

SENATE BILL 732

O3

3lr0060

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

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2023

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Disabilities – State Coordinator for Autism Strategy and**
3 **Maryland Commission on Disabilities – ~~Membership~~ Alterations**

4 FOR the purpose of transferring the State Coordinator for Autism Strategy to the
5 Department of Disabilities; altering the staffing of the Advisory Stakeholder Group
6 on Autism–Related Needs; altering the membership of the Maryland Commission on
7 Disabilities; and generally relating to the ~~Maryland Commission on~~ Department of
8 Disabilities.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Human Services
11 Section 7–111(a)(1), 7–112(d), and 7–120
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Human Services**

17 7–111.

18 (a) (1) There is a State Coordinator for Autism Strategy in the [Governor’s
19 Office of Community Initiatives] DEPARTMENT.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

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



1 7-112.

2 (d) The [Governor's Office of Community Initiatives] DEPARTMENT shall
 3 provide staff for the Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism-Related Needs.

4 7-120.

5 (a) The Commission consists of:

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

7 (i) one individual with a physical disability;

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

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

10 [(iii)] **(IV)** two individuals with a developmental disability, including
 11 one with an intellectual disability;

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

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

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

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

16 [(viii)] **(IX)** three representatives from statewide disability advocacy
 17 organizations;

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

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

21 [(xi)] **(XII)** one representative from the Alliance of Local Commissions
 22 on Disability; and

23 [(xii)] **(XIII)** two representatives from the Board, one of whom shall be
 24 selected by the Secretary and one of whom shall be the Secretary of Budget and
 25 Management or the designee of the Secretary of Budget and Management;

26 (2) one representative from the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
 27 President of the Senate;

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

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

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

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

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

9 (2) diverse backgrounds.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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