

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1211

(Washington County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Washington County - Museum of Fine Arts - Board of Trustees

This bill decreases the term of office for the Board of Trustees of the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts from five to three years. The bill also: (1) limits the number of consecutive terms that a trustee can serve to two terms; (2) provides that a trustee serving the remainder of a term due to a vacancy may serve one additional term; (3) provides that a trustee may not serve on the board for one year after the last day of the trustee's second consecutive term; (4) provides that an ex officio trustee shall serve as long as the trustee holds the elected office that qualified the trustee for service on the board; (5) changes the qualification to serve as an honorary member of the board from being a former trustee to a person recognized for exceptional service to the board; and (6) authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to appoint someone to serve in their place on the board.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The Washington County Board of Trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts is a private organization.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Trustees on the Board of Trustees of the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts serve five-year terms. The board consists of 15 trustees and the board is authorized to appoint up to six additional trustees. Former trustees may serve as

honorary trustees. There are no provisions of law that: (1) limit the number of consecutive terms; (2) govern a trustee serving a second term when serving the remainder of an original term when filling a vacancy on the board; (3) prohibit a trustee from not serving on the board for one year after the last day of the trustee's consecutive term; (4) govern an ex officio's membership; and (5) authorize the Superintendent of Schools to designate someone to serve in their place on the board.

Background: The Washington County Museum of Fine Arts was incorporated in 1929, is located in Hagerstown, attracts traveling art exhibitions, and houses a permanent collection of American paintings, Old Masters and European works, and Asian and African art. The museum has earned the accreditation of the American Association of Museums, one of only three museums in Maryland to receive that honor, which is extended to fewer than 10% of American museums. The Board of Trustees of the museum currently has 16 members.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Washington County, Department of Legislative Services

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