

HOUSE BILL 1513

G1, L2

EMERGENCY BILL

4lr3351

By: **Harford County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 28, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harford County Republican Central Committee – Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the Harford County Republican Party
4 Central Committee; providing that certain members of the House of Delegates
5 who represent Harford County are ex officio members of the Harford County
6 Republican Party Central Committee; providing that the members of the House
7 of Delegates on the Harford County Republican Party Central Committee may
8 vote on certain matters but may not vote on certain other matters; prohibiting a
9 member of the Harford County Republican Party Central Committee from
10 holding any other elected office in the county; making this Act an emergency
11 measure; and generally relating to the Harford County Republican Party
12 Central Committee.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – Election Law
15 Section 4–202(a)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – Election Law
20 Section 4–203
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

25 **Article – Election Law**

26 4–202.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

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

6 4–203.

7 (a) In Anne Arundel County, the members of the Democratic and Republican
8 Party Central Committees for the county shall be elected as follows:

9 (1) three members shall be elected from each legislative district wholly
10 contained within Anne Arundel County; and

11 (2) one member shall be elected from that portion within Anne
12 Arundel County of any legislative district that is partially contained within Anne
13 Arundel County.

14 (b) (1) (i) In Baltimore City, the Democratic Party Central Committee
15 consists of seven members elected from each of the six legislative districts of Baltimore
16 City.

17 (ii) Each member shall reside in, and be elected by the voters of,
18 the legislative district that the member represents.

19 (2) (i) The members of the Republican Party Central Committee
20 shall be elected from each councilmanic district of Baltimore City.

21 (ii) Two members shall be elected from each councilmanic
22 district.

23 (c) (1) In Baltimore County, the Republican Party Central Committee
24 shall consist of four members elected from each councilmanic district in the county.

25 (2) For the Baltimore County Democratic Party Central Committee:

26 (i) twenty members, five from each district, shall be elected
27 from legislative districts 6, 8, 10, and 11, each district being located wholly within
28 Baltimore County;

29 (ii) four members shall be elected from legislative district 44B
30 that is located wholly in Baltimore County;

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

1 (iv) four members shall be elected from that part of legislative
2 district 12 that is located in Baltimore County; and

3 (v) five members, of which two members shall be from delegate
4 district 42A and three members shall be from delegate district 42B, shall be elected
5 from legislative district 42 that is located wholly in Baltimore County.

6 (3) Only individuals affiliated with the Democratic Party and who are
7 registered to vote in Baltimore County may vote for the election of members to the
8 Baltimore County Democratic Party Central Committee under this section.

9 (4) The number of Democratic Party Central Committee members to
10 be elected from each legislative district, or portion of legislative district, in Baltimore
11 County shall be determined upon completion of each legislative districting.

12 (d) In Calvert County, the Democratic Party Central Committee consists of
13 nine members elected by the voters of the county at large as follows:

14 (1) two members who reside in the first election district and receive
15 the largest number of votes cast for candidates from that district;

16 (2) two members who reside in the second election district and receive
17 the largest number of votes cast for candidates from that district;

18 (3) two members who reside in the third election district and receive
19 the largest number of votes cast for candidates from that district; and

20 (4) three members who reside in Calvert County and who receive the
21 highest number of votes cast in Calvert County for the remaining candidates.

22 (e) In Carroll County, the Republican Party Central Committee shall consist
23 of nine members elected at large.

24 **(F) (1) IN HARFORD COUNTY, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY CENTRAL**
25 **COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF:**

26 **(I) THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS DETERMINED BY THE**
27 **PARTY'S CONSTITUTION AND ELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 4-202 OF THIS**
28 **SUBTITLE; AND**

29 **(II) AS EX OFFICIO MEMBERS, EACH REPUBLICAN PARTY**
30 **MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES ELECTED FROM A LEGISLATIVE**
31 **DISTRICT THAT IS LOCATED IN WHOLE OR IN PART IN HARFORD COUNTY.**

1 **(2) A REPUBLICAN PARTY MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF**
2 **DELEGATES WHO SERVES ON THE HARFORD COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**
3 **CENTRAL COMMITTEE:**

