

HOUSE BILL 949

C2

8lr1503

By: **Delegate Morhaim**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2018

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Attorney Grievance Commission – Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the composition of the Attorney Grievance Commission to
4 include three additional nonlawyer members; providing for the terms and removal
5 of members of the Commission; requiring the Court of Appeals to adopt certain rules;
6 specifying the expiration of the terms of certain members of the Commission; and
7 generally relating to the Attorney Grievance Commission.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Business Occupations and Professions

10 Section 10–503

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Business Occupations and Professions**

16 **10–503.**

17 **(A) THE ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION ESTABLISHED UNDER**
18 **MARYLAND RULE 19–702 SHALL CONSIST OF 15 MEMBERS.**

19 **(B) OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION:**

20 **(1) NINE MUST BE ATTORNEYS APPOINTED BY THE COURT OF**
21 **APPEALS; AND**

22 **(2) SIX MUST BE NONATTORNEYS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE.

2 (C) (1) THE TERMS OF THE MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED SO THAT THE
3 TERMS OF THREE ATTORNEY MEMBERS AND TWO NONATTORNEY MEMBERS EXPIRE
4 EACH YEAR.

5 (2) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL
6 A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

7 (3) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES
8 ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND
9 QUALIFIES.

10 (D) THE COURT OF APPEALS MAY REMOVE ANY MEMBER OF THE
11 COMMISSION AT ANY TIME.

12 (E) THE COURT OF APPEALS SHALL ADOPT RULES CONSISTENT WITH THIS
13 SECTION NECESSARY TO GOVERN THE ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the members of
15 the Attorney Grievance Commission serving on September 30, 2018, shall expire as follows:

16 (1) three attorney members and one nonattorney member in 2019;

17 (2) three attorney members and one nonattorney member in 2020; and

18 (3) three attorney members and one nonattorney member in 2021.

19 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the three
20 additional nonattorney members of the Attorney Grievance Commission appointed in
21 accordance with this Act shall expire as follows:

22 (1) one nonattorney member in 2019;

23 (2) one nonattorney member in 2020; and

24 (3) one nonattorney member in 2021.

25 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2018.