

# SENATE BILL 640

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By: **Senators Pugh and Nathan–Pulliam**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City Schools – Local Governance and Accountability Act of 2016**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the role of the Governor in making certain appointments to,  
4 filling certain vacancies on, removing certain members from, and selecting a certain  
5 chair of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners; and generally relating  
6 to the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Education  
9 Section 3–108.1  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Education**

15 3–108.1.

16 (a) In this section, “board” means the Baltimore City Board of School  
17 Commissioners of the Baltimore City Public School System.

18 (b) There is a Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners of the Baltimore  
19 City Public School System.

20 (c) The board consists of:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) Nine voting members [jointly] appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore  
2 City [and the Governor] from a list of qualified individuals submitted to the Mayor [and  
3 the Governor] by the State Board; and

4 (2) One voting student member appointed as provided in subsection (o) of  
5 this section.

6 (d) Each member of the board shall be a resident of Baltimore City.

7 (e) To the extent practicable, the membership of the board shall reflect the  
8 demographic composition of Baltimore City.

9 (f) At least four of the voting members shall possess a high level of knowledge  
10 and expertise concerning the successful administration of a large business, nonprofit, or  
11 governmental entity and shall have served in a high level management position within such  
12 an entity.

13 (g) At least three of the voting members shall possess a high level of knowledge  
14 and expertise concerning education.

15 (h) At least one voting member shall be a parent of a student enrolled in the  
16 Baltimore City Public School System as of the date of appointment of the member.

17 (i) (1) Among the nine voting members, at least one member shall also possess  
18 knowledge or experience in the education of children with disabilities.

19 (2) The knowledge or experience may be derived from being the parent of  
20 a child with a disability.

21 (j) (1) The term of a voting member is 3 years.

22 (2) The terms of the voting members are staggered as required by the terms  
23 provided for members of the board on June 1, 1997.

24 (3) At the end of a term, a voting member continues to serve until a  
25 successor is appointed and qualifies.

26 (4) A voting member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only  
27 for the remainder of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

28 (5) A voting member may not serve more than two consecutive full terms.

29 (6) To the extent practicable, [the Governor and] the Mayor shall fill any  
30 vacancy on the board within 60 days of the date of the vacancy from a list of qualified  
31 individuals submitted to the Mayor [and the Governor] by the State Board.

1 (k) On the [joint] approval of the Mayor of Baltimore City [and the Governor], a  
2 member may be removed only for cause in accordance with § 3–108 of this subtitle.

3 (l) Each member of the board serves without compensation.

4 (m) On appointment of the board, [the Governor and] the Mayor shall [jointly]  
5 select one of the voting members to serve as the chairman of the board who shall serve  
6 through June 30, 1999.

7 (n) Beginning on July 1, 1999 and every 2 years thereafter, from among its voting  
8 members the board shall elect a chairman.

9 (o) (1) One student member shall be a student enrolled in the Baltimore City  
10 Public School System who shall be selected by the Associated Student Congress of  
11 Baltimore City.

12 (2) The term of a student member is 1 year.

13 (3) A student member may not serve more than two consecutive full terms.

14 (4) The student member may vote on all matters before the board except  
15 those relating to:

16 (i) Personnel;

17 (ii) Capital and operating budgets;

18 (iii) School closings, reopenings, and boundaries;

19 (iv) Collective bargaining decisions;

20 (v) Student disciplinary matters; and

21 (vi) Appeals to the board as provided under §§ 4–205 and 6–202 of  
22 this article.

23 (5) The student member may not attend or participate in an executive or  
24 special session of the board.

25 (p) Any action by the board shall require:

26 (1) A quorum of a majority of the voting members then serving; and

27 (2) The affirmative vote of a majority of the voting members then serving.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 October 1, 2016.