

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2003 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 317

(Garrett County Delegation, Allegany County Delegation,  
and Washington County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Tri-County Council for Western Maryland - Membership**

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This bill alters the qualifications of the voting members of the General Assembly on the Tri-County Council for Western Maryland. The bill replaces the five voting members of the General Assembly who are residents of Allegany, Garrett, or Washington counties with the chairmen, or the chairmen's designees, of the Allegany, Garrett, Washington county delegations from the House of Delegates and the two members of the Senate of Maryland who represent the region and reside in Allegany, Garrett, or Washington counties. The bill also repeals the restriction that the terms of office of nonvoting members are at the discretion of the members of the General Assembly who reside in Allegany, Garrett, or Washington counties.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** None. Altering the qualifications for voting members of the General Assembly on the Tri-County Council for Western Maryland and the terms of office of the nonvoting members of the council would not affect Allegany, Garrett, or Washington counties' finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

**Current Law:** The Tri-County Council for Western Maryland consists of 27 members, of whom 23 are voting members and 4 are nonvoting members. The 23 voting members of the council are: (1) nine representatives from the Allegany, Garrett, and Washington county governments, three from each county; (2) three municipal elected officials, one from each county; (3) five members of the General Assembly; and (4) six private citizens, two from each county. Nonvoting members of the council have their terms set at the discretion of members of the General Assembly who reside in Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties.

**Background:** Chapter 861 of 1986 created the Tri-County Council for Western Maryland. The Tri-County Council for Western Maryland consists of Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties. The mission of the council is to further the economic, cultural, social, and physical growth in the region by promoting area awareness and action and diversifying the economy.

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### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 19, 2003  
ncs/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - March 17, 2003

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Analysis by: Christopher J. Kelter

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510