

Chapter 480

(Senate Bill 290)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore County – Board of Education – Selection of Members

FOR the purpose of establishing a procedure for the election and appointment of certain members of the Baltimore County Board of Education; repealing certain provisions governing the appointment of all members of the county board; establishing the composition of the county board; providing for the qualifications, terms of office, and the filling of a vacancy of certain members of the county board; requiring the elected members of the county board to reside in, be a registered voter in, and be elected from certain districts; specifying that a member may not be elected or appointed to serve for more than a certain number of consecutive terms; establishing the Baltimore County School Board Nominating Commission; providing for the membership, duties, terms, and staffing of the Commission; requiring the Governor to designate a chair of the Commission; requiring the Governor to make appointments to the Baltimore County Board of Education from a list of nominees submitted to the Governor by the Commission; providing for a student member of the county board; providing for the term and duties of the student member; providing for the compensation of the members of the county board; providing for the removal of, and hearings and appeal procedures for, certain members of the county board; providing for the election of the chair and vice chair of the county board; ~~providing for the compensation of the members of the county board;~~ providing for the termination of the terms of the appointed members of the county board; making certain conforming nomenclature changes; and generally relating to the election and appointment of members of the Baltimore County Board of Education.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section 3–109 and 3–114

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 3–2A–01 through ~~3–2A–08~~ 3–2A–09 to be under the new subtitle

“Subtitle 2A. Baltimore County”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

3–114.

(a) In the following counties, the members of the county board shall be elected:

- (1) Allegany;
- (2) Calvert;
- (3) Carroll;
- (4) Cecil;
- (5) Charles;
- (6) Dorchester;
- (7) Frederick;
- (8) Garrett;
- (9) Howard;
- (10) Kent;
- (11) Montgomery;
- (12) Queen Anne’s;
- (13) St. Mary’s;
- (14) Somerset;
- (15) Talbot;
- (16) Washington; and
- (17) Worcester.

(B) IN BALTIMORE COUNTY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBTITLE 2A OF THIS TITLE, THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL BE A COMBINATION OF MEMBERS WHO ARE ELECTED AND APPOINTED.

[(b)] (C) In Caroline County, in accordance with Subtitle 3A of this title, the members of the county board shall be a combination of members who are elected and appointed.

[(c)] (D) In Harford County, in accordance with Subtitle 6A of this title, the members of the county board shall be a combination of members who are elected and appointed.

[(d)] (E) In Prince George’s County, in accordance with Subtitle 10 of this title, the members of the county board shall be a combination of members who are elected and appointed.

[(e)] (F) An individual subject to the authority of the county board may not serve as a member of the county board. At the time of filing a certificate of candidacy for election to a county board, a person shall certify to the local board of supervisors of elections whether or not he is subject to the authority of the county board. The Governor shall not issue a commission of election to a person who has certified affirmatively and who is elected to a county board until the member–elect offers proof that he is no longer subject to the authority of the county board.

[(f)] (G) The election of the county boards shall be held as provided in Subtitles 2 through 14 of this title and the Election Law Article.

SUBTITLE 2A. BALTIMORE COUNTY.

3-2A-01.

(A) THE BALTIMORE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION CONSISTS OF:

- (1) SEVEN NONPARTISAN ELECTED MEMBERS;**
- (2) FOUR APPOINTED MEMBERS; AND**
- (3) ONE STUDENT MEMBER.**

(B) (1) OF THE ~~ELEVEN~~ 11 ELECTED AND APPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD:

(I) ONE MEMBER SHALL BE ELECTED FROM EACH OF THE SEVEN COUNCILMANIC DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY, ESTABLISHED BY THE

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, BY THE VOTERS OF THAT DISTRICT;
AND

(II) FOUR MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM THE COUNTY AT LARGE.

