SENATE BILL 157

L33lr1196 SB 368/22 - EHE **CF HB 104** By: Senator Waldstreicher Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2023 Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee Report: Favorable with amendments Senate action: Adopted Read second time: February 25, 2023 CHAPTER AN ACT concerning Municipalities – Charter Amendments – Notice FOR the purpose of modifying the manner in which the chief executive officer of a municipality may fulfill certain notice requirements; requiring the municipality to maintain certain records or receipts and make the records or receipts available to the public; and generally relating to methods of providing notice of municipal charter amendment resolutions. BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Local Government Section 4-304(b) and 4-305(f)Annotated Code of Maryland (2013 Volume and 2022 Supplement) SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: Article - Local Government 4 - 304. (b) The chief executive officer of the municipality shall give notice of the resolution that proposes an amendment to the municipal charter by:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

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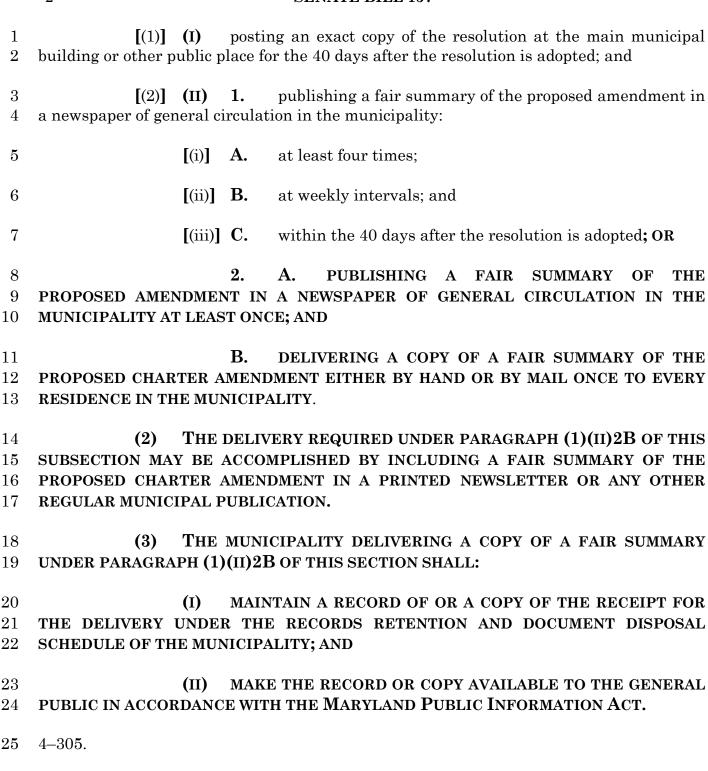
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Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.





- 26 (f) (1) The chief executive officer of the municipality shall give notice of a submission of a proposed charter amendment by:
- [(1)] (i) **1.** posting an exact copy of the proposed amendment at the main municipal building or other public place for at least 4 weeks 40 DAYS immediately preceding the referendum at which the question is to be submitted; and

- 1 [(ii)] 2. on the day of the referendum, posting a similar copy at the 2 place for voting; and
- [(2)] (II) 1. publishing notice of the referendum and a fair summary of the proposed amendment in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality at least once in each of the 4 weeks immediately preceding the referendum; OR
- 6 2. A. PUBLISHING A FAIR SUMMARY OF THE 7 PROPOSED AMENDMENT IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE 8 MUNICIPALITY AT LEAST ONCE; AND
- 9 B. DELIVERING A COPY OF A FAIR SUMMARY OF THE 10 PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT EITHER BY HAND OR BY MAIL TO EVERY 11 RESIDENCE IN THE MUNICIPALITY.
- 12 (2) THE DELIVERY REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II)2B OF THIS
 13 SUBSECTION MAY BE ACCOMPLISHED BY INCLUDING A FAIR SUMMARY OF THE
 14 PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT IN A PRINTED NEWSLETTER OR ANY OTHER
 15 REGULAR MUNICIPAL PUBLICATION.
- 16 (3) THE MUNICIPALITY DELIVERING A COPY OF A FAIR SUMMARY UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II)2B OF THIS SECTION SHALL:
- 18 (I) MAINTAIN A RECORD OF OR A COPY OF THE RECEIPT FOR
 19 THE DELIVERY UNDER THE RECORDS RETENTION AND DOCUMENT DISPOSAL
 20 SCHEDULE OF THE MUNICIPALITY; AND
- 21 (II) MAKE THE RECORD OR COPY AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL 22 PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MARYLAND PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2023.