# HOUSE BILL 1041 

By: Prince George's County Delegation

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2008
Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

## Prince George's County - Board of Education

PG 401-08
FOR the purpose of repealing certain provisions of law relating to the composition of certain school board districts in Prince George's County; requiring the elected members of the Prince George's County Board of Education to be elected from certain school board districts; providing for the boundaries of certain school board districts; requiring candidates for the County Board to live in certain school board districts and be registered voters; providing for the terms of the elected members of the County Board; requiring a certain vacancy on the County Board to be filled by a special election if the vacancy occurs within a certain time period; requiring that a certain vacancy on the County Board remain unfilled under certain circumstances; requiring the Prince George's County Council to adopt a certain resolution concerning a special election for the County Board; requiring a special election for the County Board to be conducted at a certain time and in a certain manner under certain provisions of law; requiring that a special election for the County Board be funded by Prince George's County; clarifying that a school board member removed from office is entitled to judicial review of the removal based on a certain record and certain other evidence; repealing certain provisions of law relating to public meetings and executive sessions of the County Board; requiring a certain vote of the County Board to pass a motion of the County Board when there are two or more vacancies on the County Board; repealing a certain provision of law relating to the composition of a committee of the County Board; repealing certain provisions of law relating to the Chief Financial Officer of the county public school system; making stylistic changes; providing for the effective dates of this Act; and generally relating to the Prince George's County Board of Education.

BY repealing
Article - Education

Section 3-1001 and 3-1008
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)
BY adding to
Article - Education
Section 3-1001
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)
BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Education
Section 3-1002 through 3-1004 and 3-1006
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)
SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

## Article - Education

[3-1001.
(a) The descriptions of school board districts in this section are to the election district and precinct boundaries as reviewed and certified by the Prince George's County Board of Elections or their designees before they were reported to the United States Bureau of the Census as part of the 2000 Census Redistricting Data Program and as those election district and precinct lines are specifically shown on the Public Law 94-171 census block maps provided by the United States Bureau of the Census.
(b) School board district I consists of:
(1) Election district 1;
(2) Election district 10;
(3) Election district 14, precincts 2, 7, and 8;
(4) Election district 20, precincts $1,2,3,5,6,7$, and 9 through 11 ;
(5) Election district 21, precincts 3, 4, 6 through $11,13,14$, and 16 ; and
(6) That part of election district 14, precinct 9 that consists of the following census tracts and blocks:
(i) Census tract 8004.01, blocks 1000 through 1003; and
(ii) Census tract 8004.06, blocks 1000 through 1002, 1011, 1012, 1020 through 1028, 1999 through 2003, 2006 through $2010,2017,2023$ through 2027, 2041 through 2048, 3000 through $3014,3017,3018$, and 3068.
(c) School board district II consists of:
(1) Election district 2, precincts 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10;
(2) Election district 16;
(3) Election district 17;
(4) Election district 19; and
(5) Election district 21, precincts 1, 2, 5, 12, 15, and 17.
(d) School board district III consists of:
(1) Election district 2, precincts 4 and 9;
(2) Election district 6, precincts 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 19 through 23;
(3) Election district 13 , precincts $1,2,3,7,8,9,10,14,16$, and 17 ;
(4) Election district 15, precinct 2;
(5) Election district 18; and
(6) Election district 20, precincts 3, 4, and 8 .
(e) School board district IV consists of:
(1) Election district 5, precincts 2 through 7;
(2) Election district 6 , precincts $2,7,8,9,12,13,14,17$, and 18 ;
(3) Election district 9, precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, and 11; and
(4) Election district 12 .
(f) School board district V consists of:
(1) Election district 3;
(2) Election district 4;
(3) Election district 5, precincts 1 and 8;
(4) Election district 7;
(5) Election district 8;
(6) Election district 9, precincts 6, 8, and 9;
(7) Election district 11;
(8) Election district 13 , precincts $4,5,6,11,12,13$, and 15 ;
(9) Election district 14, precincts 1, 3 through 6, and 10;
(10) Election district 15; and
(11) That part of election district 14, precinct 9 that consists of census tract 8004.06, blocks 2004, 2005, 2011 through 2016, 2018 through 2022, 2028 through 2040, 3015, 3016, 3019 through 3025, 3029 through 3035,3054 through 3065 , and 3069.]

