

SENATE BILL 531

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2000 Regular Session
01r2005

By: **Senator Green**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2000

Assigned to: Select Committee No. 7

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County - Straw Poll - Education, Water and Sewer, and Park**
3 **and Planning Issues**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that certain questions be placed on the ballot in Prince
5 George's County at the November general election of 2000 to determine the
6 sense of the voters of the County on certain issues concerning education, water
7 and sewer, and park and planning issues in the County; providing for the
8 carrying out of the straw poll; and generally relating to the holding of a straw
9 ballot in Prince George's County.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That, under the provisions of Article 33 - Election Code of the
12 Annotated Code of Maryland, the Prince George's County Board of Elections, in
13 consultation with the State Board of Elections, shall prepare and include on the ballot
14 for the November general election of 2000 the following questions:

15 "Revenues for Schools and Police Services

16 Do you favor amending the Tax Reform Initiative by Marylanders (TRIM) in §
17 817B of the Prince George's County Charter and mandating new revenues for
18 improving schools and police services?"

19 "Education Department

20 Do you favor changing the governing of public education in Prince George's
21 County from the current elected Board of Education to the establishment of an
22 Education Department within Prince George's County government similar to every
23 other department of County government?"

24 "Appointment to the School Board

25 Do you favor changing the method of selection of the members of the Prince
26 George's County School Board from the election by the voters of Prince George's
27 County to appointment by the Prince George's County Executive with the approval of
28 the Prince George's County Council?"

1 "Appointment of the Superintendent of Schools

2 Do you favor changing the method of selection of the Superintendent of Schools
3 of Prince George's County from the election by the voters of Prince George's County to
4 appointment by the Prince George's County Executive with the approval of the Prince
5 George's County Council?"

6 "Authority of the School Board to Raise Revenues

7 Do you favor granting the Prince George's County School Board limited
8 authority to raise revenues for school renovations and new construction?"

9 "Parks and Recreation Department

10 Do you favor terminating the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning
11 Commission created by State law in 1927 and establishing a Parks and Recreation
12 Department and a Planning Department in Prince George's County similar to 21
13 other counties in the State?"

14 "Regulation of Water and Sewer Services

15 Do you favor changing the regulation of water and sewer services in Prince
16 George's County by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, an agency
17 created by State law in 1918, to the regulation of water and sewer services by the
18 State similar to the provision of electrical, natural gas, and telephone services?"

19 "Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

20 Do you favor terminating the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, an
21 agency created by State law in 1918?"

22 "Assets of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

23 Do you favor selling the assets of the Washington Suburban Sanitary
24 Commission to a private corporation so that providing water and sewer services in
25 Montgomery and Prince George's County is a private function, not a government
26 function?"

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Prince George's
28 County Board of Elections and the Prince George's County Council shall do those
29 things necessary and proper to place each question on the ballot prepared for the
30 November general election of 2000, so that each participating voter in the County
31 may have the opportunity to cast a vote on each question. Each question shall be
32 proposed, presented, tallied, and reported in general accordance with the provisions of
33 Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The vote on each question is advisory
34 only.

35 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
36 July 1, 2000.