(2) (I) THE SEVEN ELECTED MEMBERS SHALL BE ELECTED AT A GENERAL ELECTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 3-2A-02 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(II) THE FOUR APPOINTED MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM A LIST OF NOMINEES SUBMITTED BY THE BALTIMORE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATING COMMISSION AS PROVIDED IN § 3-2A-03 OF THIS SUBTITLE:

1. ON THE EXPIRATION OF THE TERM OF AN INCUMBENT APPOINTED MEMBER WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION; OR

2. WITHIN THE 30-DAY PERIOD OTHERWISE REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(3) (I) A MEMBER FROM A SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT SHALL BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD, A RESIDENT OF THAT DISTRICT FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS, AND A REGISTERED VOTER OF THE COUNTY BEFORE THE ELECTION.

(II) A MEMBER FROM A DISTRICT WHO DOES NOT MAINTAIN RESIDENCY IN THAT DISTRICT MAY NOT CONTINUE AS A MEMBER OF THE COUNTY BOARD AND THE OFFICE SHALL BE DEEMED VACANT.

(III) IF THE BOUNDARY LINE OF A DISTRICT IS CHANGED, THE TERM OF AN INCUMBENT MEMBER OF THE COUNTY BOARD WHO NO LONGER RESIDES IN THE DISTRICT BECAUSE OF THE CHANGE IS NOT AFFECTED DURING THIS TERM.

(4) (I) A MEMBER MAY NOT BE ELECTED OR APPOINTED TO SERVE ON THE COUNTY BOARD FOR MORE THAN THREE CONSECUTIVE TERMS.

(II) A MEMBER WHO HAS SERVED THREE CONSECUTIVE 4-YEAR TERMS MAY NOT BE ELECTED OR APPOINTED TO THE COUNTY BOARD UNTIL AT LEAST 4 YEARS HAVE ELAPSED SINCE THE END OF THE MEMBER'S LAST TERM ON THE COUNTY BOARD.

3-2A-02.

(A) AT THE GENERAL ELECTION FOR THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD, THE BALLOT SHALL PROVIDE THE VOTERS OF THAT SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT WITH THE CHOICE TO CAST A VOTE "FOR" A CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION FROM THAT DISTRICT ONLY.

(B) AFTER THE ELECTION RESULTS ARE CERTIFIED, THE STATE BOARD SHALL DECLARE FOR EACH DISTRICT WHETHER A CANDIDATE HAS BEEN ELECTED.

(C) IN ANY ELECTION, IF NO CANDIDATE FILES A CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY FOR THE OFFICE OR IF NO INDIVIDUAL OTHERWISE QUALIFIES TO HAVE THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME PLACED ON THE BALLOT, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT A MEMBER FROM A LIST OF NOMINEES SUBMITTED BY THE BALTIMORE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATING COMMISSION TO FILL THAT VACANCY NO LATER THAN 30 DAYS AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION.

3-2A-03.

(A) (1) THERE IS A BALTIMORE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATING COMMISSION.

(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO SELECT NOMINEES TO BE RECOMMENDED TO THE GOVERNOR AS QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BALTIMORE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(3) THE COMMISSION SHALL HOLD AT LEAST TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE SELECTION OF NOMINEES BEFORE RECOMMENDING TO THE GOVERNOR NOMINEES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE COUNTY BOARD.

(B) (1) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF 19 MEMBERS WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION.

(2) THE COMMISSION SHALL REFLECT THE RICH CULTURAL, GEOGRAPHIC, ETHNIC, AND RACIAL DIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE COUNTY.

(3) THE GOVERNOR, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, SHALL APPOINT EIGHT MEMBERS, ONE FROM EACH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT THAT LIES IN WHOLE OR IN PART IN BALTIMORE COUNTY.

(4) THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY SHALL APPOINT ONE MEMBER FROM THE COUNTY AT LARGE.

