

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1392
Ways and Means

(Harford County Delegation)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

**Harford County - Permanent Nominating Commission - School Board
Nominating Convention**

This bill establishes a Permanent Nominating Commission for the Harford County Board of Education, and requires the Governor to appoint members to fill vacancies on the county board only from the list of nominees provided by the nominating commission.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2007.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: It is assumed that Harford County could hold the required public meetings with existing budgeted resources. The bill does not provide for compensation for members of the nominating commission.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The Permanent Nominating Commission has 15 members, with 1 each appointed by:

- the Harford County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations;
- the Harford County Education Association;
- the Harford Business Roundtable for Education;

- the Harford County Chamber of Commerce;
- the Harford County Farm Bureau;
- the Harford County NAACP;
- the Harford County Regional Association of Student Councils;
- the Friends of Harford;
- the Harford County Parks and Recreation Council of Presidents; and
- each of the six Harford County Council members, who must appoint a parent of a Harford County public school student who resides in the councilmanic district represented by the member.

The commission must adopt a charter and rules consistent with requirements in the bill.

Beginning July 1, 2008, the commission must submit a list of nominees to the Governor for each vacancy that occurs on the county board. The list has to include at least three nominees or the total number of nominees if there are fewer than three candidates. The commission must sponsor at least one public meeting to allow the nominees to respond to questions from the public. If the Governor rejects all of the nominees submitted by the commissioners, the commissioners may submit a second list of three nominees from which the Governor must choose. The Governor may not reject all of the nominees on the second list.

If legislation is enacted requiring that some members of the Harford County Board of Education be elected directly and some be appointed by the Governor, the provisions of this bill apply only to the appointed members.

Current Law: The Harford County Board of Education has seven voting members appointed by the Governor and one nonvoting student member. Voting members serve five-year terms, and the Governor fills any vacancies that occur on the board.

Background: The Harford County Board of Education is one of seven appointed school boards in the State, of which one (Queen Anne's County) is in the process of transitioning to an elected board. Another 17 local boards of education are elected by county voters. The selection method and number of school board members for each of the 24 local boards are shown in **Exhibit 1**.

Exhibit 1
Local Boards of Education
Members and Selection Methods

<u>County</u>	<u>Full Voting Members</u>	<u>Appointed Members</u>	<u>Elected Members From County At Large</u>	<u>Elected Members From Districts</u>	<u>Student Member(s)</u>
Allegany	5	0	5	0	1
Anne Arundel	7	7	0	0	1
Baltimore City*	9	9	0	0	1
Baltimore	11	11	0	0	1
Calvert	5	0	2	3	1
Caroline	5	5	0	0	0
Carroll	5	0	5	0	1
Cecil	5	0	0	5	1
Charles	7	0	7	0	1
Dorchester	5	0	0	5	2
Frederick	7	0	7	0	0
Garrett	5	0	2	3	1
Harford	7	7	0	0	1
Howard	7	0	7	0	0
Kent	5	0	5	0	0
Montgomery	7	0	2	5	1
Prince George's	9	0	4	5	1
Queen Anne's**	5	5	0	0	0
St. Mary's	5	0	1	4	1
Somerset	5	0	0	5	0
Talbot	7	0	0	7	1
Washington	7	0	7	0	0
Wicomico	7	7	0	0	0
Worcester	7	0	0	7	3

*The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners is appointed jointly by the Governor and mayor.
**The Queen Anne's County board will begin transitioning to an elected board at the 2008 general election.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 22, 2007
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