A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning Public Health – Removal of Health Officer

FOR the purpose of establishing a process through which a county’s Senate Delegation and House Delegation to the General Assembly may vote to support or oppose the removal of the health officer of the county; requiring that a meeting of a delegation related to the removal of a health officer be closed; and generally relating to the removal of a health officer.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health – General
Section 3–302(g)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Health – General

3–302.

(g) (1) [The] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE health officer for a county may be removed from office with the concurrence of the governing body of that county and the Secretary.

(2) (i) Any information concerning the removal of a health officer from office is confidential in accordance with Title 4 of the General Provisions Article.
(ii) Any meeting of the governing body of a county or any meeting that includes the Secretary related to the removal of a health officer from office shall be closed.

(3) (i) At least 10 days before the date on which the governing body of a county and the Secretary concur to remove a health officer from office, the governing body of the county shall provide notice of the possibility of the health officer’s removal to the county’s Senate Delegation and House Delegation to the General Assembly.

(ii) If a county’s Senate Delegation and House Delegation to the General Assembly receives notice under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Senate Delegation and the House Delegation may vote by a simple majority to support or oppose the removal of the health officer at any time before the health officer is removed.

(iii) This paragraph may not be construed to require or prohibit the removal of a health officer based on the vote by a county’s Senate Delegation or House Delegation to the General Assembly under subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph.

(iv) Any meeting of a county’s Senate Delegation or House Delegation to the General Assembly related to the removal of a health officer from office in accordance with this paragraph shall be closed.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.