

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 205

(Senator Hayes)

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Appropriations

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University System of Maryland - Board of Regents - Membership

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This bill requires the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House to ensure that one member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland (USM) is a graduate of a historically Black college or university (HBCU) in USM (*i.e.*, Bowie State University, Coppin State University, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore). This requirement only applies after the next vacancy on the board that occurs after July 1, 2024. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. Requiring one member of the board to be a graduate of an HBCU in USM after the next vacancy does not affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The Board of Regents of USM is composed of 21 members, including two student members. Each student member must be a full-time student in good academic standing at a USM institution, except that the full-time requirement does not apply to a student at the University of Maryland Global Campus. There are two *ex officio* members (the Secretaries of Agriculture and Commerce), one member appointed by the President of the Senate, and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House. The remaining members must be residents of the State, appointed from the general public, and include (1) one individual with a background in higher education administration; (2) one individual

with a background in finance; and (3) one individual with a background in diversity and workplace inclusion. Further, in making appointments, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House must consider representation from all parts of the State.

Except for the student members, each appointed member serves for a term of five years from July 1 of the year of appointment and until a successor is appointed and qualifies. These members may be reappointed. A student member serves a two-year term, beginning on July 1, and may be reappointed if the student remains a student at any campus of USM. A member appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term serves only for the remainder of that term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies. Members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Board members may not receive compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the standard State travel regulations.

Only one of the student members may be a voting member of the board each year. Further, a student member can be a voting member in only one year of a two-year term.

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### **Additional Information**

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

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** University System of Maryland; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 19, 2024  
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