

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1476 (Prince George's County Delegation and Montgomery County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Prince George's County - Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission - Commissioners
PG/MC 119-10

This bill alters the terms of office for the commissioners of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) appointed from Prince George's County by requiring that the terms start February 1 rather than June 15. The bill also provides for the (1) designation of the chairman and vice-chairman; (2) termination of specified commissioners appointed from Prince George's County; and (3) term of the chair of the Prince George's County Planning Board to coincide with that individual's term as commissioner. In addition, the bill specifies that the provisions of law regarding conflicts of interest to M-NCPPC apply to commissioners appointed from Prince George's County.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2010.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Altering the terms of office for commission members will not affect Prince George's County finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Members of M-NCPPC serve four-year, staggered terms. Terms of office for members begin on June 15 of the year in which the appointment was made.

Appointments of members of M-NCPPC must be made on or before June 15 of the year in which an appointment is made. Provisions of law regarding conflicts of interest apply only to M-NCPPC commissioners appointed from Montgomery County.

Background: M-NCPPC was established in 1927 and has jurisdiction over parks and land use planning in most of Montgomery and Prince George's counties. The commission is governed by Article 28 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

The commission prepares and administers a general plan for the physical development of the Maryland-Washington Regional District, an area that encompasses almost all of Montgomery and Prince George's counties. In addition, the commission is charged with acquiring and maintaining a system of parks within the metropolitan district in the two counties. The commission also operates a recreation system for Prince George's County. The commission is funded primarily through various property taxes authorized under Article 28 of the Annotated Code of Maryland and imposed by Montgomery and Prince George's counties. In addition, enterprise fund operations are supported by various service fees and charges.

M-NCPPC has 10 members with 5 members each from Montgomery and Prince George's counties, each with four-year terms.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 865 of 2003 was heard and amended by the House Environmental Matters Committee and was passed by the both the House and Senate. The bill was vetoed by the Governor for policy reasons.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 16, 2010
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