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**By: Delegate Dypski**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 1997

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Service Commission - Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the membership and residency requirements of the Public  
4 Service Commission; providing for the implementation of certain requirements of  
5 this Act; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to the Public Service  
6 Commission.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law  
9 Section 5 and 6  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

14 **Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law**

15 5.

16 (A) The Commission consists of [five] SEVEN commissioners, EACH  
17 REPRESENTING AND RESIDING IN A DIFFERENT COMMISSION DISTRICT OF THE  
18 STATE.

19 (B) THE COMMISSIONERS SHALL BE appointed by the Governor with the advice  
20 and consent of the Senate[, one of whom shall be the Chairman].

21 (C) The Commission shall be broadly representative of the public interest, and  
22 shall be composed of persons with diverse training or experience.

23 (D) COMMISSION DISTRICTS SHALL HAVE THE SAME BOUNDARIES AS THE  
24 APPELLATE JUDICIAL CIRCUITS OF THE STATE.

25 (E) Each commissioner upon taking office shall be a resident and registered voter  
26 of Maryland AND OF ANY COMMISSION DISTRICT WHICH THE COMMISSIONER  
27 REPRESENTS [and], shall remain such during [his] THE COMMISSIONER'S term of  
28 office[. Each commissioner], AND shall serve full time.

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1 (F) The office of Chairman shall be filled initially, at the expiration of each term,  
2 and upon an earlier vacancy in the office by a person nominated as such by the Governor  
3 and confirmed by the Senate.

4 (G) Commissioners are eligible for reappointment.

5 6.

6 (A) The term of each commissioner is 5 years and shall begin on the expiration of  
7 [his] THE predecessor's term.

8 (B) A commissioner, including the Chairman, shall continue in office after [his]  
9 THE COMMISSIONER'S term expires until [his] THE successor has qualified, but without  
10 lengthening [his] THE successor's term.

11 (C) Vacancies shall be filled by the Governor for any unexpired term in  
12 accordance with the requirements of § 5 OF THIS ARTICLE.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the commission district  
14 and residency requirements enacted by Art. 78, § 5 of the Code as enacted by this Act  
15 shall be implemented according to the expiration of the terms of the Public Service  
16 Commissioners in office on the effective date of this Act.

17 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 1997.