National Federation of the Blind of Maryland~~
31 ~~shall serve a term of one year.~~

32 Article - Education

33 8-313.

34 (A) THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
35 SHALL INCLUDE:

36 (1) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED FROM THE SENATE OF MARYLAND BY
37 THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE; AND

4

1 (2) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED FROM THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF
2 DELEGATES BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

3 (B) THE BOARD SHALL COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 10,
4 SUBTITLE 5 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

5 **Article - State Government**

6 10-502.

7 (h) (2) "Public body" includes:

8 (I) any multimember board, commission, or committee appointed by
9 the Governor or the chief executive authority of a political subdivision of the State, if the
10 entity includes in its membership at least 2 individuals not employed by the State or a
11 political subdivision of the State; AND

12 (II) THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR
13 THE BLIND.

14 SECTION ~~3~~. 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 1996.