

SENATE BILL 557

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L2

1998 Regular Session
8r1758
CF 8r2236

By: **Senators Baker and Fry**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 1998

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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.