

# SENATE BILL 85

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By: **Senators Jennings and Getty**

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2012

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Baltimore County Republican Party Central Committee –**  
3 **Election of Chairman**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Chairman of the Baltimore County Republican Party  
5 Central Committee to be elected by the members of the central committee from  
6 among its members and in accordance with its bylaws instead of being elected  
7 at large; altering the number of members of the central committee; and  
8 generally relating to the election of the Chairman of the Baltimore County  
9 Republican Party Central Committee.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Election Law  
12 Section 4–202 and 4–203(c)  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Election Law**

18 4–202.

19 (a) (1) A principal political party shall elect the members of the county  
20 central committee at a primary election.

21 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section or § 4–203 of this  
22 subtitle, the central committee for a county shall consist of the number of members  
23 determined by the party's constitution.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the party  
2 central committee for each county shall select the chairman of that county's party  
3 central committee.

4 (2) In Baltimore County, the Chairman of the Republican Party  
5 Central Committee shall be elected [at large] **BY THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL**  
6 **COMMITTEE FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS**  
7 **BYLAWS.**

8 (c) (1) An individual elected to serve as a member of a party central  
9 committee shall be a resident of the county in which that central committee is located.

10 (2) (i) An individual elected from a county who ceases to reside in  
11 that county shall be considered to have resigned and may not continue to serve on the  
12 central committee.

13 (ii) An individual elected from a specific legislative district who  
14 ceases to reside in that district shall be considered to have resigned and may not  
15 continue to serve on the central committee.

16 (d) (1) (i) An individual selected to fill a vacancy in a party central  
17 committee shall be a resident of the county in which that central committee is located.

18 (ii) An individual selected to fill a vacancy of a member elected  
19 from a specific legislative district in a party central committee shall be a resident of  
20 that legislative district.

21 (2) Upon relinquishing residency in the county or legislative district in  
22 which a member of a party central committee was selected to fill a vacancy, the  
23 member shall be considered to have resigned.

24 (e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a vacancy in  
25 the party central committee for a county, or for a legislative district of Baltimore City,  
26 Anne Arundel County, or Baltimore County, shall be filled by the remaining members  
27 of the committee elected from that county or legislative district.

28 (2) If a political party does not have county central committees or  
29 central committees for legislative districts, vacancies shall be filled in accordance with  
30 party rules.

31 (f) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the tenure  
32 in office of a member of the central committee of any political party shall:

33 (i) begin at the time the results of that election are certified;  
34 and

1 (ii) continue to the extent of any extension in time between  
2 primary elections by reason of any change in the date of holding primary elections by a  
3 political party in the State.

4 (2) The tenure in office of a member of the Republican Party Central  
5 Committee shall begin on the 14th day following the gubernatorial general election.

6 (3) For purposes of this subsection, upon relinquishing residency in  
7 the county, a member of a party central committee shall be considered to have  
8 resigned.

9 4–203.

10 (c) (1) ~~Except as provided in paragraph (2)(ii) of this subsection, in~~ **IN**  
11 Baltimore County, ~~members of the party central committees may not run at large.~~

12 (2) ~~The~~ **THE** Republican Party Central Committee shall consist of~~:~~

13 (i) four members elected from each councilmanic district in the  
14 county~~;~~ and

15 (ii) a chairman elected from the county at large~~].~~

16 ~~[(3)]~~ **(2)** For the Baltimore County Democratic Party Central  
17 Committee:

18 (i) twenty–five members, five from each district, shall be  
19 elected from legislative districts 6, 8, 10, 11, and 42, each district being located wholly  
20 within Baltimore County;

21 (ii) two members shall be elected from that part of legislative  
22 district 5 that is located in Baltimore County;

23 (iii) four members shall be elected from that part of legislative  
24 district 7 that is located in Baltimore County; and

25 (iv) four members shall be elected from that part of legislative  
26 district 12 that is located in Baltimore County.

27 ~~[(4)]~~ **(3)** Only individuals affiliated with the Democratic Party and  
28 who are registered to vote in Baltimore County may vote for the election of members to  
29 the Baltimore County Democratic Party Central Committee under this section.

30 ~~[(5)]~~ **(4)** The number of Democratic Party Central Committee  
31 members to be elected from each legislative district, or portion of legislative district, in  
32 Baltimore County shall be determined upon completion of each legislative districting.

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2   October 1, 2012.