

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly  
2010 Session

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

House Bill 1244

(Delegate Sossi, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Municipal Corporations - Planning Commissions - Meetings**

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This bill specifies that, under Article 66B (Land Use), a planning commission appointed by a municipal corporation must hold meetings quarterly or more often as the planning commission's duties require. If there is no business before the planning commission, the chairman may cancel the quarterly meeting.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Municipalities may realize cost savings to the extent planning commission meetings are held less frequently. Any savings are presumed to be relatively minimal.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Under provisions of Article 66B, which generally apply to local jurisdictions other than charter counties and Baltimore City, a planning commission is required to hold at least one regular meeting each month.

**Background:** Planning commissions established pursuant to Article 66B consist of three, five, or seven members that serve staggered, five-year terms. The Maryland Department of Planning describes a planning commission as "an appointed body that advises the municipal or county governing body on all matters relating to the planning of growth and development, including the comprehensive plan, zoning, subdivision and other issues."

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of Planning, cities of Frederick and Havre de Grace, Maryland Municipal League, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 9, 2010  
mpc/lgc Revised - House Third Reader - March 30, 2010

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