

HOUSE BILL 150

P5

11r0855

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Crosby**

Requested: October 5, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

State Government – House of Delegates – Bill Sponsorship – Limit

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a member of the House of Delegates from sponsoring more than a certain number of bills in a legislative session; authorizing a certain member to introduce a certain number of bills in excess of a certain limit under certain circumstances; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to bill sponsorship by members of the House of Delegates.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – State Government

Section 2–1502

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – State Government

Section 2–1502.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

Article – State Government

2–1502.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) “Department” means the Department of Legislative Services.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(3) “Prefile” means to direct the Department, before a regular session of the General Assembly, to file a bill for introduction during that session.

(b) A member or member–elect of the General Assembly may prefile a bill, as provided in this section.

(c) (1) In a year when an election for members of the General Assembly is held:

(i) a bill may be prefiled only by an individual elected or re–elected to the General Assembly at that election;

(ii) the deadline for directing the Department to file a bill for introduction is December 10;

(iii) the deadline for requesting the Department to prepare a bill for prefiling is November 20; and

(iv) an individual first elected at that election may not request the Department to prepare a bill until after the election.

(2) In any other year, a member may prefile a bill at any regular session by:

(i) on or before the preceding November 1, requesting the Department to prepare the bill; and

(ii) on or before the preceding November 20, directing the Department, in writing, to file the bill for introduction.

(d) A directive to file a bill for introduction shall be in writing and shall state the name of each sponsor of the bill.

(e) (1) On the first day of each regular session, the Department shall send to the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House, as appropriate, copies of each bill, in the form that the Senate rules set for introduction in the Senate or that the House rules set for introduction in the House.

(2) Each bill that is sent under this subsection shall be considered as filed for introduction.

2–1502.1.

(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION, A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES MAY NOT SPONSOR MORE THAN 12 BILLS IN A LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

(B) THE LIMIT IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A BILL THAT:

(1) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE SPONSORS BY REQUEST OF:

(I) THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH;

(II) AN ENTITY CREATED BY STATE LAW OR AN EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR; OR

(III) A LOCAL JURISDICTION; OR

(2) IS SPONSORED BY A STANDING COMMITTEE OR COUNTY DELEGATION.

(C) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, FOR EACH BILL THAT A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE PREFILES UNDER § 2-1502 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE MEMBER MAY INTRODUCE ONE BILL IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE MAY NOT INTRODUCE MORE THAN THREE BILLS IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2021.