

SENATE BILL 718

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1999 Regular Session
9lr2436

By: **Senators Baker and Hooper**

Introduced and read first time: February 22, 1999

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County - Board of County Commissioners - Staggered Terms of Office**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the at-large election of a certain number of County
4 Commissioners for Cecil County at a certain time; providing that a certain
5 candidate who is a resident of a certain Commissioner District and who receives
6 a certain amount of votes in a certain election shall be elected; providing for the
7 terms of office of certain County Commissioners; making this Act contingent on
8 the passage and ratification of a certain Constitutional Amendment; providing
9 for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to the election of the
10 Board of County Commissioners for Cecil County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 The Public Local Laws of Cecil County
13 Section 15-1
14 Article 8 - Public Local Laws of Maryland
15 (1989 Edition and January 1999 Supplement, as amended)
16 (As enacted by Chapter 33 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 The Public Local Laws of Cecil County
19 Section 15-2
20 Article 8 - Public Local Laws of Maryland
21 (1989 Edition and January 1999 Supplement, as amended)
22 (As enacted by Chapter 33 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998)

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

25 **Article 8 - Cecil County**

26 15-1.

27 There shall be five (5) County Commissioners for Cecil County.

1 15-2.

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

5 A. (1) The county shall be divided into five (5) Commissioner Districts.

6 (2) Following the decennial census of the United States in 2000, there
7 shall be established a Commissioner District Committee to issue recommendations on
8 the boundaries of five Commissioner Districts to the General Assembly.

9 (3) The Commissioner District Committee shall consist of seven (7)
10 members, with three (3) members appointed by the County Democratic Central
11 Committee, three (3) members appointed by the County Republican Central
12 Committee, and one (1) member who shall be appointed by the County Board of
13 Supervisors of Elections.

14 (4) The members of the Commissioner District Committee shall elect one
15 of the members as Chairman of the Commissioner District Committee.

16 (5) By December 31, 2001, the Commissioner District Committee shall
17 issue recommendations to the General Assembly on the boundaries of five
18 Commissioner Districts that are of substantially equal population based on the 2000
19 census data.

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

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

24 D. (1) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPHS (2) THROUGH (5) OF
25 THIS SUBSECTION, FIVE (5) COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL BE ELECTED AT-LARGE
26 IN THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN NOVEMBER, 2002.

27 (2) IN AN AT-LARGE ELECTION FOR A SPECIFIC COUNTY
28 COMMISSIONER POSITION AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, THE CANDIDATE WHO IS A
29 RESIDENT OF THAT COMMISSIONER DISTRICT AND WHO RECEIVES THE HIGHEST
30 NUMBER OF VOTES IN THE AT-LARGE ELECTION SHALL BE ELECTED.

31 (3) TWO (2) COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ELECTED AT-LARGE IN THE
32 GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN NOVEMBER 2002, AND WHO RESIDE IN
33 COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS 1 AND 2, SHALL EACH HOLD OFFICE FOR A TERM OF TWO
34 YEARS.

35 (4) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONER POSITIONS UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF
36 THIS SECTION SHALL BE ELECTED AT-LARGE IN THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE
37 HELD IN NOVEMBER 2004 SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (2) OF

1 THIS SUBSECTION, AND SHALL EACH HOLD OFFICE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS AND
2 SHALL BE ELECTED EVERY SUCCESSIVE FOUR YEARS THEREAFTER.

3 (5) THREE (3) COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ELECTED AT-LARGE IN THE
4 GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN NOVEMBER 2002, AND WHO RESIDE IN
5 COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS 3, 4, AND 5, SHALL EACH HOLD OFFICE FOR A TERM OF
6 FOUR YEARS AND SHALL BE ELECTED EVERY SUCCESSIVE FOUR YEARS
7 THEREAFTER.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is contingent on
9 the passage of Chapter ____ (S.B. 510) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1999, a
10 Constitutional Amendment, and its ratification by the voters of the State.

11 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions
12 of Section 2 above, this Act shall take effect on the date of certification of the election
13 results on the question of ratification of the Constitutional Amendment by the voters
14 of the State.