4 **(I) MAY VOTE TO FILL A VACANCY ON THE CENTRAL**
5 **COMMITTEE OR ON THE REMOVAL OF A MEMBER FROM THE CENTRAL**
6 **COMMITTEE; BUT**

7 **(II) MAY NOT VOTE ON ANY OTHER MATTER BEFORE THE**
8 **CENTRAL COMMITTEE.**

9 **(3) EXCEPT FOR A REPUBLICAN PARTY MEMBER OF THE HOUSE**
10 **OF DELEGATES ELECTED FROM A LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT THAT IS LOCATED IN**
11 **WHOLE OR IN PART IN HARFORD COUNTY, A MEMBER OF THE REPUBLICAN**
12 **PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE MAY NOT HOLD ANY OTHER ELECTED OFFICE IN**
13 **HARFORD COUNTY.**

14 **[(f)] (G)** (1) In Montgomery County, for the Democratic Party Central
15 Committee:

16 (i) two members are elected from each of the legislative
17 districts that lie wholly within Montgomery County;

18 (ii) one member is elected from the Montgomery County part of
19 each legislative district that is partially within Montgomery County; and

20 (iii) members shall be elected at large equal to the number of
21 legislative districts that lie wholly within Montgomery County, except that not more
22 than two members at large may reside in the same legislative district.

23 (2) Any vacancy in a seat on the Democratic Party Central Committee
24 held initially by a member elected from a legislative district shall be filled by a person
25 residing in that district.

26 (3) Any reference to the Democratic Party Central Committee for
27 Montgomery County or any portion of it means the entire membership of the
28 Montgomery County Democratic Party Central Committee, and in no event do the
29 members of the Central Committee elected from a district comprise a separate central
30 committee.

31 **[(g)] (H)** (1) (i) In Prince George's County, members of the
32 Republican Party Central Committee:

33 1. may run at large to fill historically vacant seats; and

1 2. unless a member runs at large under item 1 of this
2 subparagraph, shall be elected from within legislative districts of Prince George's
3 County or within that portion of any legislative district lying within Prince George's
4 County.

5 (ii) The number of members of the Republican Party Central
6 Committee shall, to the extent practicable, consist of two members from each of the
7 eight legislative districts lying within Prince George's County.

8 (2) (i) In Prince George's County, the Democratic Party Central
9 Committee consists of 24 members.

10 (ii) 1. Two members shall reside in and be elected by the
11 eligible voters of each of the eight legislative districts lying within Prince George's
12 County.

13 2. At least one member shall reside in each
14 single-member or two-member delegate district of any district in which there are such
15 districts.

16 (iii) In addition to the members of the committee elected from
17 legislative districts, eight members of the committee shall be elected by all the eligible
18 voters in the county, and at the time of election, each member shall reside in a
19 different one of the eight legislative districts within Prince George's County.

20 (iv) A candidate for election to the Democratic Party Central
21 Committee shall declare at the time of filing for candidacy which seat on the Central
22 Committee the candidate is seeking.

23 (v) If a member who was elected from a specific legislative
24 district ceases to reside in that district, the member may not continue to serve on the
25 Central Committee.

26 **[(h)] (I)** (1) In Worcester County, the Democratic Party Central
27 Committee consists of 11 members as follows:

28 (i) seven members who shall reside in and be elected,
29 respectively, by the eligible voters of each of the seven county commissioner districts;
30 and

31 (ii) four members who shall reside in Worcester County, be
32 elected at large by the eligible voters of the entire county, and receive the highest
33 number of votes cast for candidates in the at large election.

34 (2) (i) A candidate for election to the Democratic Party Central
35 Committee shall declare at the time of filing a certificate of candidacy which seat the
36 candidate is seeking.

1 (ii) A member elected to represent a specific county
2 commissioner district who ceases to reside in that district may not continue to serve on
3 the Central Committee.

4 (3) Any vacancy in a seat on the Central Committee held by an
5 individual elected from a county commissioner district shall be filled by an individual
6 who resides in that district.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
8 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety,
9 has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members
10 elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from
11 the date it is enacted.