

SENATE BILL 69

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2lr1186

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senator Sydnor**

Requested: November 1, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Courts – Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure**

3 FOR the purpose of altering and adding provisions of law governing the members of the
4 Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Court of Appeals,
5 including provisions relating to removal of members from the committee,
6 representation, compensation, and public disclosure of certain interests; and
7 generally relating to the Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

10 Section 13–301

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

16 13–301.

17 **(A)** To aid in the exercise of its rulemaking powers, the Court of Appeals may
18 appoint a standing committee of lawyers, judges, and other persons competent in judicial
19 practice, procedure or administration.

20 **(B) THE MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE EQUAL**
21 **AND BALANCED REPRESENTATION OF MEMBERS FROM VARIOUS PRACTICE AREAS**
22 **AND CONSTITUENTS OF THE MARYLAND JUDICIARY.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(C)** A committee member shall serve without **DIRECT OR INDIRECT**
2 compensation **FROM ANY OTHER PERSON**, but shall be reimbursed for traveling and other
3 expenses incurred on committee business.

4 **(D)** **AN APPOINTED MEMBER MAY BE REMOVED BY THE COURT OF APPEALS**
5 **FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN IF THAT MEMBER'S CONDUCT CONSCIOUSLY OR**
6 **UNCONSCIOUSLY CASTS A NEGATIVE PERCEPTION ON THE COMMITTEE.**

7 **(E) (1)** **COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHALL PUBLICLY DISCLOSE ANY**
8 **PERSONAL OR PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS OF ANY CLIENT IN MATTERS BEFORE THE**
9 **COMMITTEE, AND WHERE AN APPEARANCE OF OR ACTUAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
10 **EXISTS, RECUSE THEMSELVES FROM ALL PROCEEDINGS RELATED TO THE MATTER.**

11 **(2)** **A FAILURE TO PROPERLY DISCLOSE OR RECUSE SHALL BE**
12 **CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING WHETHER A COMMITTEE MEMBER WILL BE**
13 **REMOVED.**

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