(5) THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS EACH SHALL APPOINT ONE MEMBER:

(I) THE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY;

(II) THE BALTIMORE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE;

(III) ~~THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION COUNCIL~~ PTA COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, INC.;

(IV) TOWSON UNIVERSITY;

(V) THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY;

(VI) THE BALTIMORE COUNTY BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE;

(VII) THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS' SPECIAL EDUCATION CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE;

(VIII) THE BALTIMORE COUNTY STUDENT COUNCILS;

(IX) THE COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES; AND

(X) THE EDUCATION SUPPORT PERSONNEL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY.

(C) (1) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE AS CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION ONE OF THE EIGHT MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(3) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THE TERM OF THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION IS 4 YEARS.

(3) THE GOVERNOR MAY REAPPOINT THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION FOR A SECOND TERM.

(4) THE TERM OF A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION IS 4 YEARS.

(D) THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION.

(E) BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2018, FOR EACH NOMINATION FOR A VACANCY ON THE COUNTY BOARD, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR A LIST OF NOMINEES THAT CONTAINS:

(1) AT LEAST TWO NAMES FOR EACH VACANCY; OR

(2) IF THERE ARE FEWER THAN TWO APPLICANTS FOR A VACANCY, THE NUMBER OF NAMES THAT IS EQUAL TO THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS FOR THE VACANCY.

(F) (1) ABSENT AN EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT A MEMBER TO THE COUNTY BOARD FROM THE LIST PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSION.

(2) IF THE GOVERNOR ELECTS NOT TO APPOINT A MEMBER FROM A LIST SUBMITTED BY THE COMMISSION, THE GOVERNOR SHALL RETURN THE LIST TO THE COMMISSION AND REQUEST THAT THE COMMISSION SUBMIT THE NAMES OF ADDITIONAL QUALIFIED CANDIDATES.

3-2A-04.

(A) EXCEPT FOR THE STUDENT MEMBER, A MEMBER SERVES FOR A TERM OF 4 YEARS BEGINNING ON THE FIRST MONDAY IN DECEMBER AFTER THE MEMBER'S ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS ELECTED OR APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

(B) (1) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO TAKES OFFICE TO FILL A VACANCY FOR AN ELECTED OR APPOINTED MEMBER SERVES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM FOR WHICH THE APPOINTMENT WAS MADE AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS ELECTED OR APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

(2) THE GOVERNOR SHALL ACT WITHIN 30 DAYS TO MAKE ANY APPOINTMENT TO THE COUNTY BOARD.

~~3-2A-04.~~ 3-2A-05.

(A) THE STUDENT MEMBER SHALL:

(1) BE AN 11TH OR A 12TH GRADE STUDENT IN THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM;

(2) SERVE FOR 1 YEAR; AND

(3) ADVISE THE COUNTY BOARD ON THE THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS OF STUDENTS.

(B) UNLESS INVITED TO ATTEND BY AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE COUNTY BOARD, THE STUDENT MEMBER MAY NOT ATTEND AN EXECUTIVE SESSION THAT RELATES TO:

(1) HEARINGS ON APPEALS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PLACEMENTS;

(2) HEARINGS HELD UNDER § 6-202(A) OF THIS ARTICLE; OR

(3) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.

(C) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE STUDENT MEMBER MAY VOTE ON ALL MATTERS EXCEPT THOSE RELATING TO:

(1) § 6-202(A) OF THIS ARTICLE;

(2) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING;

(3) CAPITAL AND OPERATING BUDGETS; AND

(4) SCHOOL CLOSINGS, REOPENINGS, AND BOUNDARIES.

(D) ON A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE NONSTUDENT MEMBERS, THE COUNTY BOARD MAY DETERMINE, ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, WHETHER A MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION IS COVERED BY THE EXCLUSIONARY PROVISIONS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

~~3-2A-05~~, 3-2A-06.

(A) (1) EACH NONSTUDENT MEMBER OF THE COUNTY BOARD IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE \$100 ANNUALLY AS COMPENSATION.

(2) A STUDENT MEMBER WHO COMPLETES A FULL TERM ON THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL BE GRANTED A SCHOLARSHIP OF \$100 TO BE APPLIED TOWARD THE STUDENT'S HIGHER EDUCATION COSTS.

