

SENATE BILL 732

03

3lr0060

By: **Chair, Finance Committee (By Request – Departmental – Disabilities)**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Disabilities – Maryland Commission on Disabilities –**
3 **Membership**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the Maryland Commission on Disabilities;
5 and generally relating to the Maryland Commission on Disabilities.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Human Services
8 Section 7–120
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Human Services**

14 7–120.

15 (a) The Commission consists of:

16 (1) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

17 (i) one individual with a physical disability;

18 (ii) one individual who has experienced mental illness;

19 **(III) ONE INDIVIDUAL WITH A TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY;**

20 **[(iii)] (IV)** two individuals with a developmental disability, including

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 one with an intellectual disability;

2 [(iv)] (V) one individual who is blind;

3 [(v)] (VI) one individual who is deaf or hard of hearing;

4 [(vi)] (VII) one parent or foster parent of a child with a disability;

5 [(vii)] (VIII) four members of the general public who have disabilities;

6 [(viii)] (IX) three representatives from statewide disability advocacy
7 organizations;

8 [(ix)] (X) one representative from the home health care industry;

9 [(x)] (XI) one representative from a statewide organization of
10 providers of services and support for individuals with disabilities;

11 [(xi)] (XII) one representative from the Alliance of Local Commissions
12 on Disability; and

13 [(xii)] (XIII) two representatives from the Board, one of whom shall be
14 selected by the Secretary and one of whom shall be the Secretary of Budget and
15 Management or the designee of the Secretary of Budget and Management;

16 (2) one representative from the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
17 President of the Senate;

18 (3) one representative from the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed
19 by the Speaker of the House;

20 (4) the State Coordinator for Autism Strategy; and

21 (5) one representative from the Governor's Advisory Board for
22 Telecommunications Relay, appointed by the chair of the Board.

23 (b) In making the appointments required under subsection (a)(1) of this section,
24 the Governor shall appoint members from among:

25 (1) the geographic regions of the State; and

26 (2) diverse backgrounds.

27 (c) A majority of the members shall be individuals with disabilities.

28 (d) (1) The term of a member is 3 years.

1 (2) The terms of the members are staggered as required by the terms
2 provided for the members of the Commission on October 1, 2007.

3 (3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is
4 appointed and qualifies.

5 (4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the
6 rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

7 (5) A member may not serve more than two consecutive 3–year terms.

8 (e) A member who fails to attend at least 50% of the regularly scheduled meetings
9 of the Commission during any 12–month period shall be considered to have resigned.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 October 1, 2023.