3-1001.
(A) THE DESCRIPTIONS OF SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICTS IN THIS SECTION ARE TO THE ELECTION DISTRICT AND PRECINCT BOUNDARIES AS REVIEWED and certified by the Prince George's County Board of Elections or ITS DESIGNEES AS THEY WERE ESTABLISHED ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2002, AND AS THOSE ELECTION DISTRICT AND PRECINCT LINES ARE SPECIFICALLY SHOWN ON THE PUBLIC LAW 94-171 CENSUS BLOCK MAPS PROVIDED BY THE UNITED States Bureau of the Census.
(B) SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT I CONSISTS OF:
(1) ELECTION DISTRICT 1;
(2) ELECTION DISTRICT 10;
(3) ELECTION DISTRICT 14, PRECINCT 9; AND
(4) ELECTION DISTRICT 21, PRECINCTS 4, 5, 14, 15, 97, AND 99.
(C) SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT II CONSISTS OF:
(1) ELECTION DISTRICT 14, PRECINCTS 2 AND 8;
(2) ELECTION DISTRICT 16, PRECINCT 1;
(3) ELECTION DISTRICT 19, PRECINCTS 1 THROUGH 3;
(4) ElECTION DISTRICT 20, PRECINCTS 1, 5, 6, AND 10; AND
(5) Election district 21, PRECINCTS 1, 2, 3, 6 THROUGH 13, 16, 17, AND 98.
(D) SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT III CONSISTS OF:
(1) ELECTION DISTRICT 16, PRECINCTS 2 THROUGH 4; AND
(2) ELECTION DISTRICT 17.
(E) SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT IV CONSISTS OF:
(1) Election district 2;
(2) ElECTION DISTRICT 13, PRECINCTS 1 THROUGH 3, 8, AND 17;
(3) ElECTION DISTRICT 14, PRECINCT 7;
(4) Election district 16, PRECINCT 99;
(5) Election district 18, precincts 5 and 12;
(6) ELECTION DISTRICT 19, PRECINCT 4; AND
(7) ElECTION DISTRICT 20, PRECINCTS 2, 4, 7 THROUGH 9, AND 11.
(F) SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT V CONSISTS OF:
(1) Election district 3;
(2) ELECTION DISTRICT 7;
(3) ELECTION DISTRICT 14, PRECINCTS 1, 3 THROUGH 6, AND 10; AND
(4) ELECTION DISTRICT 15, PRECINCT 5.
(G) SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT VI CONSISTS OF:
(1) ELECTION DISTRICT 6, PRECINCTS 19 AND 20;
(2) Election district 13, PRECINCTS 4 through 7 and 9 THROUGH 16;
(3) Election district 18, precincts 1 through 4 and 6 THROUGH 11; AND
(4) ELECTION DISTRICT 20, PRECINCT 3.
(H) SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT VII CONSISTS OF:
(1) Election district 6, PRECINCTS 1, 3 THROUGH 7, 9 THROUGH 12, 15 THROUGH 18, AND 21 THROUGH 23;
(2) Election district 9, precinct 3; and
(3) Election district 15, precinct 2.
(I) SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT VIII CONSISTS OF:
(1) ElECTION DISTRICT 12;
(2) Election district 5, precinct 6;
(3) ELECTION DISTRICT 6, PRECINCTS 2, 8, 13, AND 14; AND
(4) ELECTION DISTRICT 9, PRECINCTS 2 AND 5.
(J) SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT IX CONSISTS OF:
(1) ELECTION DISTRICT 4;
(2) Election district 8;
(3) ELECTION DISTRICT 11;
(4) Election district 5, precincts 1 through 5 and 7 THROUGH 11;
(5) Election district 9, precincts 1, 4, AND 6 THROUGH 11; AND
(6) ELECTION DISTRICT 15, PRECINCTS 1, 3, AND 4.
(a) In this subtitle, "elected member" means [one of the nine elected members] A MEMBER of the Prince George's County Board [or a member appointed to fill a vacancy of one of these nine members] ELECTED FROM ONE OF THE NINE SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICTS DESCRIBED IN § 3-1001 OF THIS SUBTITLE.
(b) The Prince George's County Board consists of 10 members as follows:
(1) [Five] NINE elected members, each of whom resides in a different school board district; AND
[(2) Four elected members who may reside anywhere in the county; and
(3)](2) One student member selected under subsection (f)(2) of this section.
(c) (1) [A candidate for the County Board shall be a resident of Prince George's County for at least 3 years and a registered voter of the county before the election] ONE MEMBER OF THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL BE ELECTED FROM EACH OF THE NINE SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICTS DESCRIBED IN § 3-1001 OF THIS SUBTITLE.
(2) From the time of filing as a candidate for election, each candidate [for a position on the County Board representing a school board district shall reside in the school board district the candidate seeks to represent] SHALL BE A REGISTERED VOTER OF THE COUNTY AND A RESIDENT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT THE CANDIDATE SEEKS TO REPRESENT.
(3) An elected County Board member shall forfeit the office if the member:
(i) [In the case of a member elected to represent a school board district, fails] FAILS to reside in the school board district from which the member was elected, unless this change is caused by a change in the boundaries of the district; or
(ii) Fails to be a registered voter of the county.
(4) A County Board member may not hold another office of profit in county government during the member's term.
(5) Each elected member of the County Board [for a position representing a school board district] shall be nominated by the registered voters of the member's school board district.
(d) [Members of the Prince George's County Board shall be elected:
(1) At the general election every 4 years as required by subsection (g) of this section; and
(2) By the registered voters of the entire county.]

THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL BE ELECTED:
(1) AT THE GENERAL ELECTION EVERY 4 YEARS AS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION; AND
(2) BY THE VOTERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT THAT EACH MEMBER REPRESENTS.
(e) (1) If a candidate for the County Board dies or withdraws the candidacy during the period beginning with the date of the primary and ending 70 days before the date of the general election, the Board of [Supervisors of] Elections shall:
(i) Replace the name of the deceased or withdrawn candidate on the ballot for the general election with the name of the candidate who received the next highest number of votes in the primary election; or
(ii) If a contested primary was not held, reopen the filing process to allow other persons to file as candidates.
(2) (i) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Board of [Supervisors of] Elections shall add to the ballot for the general election the name of any person who files as a candidate in accordance with paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection.
(ii) The Board of [Supervisors of] Elections may not add additional candidates to the ballot for the general election within 70 days before the date of the election.
(f) (1) The student member shall be an eleventh or twelfth grade student in the Prince George's County public school system during the student's term in office.
(2) An eligible student shall file a nomination form at least 2 weeks before a special election meeting of the Prince George's Regional Association of Student Governments. Nomination forms shall be made available in the administrative offices of all public senior high schools in the county, the office of student concerns, and the office of the president of the regional association. The delegates to the regional association annually shall elect the student member to the Board at a special election meeting to be held each school year.
(3) The student member may vote on all matters before the Board except those relating to:
(i) Capital and operating budgets;
(ii) School closings, reopenings, and boundaries;
(iii) Collective bargaining decisions;
(iv) Student disciplinary matters;
(v) Teacher and administrator disciplinary matters as provided under § 6-202(a) of this article; and
(vi) Other personnel matters.
(4) On an affirmative vote of a majority of the elected members of the County Board, the Board may determine if a matter before the Board relates to a subject that the student member may not vote on under paragraph (3) of this subsection.
(5) Unless invited to attend by an affirmative vote of a majority $\mathbf{O F}$ THE ELECTED MEMBERS of the County Board, the student member may not attend an executive session that relates to hearings on appeals of special education placements, hearings held under § 6-202(a) of this article, or collective bargaining.
(6) The Prince George's Regional Association of Student Governments may establish procedures for the election of the student member of the County Board.
(7) The election procedures established by the Prince George's Regional Association of Student Governments are subject to the approval of the elected members of the County Board.
(g) (1) [An] ExCEPt as PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN elected member serves for a term of 4 years beginning on the first Monday in December after the member's election and until the member's successor is elected and qualifies.
(2) THE TERMS OF THE ELECTED MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS FOLLOWS:
(I) The five elected members who received the LOWEST PERCENTAGE OF VOTES, AS DETERMINED BY THE FINAL VOTE COUNT of the 2010 General Election as certified by the Board of ELECTIONS, SHALL SERVE FOR A TERM OF 2 YEARS; AND
(II) THE OTHER FOUR MEMBERS ELECTED IN THE 2010 GENERAL ELECTION SHALL SERVE FOR A TERM OF 4 YEARS.
[(2)] (3) The student member serves for a term of 1 year beginning at the end of a school year.
[(3) Subject to the confirmation of the County Council, the County Executive of Prince George's County shall appoint a qualified individual to fill any vacancy on the County Board until a successor is elected and qualifies at the next congressional election.]
(4) (I) 1. A SEAT ON THE COUNTY BOARD HELD BY AN ELECTED MEMBER THAT BECOMES VACANT MORE THAN 180 DAYS BEFORE THE END OF THAT MEMBER'S TERM OF OFFICE SHALL BE FILLED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM AT A SPECIAL ELECTION.
2. A SEAT ON THE COUNTY BOARD HELD BY AN ELECTED MEMBER THAT BECOMES VACANT 180 DAYS OR LESS BEFORE THE END OF THAT MEMBER'S TERM OF OFFICE SHALL REMAIN VACANT UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS ELECTED AND QUALIFIES.
(II) 1. A. NO LATER THAN 7 DAYS AFTER THE OCCURRENCE OF A VACANCY ON THE COUNTY BOARD THAT MUST BE FILLED AT A SPECIAL ELECTION, THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL ADOPT A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THAT A SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION AND SPECIAL GENERAL ELECTION BE HELD IN THE SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT WHERE THE VACANCY OCCURS.
B. The County Council shall consult with the Board of Elections before adopting the resolution.
2. SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION SHALL SPECIFY:
A. The date by which a certificate of CANDIDACY MUST BE FILED WITH THE BOARD OF Elections;
B. THE DATE OF THE SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION; AND
C. The date of the special general election.
3. NO LATER THAN 7 DAYS AFTER THE ADOPTION OF the County Council resolution, the Board of Elections shall

