

HOUSE BILL 974

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L2

1998 Regular Session  
8lr2236  
CF 8lr1758

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By: **Delegates Guns, Rudolph, W. Baker, and Walkup**  
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998  
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County - Board of County Commissioners**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the membership of the Board of County  
4 Commissioners for Cecil County from three to five members; establishing a  
5 Commissioner District Committee to recommend commissioner districts for the  
6 Board of County Commissioners for Cecil County; submitting this Act to a  
7 referendum of the legally qualified voters of Cecil County; providing for the  
8 effective date of this Act; providing for the application of this Act; and generally  
9 relating to the Board of County Commissioners for Cecil County.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 The Public Local Laws of Cecil County  
12 Section 15-1 and 15-2  
13 Article 8 - Public Local Laws of Maryland  
14 (1989 Edition and June 1997 Supplement, as amended)

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

17 **Article 8 - Cecil County**

18 15-1.

19 There shall be [three (3)] FIVE (5) County Commissioners for Cecil County.

20 15-2.

21 The Board of County Commissioners of Cecil County shall be elected by the  
22 voters of the county at large and hold office in accordance with the following  
23 provisions:

24 A. (1) The county shall be divided into [three (3)] FIVE (5) Commissioner  
25 Districts.

26 [(1) The First, Second, and Third Election Districts shall constitute the  
27 First Commissioner District;

1           (2)     The Fourth, Fifth, and Ninth Election Districts shall constitute the  
2 Second Commissioner District; and

3           (3)     The Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Election Districts shall constitute the  
4 Third Commissioner District.]

5           (2)     FOLLOWING THE DECENNIAL CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES IN  
6 2000, THERE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED A COMMISSIONER DISTRICT COMMITTEE TO  
7 ISSUE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE BOUNDARIES OF FIVE COMMISSIONER  
8 DISTRICTS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

9           (3)     THE COMMISSIONER DISTRICT COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF  
10 SEVEN (7) MEMBERS, WITH THREE (3) MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY  
11 DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE, THREE (3) MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE  
12 COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE, AND ONE (1) MEMBER WHO SHALL BE  
13 APPOINTED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ELECTIONS.

14          (4)     THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSIONER DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
15 SHALL ELECT ONE OF THE MEMBERS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSIONER  
16 DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

17          (5)     BY DECEMBER 31, 2001, THE COMMISSIONER DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
18 SHALL ISSUE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE  
19 BOUNDARIES OF FIVE COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS THAT ARE OF SUBSTANTIALLY  
20 EQUAL POPULATION BASED ON THE 2000 CENSUS DATA.

21     B.       One (1) Commissioner shall be elected from each Commissioner District.

22     C.       A person may not be eligible as a candidate for County Commissioner  
23 unless he is a resident of the Commissioner District at the time of nomination and  
24 election.

25     SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That before this Act becomes  
26 legally effective it shall first be submitted to a referendum of the legally qualified  
27 voters of Cecil County at the general election to be held in November of 1998. The cost  
28 of the special election, if any, shall be paid by the County governing body. The County  
29 governing body and the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Cecil County shall do  
30 those things necessary and proper to provide for and hold the referendum required by  
31 this section. If a majority of the votes cast on the question are "For the referred law"  
32 the provisions of this Act shall become effective on the 30th day following the official  
33 canvass of votes for the referendum, but if a majority of the votes cast on the question  
34 are "Against the referred law" the provisions of this Act are of no effect and null and  
35 void.

36     SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of this Act  
37 establishing five County Commissioners for Cecil County shall take effect for the  
38 term of office following the 2002 election of the Board of County Commissioners for  
39 Cecil County.

1 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions  
2 of Sections 2 and 3 of this Act and for the sole purpose of providing for the referendum  
3 required by Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 1998.