

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1730 (Montgomery County Delegation)
Ways and Means

**Election Law - Montgomery County Democratic Party Central Committee -
Membership**

This bill alters the composition of the Montgomery County Democratic and Republican Party central committees and increases the membership of the Democratic Party Central Committee from 23 to 24.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect Montgomery County finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The membership of the Democratic Party Central Committee is increased from 23 to 24 members and the composition of the committee is altered so that 3 members are elected from each of the eight legislative districts (established under the 2002 Legislative Districting Plan) in Montgomery County.

The composition of the Republican Party Central Committee is altered so that of the current 19 members, 2 are elected from each of the eight legislative districts in Montgomery County, and the remaining members are elected at large.

Current Law: The Republican Party Central Committee consists of 19 members and the Democratic Party Central Committee consists of 23. For each of the two committees:

- two members are elected from each of the legislative districts that lie wholly within Montgomery County (under the 1992 Legislative Districting Plan, eight legislative districts laid wholly within the county and one laid partially within the county);
- one member is elected from the part of each legislative district that is partially within the county; and
- remaining members are elected at large.

A vacancy in a seat held initially by a member elected from a legislative district must be filled by a resident of that district.

In general, an individual elected to a county central committee must reside in that county and may not continue to serve on the committee if the individual ceases to reside in the county. Similarly, an individual elected to represent a specific legislative district may not continue to serve on the committee if the individual ceases to reside in the legislative district. A vacancy must be filled by an individual who resides in the county and in the case of a vacancy by a member elected to represent a specific legislative district, by an individual who resides in the legislative district.

Background: Congressional and State Legislative Districts are redrawn following each decennial Census of the United States. Maryland's 2002 Legislative Districting Plan is that ordered by the Maryland Court of Appeals on June 21, 2002, and as amended July 1, 2002. Montgomery County residents reside in and make up the entire population of eight legislative districts under the 2002 plan.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County, Maryland State Board of Elections, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 21, 2006
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