

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 522

(Senator Hershey, *et al.*)

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Education - Accountability and Implementation Board - Membership

This bill alters the membership of the Accountability and Implementation Board by adding four members appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The additional board members must be chosen from a slate of nominees provided by the Accountability and Implementation Board Nominating Committee. The bill requires that, on or before August 1, 2023, the nominating committee must submit a slate of nominees to the Governor that comprise one member who is a resident of Western Maryland, one member who is a resident of Southern Maryland, one member who is a resident of the Eastern Shore, and one member who is a resident of Prince George's County. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2023.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Any additional expenditures for board member expense reimbursements are assumed to be minimal and can be absorbed with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill increases, from 7 to 11, the number of members appointed to the Accountability and Implementation Board. Of the 11 board members:

- one member must be a resident of Western Maryland, which consists of Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington counties;

- one member must be a resident of Southern Maryland, which consists of Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties;
- one member must be a resident of the Eastern Shore, which consists of Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester counties; and
- one member from each of the five jurisdictions with the largest student populations in the State.

Current Law: The Accountability and Implementation Board, which is charged with overseeing implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, consists of seven members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Board members are chosen from a slate prepared by the nominating committee in accordance with § 5-403 of the Education Article. Board members must be appointed by the Governor within 30 days of receiving the slate of nominees. Generally, the board must consist of individuals who collectively (1) reflect, to the extent practicable, the geographic, racial, ethnic, cultural, and gender diversity of the State and (2) have a high level of knowledge and expertise in various education policy areas. Members of the Accountability and Implementation Board must serve without compensation but are entitled to expense reimbursement under standard State travel regulations.

In September 2021, the nominating committee selected 9 nominees from a total of 43 applicants. Most of the applicants resided in Montgomery County (13) and Baltimore City (16), with other applicants living in Baltimore County (5), Anne Arundel County (4), Prince George's County (3), Charles County (1), and Frederick County (1). Slightly more than half of the applicants were male (23) or White (23); the remaining applicants identified their race as Black (16), Asian (3), Hispanic (1), and Afro-Latino (1). The eventual slate of nominees had six males and three females, with race/ethnicity self-identified as White (4), Black (4), and Asian (1). According to the nominating committee, the nominees resided in four counties, which reflected the diversity of the applicant pool, but several members had a statewide perspective or work in a different county than they reside.

The members of the Accountability and Implementation Board ultimately selected by the Governor who currently serve on the board include three residents of Montgomery County, two residents of Baltimore City, and one resident from both Anne Arundel and Baltimore counties.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has been introduced within the last three years. See HB 633 and SB 933 of 2022.

Designated Cross File: HB 740 (Delegate Ghrist, *et al.*) - Ways and Means.

Information Source(s): Accountability and Implementation Board; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 20, 2023

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