(B) AFTER SUBMITTING VOUCHERS UNDER THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY BOARD, A MEMBER IS ENTITLED TO THE ALLOWANCES FOR TRAVEL AND OTHER EXPENSES PROVIDED FOR IN THE BALTIMORE COUNTY BUDGET.

~~3-2A-06.~~ 3-2A-07.

A NONSTUDENT MEMBER OF THE COUNTY BOARD MAY NOT:

(1) BE A CANDIDATE FOR OR HOLD ELECTED OR APPOINTED OFFICE FOR:

(I) A POLITICAL PARTY; OR

(II) THE LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT; OR

(2) BE A CURRENT EMPLOYEE OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

~~3-2A-07.~~ 3-2A-08.

(A) THE STATE BOARD MAY REMOVE AN ELECTED OR APPOINTED MEMBER OF THE COUNTY BOARD OR A MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR TO FILL A VACANCY IN OFFICE FOR AN ELECTED OR APPOINTED MEMBER FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

(1) IMMORALITY;

(2) MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE;

(3) INCOMPETENCY;

(4) WILLFUL NEGLECT OF DUTY; OR

(5) FAILURE TO ATTEND, WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE, AT LEAST 75% OF THE SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD IN ANY 1 CALENDAR YEAR.

(B) BEFORE REMOVING A MEMBER, THE STATE BOARD SHALL SEND THE MEMBER A COPY OF THE CHARGES AGAINST THE MEMBER AND GIVE THE MEMBER AN OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING WITHIN 10 DAYS.

(C) IF THE MEMBER REQUESTS A HEARING WITHIN THE 10-DAY PERIOD:

(1) THE STATE BOARD PROMPTLY SHALL HOLD A HEARING, BUT A HEARING MAY NOT BE SET WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER THE STATE BOARD SENDS THE MEMBER A NOTICE OF THE HEARING; AND

(2) THE MEMBER SHALL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD PUBLICLY BEFORE THE STATE BOARD IN THE MEMBER'S OWN DEFENSE IN PERSON OR BY COUNSEL.

(D) A MEMBER REMOVED UNDER THIS SECTION HAS THE RIGHT TO A DE NOVO REVIEW OF THE REMOVAL BY THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY.

~~**3-2A-08.**~~ **3-2A-09.**

AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD IN DECEMBER OF EACH YEAR, THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL ELECT A CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS.

[3-109.] ~~**3-2A-09.**~~ **3-2A-10.**

[(a) The Baltimore County Board consists of 12 members who shall be appointed as follows:

- (1) Four from the county at large;**
- (2) One from each of the seven councilmanic districts in Baltimore County; and**
- (3) One student member from the county at large.**

(b) (1) The student member shall:

- (i) Be an eleventh or twelfth grade student in the Baltimore County public school system;**
- (ii) Serve for 1 year; and**
- (iii) Advise the board on the thoughts and feelings of students.**

(2) Unless invited to attend by an affirmative vote of a majority of the county board, the student member may not attend an executive session that relates to:

- (i) Hearings on appeals of special education placements;**
- (ii) Hearings held under § 6-202(a) of this article; or**
- (iii) Collective bargaining.**

(3) As provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, the student member may vote on all matters except those relating to:

- (i) § 6–202(a) of this article;
- (ii) Collective bargaining;
- (iii) Capital and operating budgets; and
- (iv) School closings, reopenings, and boundaries.

(4) On a majority vote of the nonstudent members, the board may determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether a matter under consideration is covered by the exclusionary provisions listed in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

(c) A board member who does not maintain his residential qualification shall be replaced as a member.

(d) If the boundary line of a councilmanic district is changed, the term of an incumbent member of the county board who no longer resides in the councilmanic district because of the change is not affected during this term.]

