

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 873

(Montgomery County Delegation and Prince George's
County Delegation)

Environment and Transportation

Education, Energy, and the Environment

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - Prince George's County -
Commissioner Qualifications**
MC/PG 108-23

This bill requires at least one Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) commissioner appointed from Prince George's County to meet specified qualifications.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect WSSC's operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill requires at least one commissioner from Prince George's County to have at least one of the following qualifications:

- a degree from an institution of higher education or an equivalent level of education and at least five years' experience in the management of a governmental entity or board of directors that is comparable to WSSC in scope and complexity;
- education in the environmental sciences;
- professional experience in utility management; or
- experience in environmental or civil engineering.

Current Law: WSSC is governed by six commissioners. The Prince George's County Executive, with the approval of the Prince George's County Council, and the Montgomery County Executive with the approval of the Montgomery County Council must each appoint three commissioners to serve on WSSC. The commissioners appointed from Prince George's County must be residents of the sanitary district and also registered voters of Prince George's County.

Commissioners are appointed for four-year terms which are staggered, as specified. At the end of a term, a commissioner may continue to serve until a successor is appointed and takes the oath of office. A commissioner who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and takes the oath of office. In the event of a vacancy on the commission, the remaining commissioners retain the right to exercise all the powers of the commission.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County; Prince George's County; Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 28, 2023
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Analysis by: Valarie Munroe

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510