PUBLISH THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE RESOLUTION ONCE IN AT LEAST ONE NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION.
(III) 1. A CANDIDATE SHALL FILE A CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY WITH THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS NO LATER THAN 28 DAYS BEFORE A SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION IN ORDER TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT.
2. THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS ARE SUBJECT TO SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 3 OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH:
A. A SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION SHALL BE HELD ON A TUESDAY AT LEAST 45 DAYS BUT NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS AFTER THE OCCURRENCE OF A VACANCY.
B. A SPECIAL GENERAL ELECTION SHALL BE HELD ON A TUESDAY AT LEAST 60 DAYS BUT NO LATER THAN 90 DAYS AFTER THE OCCURRENCE OF A VACANCY.
3. A SPECIAL ELECTION MAY NOT BE HELD LESS THAN 30 DAYS BEFORE A REGULARLY SCHEDULED ELECTION.
4. ON THE DAY OF A SPECIAL ELECTION, POLLING PLACES SHALL BE OPEN FROM 7 A.M. TO 8 P.M.
(IV) 1. NO LATER THAN 10 DAYS BEFORE A SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION AND SPECIAL GENERAL ELECTION, THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SHALL MAIL A SPECIMEN BALLOT TO THE HOUSEHOLD OF EACH REGISTERED VOTER IN THE SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT WHERE THE VACANCY OCCURS.
2. THE SPECIMEN BALLOT SHALL INCLUDE THE NAMES OF THE CANDIDATES IN THE ORDER AND FORM IN WHICH THEY ARE TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT, TOGETHER WITH A STATEMENT, NOT TO EXCEED 500 WORDS, PROVIDED BY EACH CANDIDATE.
(v) 1. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SHALL FUND A SPECIAL ELECTION HELD UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH.
2. THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SHALL SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET TO COVER THE COST OF A SPECIAL ELECTION NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS AFTER THE ELECTION.
(VI) A SPECIAL ELECTION UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL be governed by Title 8, Subtitle 8 of the Election Law Article and ALL OTHER RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBTITLE OR WHERE SUCH CONSTRUCTION WOULD BE UNREASONABLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