[(e) (A) There is a School Shared Space Council in Baltimore County consisting of 12 employees of the county appointed by the County Executive for a term coterminous with that of the **COUNTY** board as follows:

- (1) Two from the staff of the county board [of education];
- (2) Two from the County Executive's administrative staff, one of whom shall be the Director of Central Services;
- (3) One from the Department of Social Services;
- (4) One from the Department of Recreation and Parks;
- (5) One from the Department of Aging;
- (6) One from the Health Department;
- (7) One from the county community colleges, subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) Representation shall be determined on a rotating basis by alphabetical order by community college name; and
 - (ii) Each such member shall serve for 1 year;

- (8) One from the Department of Juvenile Services;
- (9) One from the county public libraries; and
- (10) One from the Department of Planning.

[(f)] (B) A county employee Council member who does not maintain his employment in the county shall be replaced.

[(g)] (C) In addition to the county employee members, there shall be eight county citizens selected as members of the Council as follows and with the following duties:

(1) The county citizen members shall be selected by the County Executive. One member shall be selected from each legislative district of Baltimore County with the approval of the State Senator from that district. Each legislative district representative shall reside in that district;

(2) **[The initial members selected to represent legislative districts 5, 7, 9, and 11 shall each serve for a 2-year term beginning June 1, 1979, and ending May 31, 1981. Thereafter all members shall be selected to serve 2-year terms. The initial members selected to represent legislative districts 8, 10, 12, and 13 shall each serve for a 1-year term beginning June 1, 1979, and ending May 31, 1980, and thereafter all members shall be selected for 2-year terms] EACH MEMBER SHALL BE SELECTED TO SERVE A 2-YEAR TERM;**

(3) A citizen member shall be entitled to attend and vote at a Council session where an issue before the Council concerns the school or schools in the citizen member's respective district; and

(4) When the Council meets to consider countywide issues, all selected citizen members shall be entitled to attend such sessions and vote.

[(h)] (D) The Council shall:

(1) Meet as needed to compile the number of spaces in the public schools of the county that are not filled and to evaluate the feasibility of the utilization of the spaces by the community and county departments; and

(2) Report its findings and recommendations to the county board **[of education]** and the County Executive at least twice during the school year.

[(i)] (E) The County Executive may, by executive order, appoint up to two additional members to the Council from agencies of the county government.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the appointed members of the Baltimore County Board of Education shall expire as follows:

(a) The terms of the four members appointed at large who are in office on the effective date of this Act shall expire as follows:

(1) the term of the member whose term is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2015, shall expire at the end of December 6, 2015, and the Governor shall appoint a member to succeed that member to serve for a term of 4 years beginning on December 7, 2015, until a successor is appointed and qualifies;

(2) the term of the member whose term is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2016, shall expire at the end of December 4, 2016, and the Governor shall appoint a member to succeed that member to serve for a term of 4 years beginning on December 5, 2016, until a successor is appointed and qualifies; and

(3) the terms of the two members whose terms are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2018, shall expire at the end of December 2, 2018, and the Governor shall appoint two members from a list of nominees submitted by the Baltimore County School Board Nominating Commission as established by Section 1 of this Act to succeed those two departing members, each to serve for a term of 4 years beginning on December 3, 2018, until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(b) The terms of the seven members appointed from councilmanic districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of Baltimore County, or their successors, who are in office on ~~the effective date of this Act~~ June 1, 2016, shall terminate at the end of ~~December 4, 2016~~ December 2, 2018, and the members elected from those councilmanic/school board districts in Baltimore County at the general election in ~~November 2016~~ November 2018, shall succeed those appointed members and serve for a term of 4 years beginning on ~~December 5, 2016~~ December 3, 2018, until a successor is elected and qualifies.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the initial elected members of the Baltimore County Board of Education as provided under this Act shall be elected from the seven councilmanic/school board districts in Baltimore County at the general election in ~~November 2016~~ November 2018 and take office on ~~December 5, 2016~~ December 3, 2018.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, in appointing members to the Baltimore County Board of Education, the Governor shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that the total makeup of the county board reflects gender, ethnic, and racial diversity.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2014.