
By: Senator Colburn

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Local Central Committees - Vacancies in Office of County Commissioner - Selection**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a local central committee in certain counties to include in
4 the local central committee's constitution and bylaws certain requirements for the
5 selection of individuals to fill certain vacancies in the office of county commissioner;
6 and generally relating to the selection of individuals to fill certain vacancies by local
7 central committees.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article 33 - Election Code
10 Section 11-1A
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

15 **Article 33 - Election Code**

16 11-1A.

17 (a) For any party required to select nominees at a primary election, the central
18 committee for each county or Baltimore City shall adopt a permanent constitution and
19 bylaws.

20 (b) (1) The constitution and bylaws for local central committees shall provide
21 for such matters as in its opinion shall be necessary for the proper conduct of party
22 affairs, and shall specifically provide for the election of a chairman; for the manner of
23 calling all meetings and for advance notification thereof; for rules governing the conduct
24 of all meetings, including the attendance required for a quorum; and for the manner and
25 method of amending the constitution and bylaws.

26 (2) IN A COUNTY THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 25,
27 § 16 OF THE CODE, THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS FOR THE LOCAL CENTRAL
28 COMMITTEES SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE FILLING OF A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF
29 COUNTY COMMISSIONER BY REQUIRING THAT:

2

1 (I) THE LOCAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE GIVE PUBLIC NOTICE OF
2 THE VACANCY AND OF ITS INTENTION TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FROM
3 INDIVIDUALS SEEKING NOMINATION TO THE VACANT OFFICE, INCLUDING THE
4 CRITERIA AND PROCEDURE FOR FILLING THE VACANCY;

5 (II) THE LOCAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE CONDUCT A PUBLIC
6 INTERVIEW OF EACH CANDIDATE WHO HAS APPLIED FOR THE VACANCY; AND

7 (III) THE LOCAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE GIVE ADVANCE PUBLIC
8 NOTICE OF THE INTERVIEW AND HOLD THE INTERVIEW IN A PUBLIC PLACE.

9 (c) Within 30 days of the adoption thereof a copy of the constitution and bylaws
10 shall be filed with and maintained by the State Administrative Board of Election Laws
11 and the party's State central committee. Such constitution and bylaws shall be adopted
12 not later than six months after the statewide general election following the first statewide
13 primary election in which the local central committee members are to become members
14 of the central committee of the State. If a constitution and bylaws is not adopted and filed
15 within the prescribed time, then the party State central committee shall prescribe a
16 constitution, until such time as it again complies with these requirements. Any
17 amendments to the constitution and bylaws shall be filed with the State Administrative
18 Board of Election Laws and the party's State central committee within 30 days after
19 adoption. The State Administrative Board of Election Laws and the party's State central
20 committee shall also be notified of the names and addresses of the persons elected as
21 officers and as members of the governing body of the political party.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 October 1, 1997.