

# HOUSE BILL 763

E1, P1

4lr2761

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By: **Delegates Attar, Vogel, and Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2024

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on Hate Crime Response and Prevention – Membership –**  
3 **Alterations**

4 FOR the purpose of removing the representative of the Council on American–Islamic  
5 Relations Maryland Office from the Commission on Hate Crime Response and  
6 Prevention; adding two members of the Muslim community to be appointed by the  
7 Attorney General to the Commission; and generally relating to the membership of  
8 the Commission on Hate Crime Response and Prevention.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – State Government  
11 Section 6–802  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – State Government**

17 6–802.

18 (a) There is a Commission on Hate Crime Response and Prevention in the Office  
19 of the Attorney General.

20 (b) The Commission consists of the following members, appointed by the Attorney  
21 General:

22 (1) one representative of the Anti–Defamation League;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (2) one representative of the Asian American and Pacific Islander  
2 community;
- 3 (3) one representative of the Women’s Law Center;
- 4 (4) one representative of the Baltimore Jewish Council;
- 5 (5) one representative of the Coalition Opposed to Violence and Extremism;
- 6 (6) [one representative of the Council on American–Islamic Relations  
7 Maryland Office] **TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY;**
- 8 (7) one representative of Free State Justice;
- 9 (8) one representative of the Jewish Community Relations Council;
- 10 (9) one representative of the Immigration Outreach Service Center;
- 11 (10) one representative of the Maryland Association of Human  
12 Relations/Human Rights Agencies;
- 13 (11) one representative of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association;
- 14 (12) one representative of the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights;
- 15 (13) one representative of the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center;
- 16 (14) one representative of the Maryland Center for School Safety;
- 17 (15) one representative of the Maryland Sheriffs’ Association;
- 18 (16) one representative of the Maryland State’s Attorneys’ Association;
- 19 (17) one representative of the National Alliance on Mental Illness;
- 20 (18) one representative of the National Association for the Advancement of  
21 Colored People;
- 22 (19) one representative of the Pride Center of Maryland;
- 23 (20) one representative of the Sikh Coalition; and
- 24 (21) two members of the general public.
- 25 (c) (1) The term of an appointed member of the Commission is 4 years.

1           (2)    The terms of the appointed members are staggered as required by the  
2 terms provided for members of the Commission on June 1, 2023.

3           (3)    At the end of a term, an appointed member continues to serve until a  
4 successor is 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           (d)    (1)    The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee, is the chair  
8 of the Commission.

9           (2)    The Office of the Attorney General shall provide staff for the  
10 Commission.

11          (e)    In fiscal year 2025 and in each fiscal year thereafter, the Governor shall  
12 include funds in the State budget to implement this section, including funds to:

13           (1)    employ a full-time assistant Attorney General to staff the Commission;  
14 and

15           (2)    operate and maintain the office.

16          (f)    (1)    A majority of members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for  
17 the transaction of business.

18           (2)    The Commission may adopt rules governing the administration and  
19 proceedings of the Commission.

20          (g)    A member of the Commission:

21           (1)    may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

22           (2)    is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
23 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

24          (h)    The Commission shall:

25           (1)    develop strategies to prevent and respond to hate crime activity; and

26           (2)    evaluate State laws and policies relating to hate crimes.

27          (i)    (1)    On or before December 1 each year, beginning in 2024, the Commission  
28 shall report to the State Department of Education on policy recommendations to address  
29 hate crimes that occur in schools.

1                   (2)     On or before December 1 each year, beginning in 2024, the Commission  
2 shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government  
3 Article, on legislative recommendations to address hate crimes in the State.

4                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial  
5 members appointed to the Commission on Hate Crime Response and Prevention under §  
6 6–802(b)(6) of the State Government Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall expire  
7 as follows:

8                   (1)     one member in 2025; and

9                   (2)     one member in 2028.

10                  SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
11 October 1, 2024.