## Article - Education

3-1002.
(h) (1) With the approval of the Governor, the State Board may remove a member of the County Board for any of the following reasons:
(i) Immorality;
(ii) Misconduct in office;
(iii) Incompetency; or
(iv) Willful neglect of duty.
(2) Before removing a member, the State Board shall send the member a copy of the charges pending and give the member an opportunity within 10 days to request a hearing.
(3) If the member requests a hearing within the 10-day period:
(i) The State Board promptly shall hold a hearing, but a hearing may not be set within 10 days after the State Board sends the member a notice of the hearing; and
(ii) The member shall have an opportunity to be heard publicly before the State Board in the member's own defense, in person or by counsel.
(4) A member removed under this subsection has the right to [a de novo] JUDICIAL review of the removal by the Circuit Court for Prince George's County BASED ON AN ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD AND SUCH ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE AS WOULD BE AUTHORIZED BY § 10-222(F) AND (G) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT Article.
(i) While serving on the County Board, a member may not be a candidate for a public office other than a position on the County Board.

3-1003.
(a) From and after December 4, 2006, at the beginning of each member's full term, the [chairman] CHAIR of the County Board is entitled to receive $\$ 19,000$ annually as compensation and the other elected members are each entitled to receive $\$ 18,000$ annually as compensation.
(b) (1) After submitting vouchers under the rules and regulations adopted by the County Board, the [chairman] CHAIR and the other members, including the student member, are entitled to the allowances for travel and other expenses provided in the Prince George's County budget.
(2) A member of the County Board may not be reimbursed more than $\$ 7,000$ in travel and other expenses incurred in a single fiscal year.

3-1004.
(a) The County Board shall hold an annual meeting on the first Monday in December to elect a [chairman] CHAIR and vice [chairman] CHAIR from among its members.
(b) [All actions of the County Board shall be taken at a public meeting and a record of the meeting and all actions shall be made public.
(c) This section does not prohibit the County Board from meeting and deliberating in executive session provided that all action of the County Board, together with the individual vote of each member, is contained in a public record.
(d)] (1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the affirmative vote of the members of the County Board for the passage of a motion by the County Board shall be:
(i) Six members when the student member is voting; or
(ii) Five members when the student member is not voting.
(2) [When there is one vacancy or more than one vacancy on the County Board, the affirmative vote of the members of the County Board for the passage of a motion by the Board shall be five members.] WHEN THERE ARE TWO OR MORE VACANCIES ON THE COUNTY BOARD, THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD FOR THE PASSAGE OF A MOTION BY THE BOARD SHALL BE:

## (I) FIVE MEMBERS WHEN THE STUDENT MEMBER IS

VOTING; OR

## (II) FOUR MEMBERS WHEN THE STUDENT MEMBER IS NOT

## VOTING.

3-1006.
[(a)] In addition to the powers otherwise granted to the County Board in this article, the County Board or a designated committee of the County Board may hear an appeal from a decision of the County Superintendent that relates to the grade, transfer, tuition, or any aspect of participation in a program or activity of a specific student who is not subject to the provisions of Title 8, Subtitle 4 of this article.
[(b) A designated committee shall consist of at least 5 members of the Board and at least 5 members of a designated committee shall be present to constitute a quorum of the committee.]
[3-1008.
(a) There is a Chief Financial Officer in the Prince George's County public school system who shall:
(1) Be responsible for the day-to-day management and oversight of the fiscal affairs of the Prince George's County public school system; and
(2) Report directly to the County Superintendent.
(b) The County Superintendent shall, subject to the approval of the County Board:
(1) Select the Chief Financial Officer; and
(2) Establish the salary of the Chief Financial Officer.
(c) The employment contract of the Chief Financial Officer shall provide that continued employment is contingent on the effective fiscal management of the Prince George's County public schools.
(d) The Chief Financial Officer is not a public officer under the Constitution or the laws of the State.]

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

