

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2011 Special Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 3 (Prince George's County Senators)  
Reapportionment and Redistricting Committee Rules and Executive Nominations

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**Prince George's County School Board - Redistricting**

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This emergency bill redistricts the nine Prince George's County Board of Education districts from which nine school board members are elected.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The Prince George's County Board of Elections can make adjustments to board of education districts with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Each of the nine elected members of the Prince George's County Board of Education is elected from one of nine school board districts. Each candidate must be a registered voter and a resident of the school board district he or she represents. Board members are elected by the registered voters of each school board district and serve four-year terms, except that the five members with the lowest vote total in the 2010 general election serve two-year terms.

**Background:** The Prince George's County Board of Education is 1 of 18 elected school boards in Maryland, and 1 of 4 school boards for which some or all board members are elected from local school board districts. There are five appointed school boards in the State, including one (Caroline County) that is in the process of transitioning to a hybrid board of appointed and elected members. Harford County has such a hybrid board. 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**

School System	Number of Members	Term	Means of Selection <sup>1</sup>
Allegheny	7	4 years	E 5 from county at large 1 commissioner <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Anne Arundel	9	5 years	A 3 from county at large 5 from legislative districts 1 student (one-year term)
Baltimore City	10	3 years	A 9 from city at large 1 student (one-year term)
Baltimore	12	5 years	A 4 from county at large 7 from council districts 1 student (one-year term)
Calvert	6	4 years	E 2 from county at large 3 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Caroline <sup>2</sup>	7	4 years	A/E 3 elected from school board districts 2 appointed from county at large 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
Carroll	9	4 years	E 5 from county at large 3 commissioners <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Cecil	6	4 years	E 5 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Charles	8	4 years	E 7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Dorchester	7	4 years	E 5 from council districts 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
Frederick	8	4 years	E 7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one year term)
Garrett	7	4 years	E 2 from county at large 3 from commissioner districts 1 commissioner <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)

School System	Number of Members	Term		Means of Selection <sup>1</sup>
Harford	11	4 years	A/E	6 elected from council districts 3 appointed 1 superintendent <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Howard	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (one-year term)
Kent	6	4 years	E	5 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Montgomery	8	4 years	E	2 from county at large 5 from school board districts 1 student (one-year term)
Prince George's	10	4 years	E	9 from school board districts 1 student (one-year term)
Queen Anne's	7	4 years	E	1 from county at large 4 from commissioner districts 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
St. Mary's	6	4 years	E	1 from county at large 4 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Somerset	5	4 years	E	All from commissioner districts
Talbot	8	4 years	E	7 from school board districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Washington	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Wicomico	7	5 years	A	All from county at large
Worcester	10	4 years	E	7 from commissioner districts 3 students (nonvoting, one-year term)

<sup>1</sup>A = Appointed by Governor, except in Baltimore City where board is appointed jointly by the Governor and the Mayor. E = Elected. A/E = Combined appointed and elected board.

<sup>2</sup>Voters in Caroline County decided at the 2010 general election to change from an appointed board to a combination appointed and elected board beginning with the November 2012 general election. The terms of the five current appointed members will expire December 2, 2012.

Source: Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, Sections 3-101 through 3-1405; local board of education websites

## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 3 (Prince George's County Delegation) - Rules and Executive Nominations.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - October 18, 2011  
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