

HOUSE BILL 1524

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5lr3624
CF SB 1032

By: Wicomico County Delegation

Introduced and read first time: February 20, 2025

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

Re-referred to: Ways and Means, February 25, 2025

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 5, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Wicomico County Board of Education – Election of Members, Student Member,**
3 **and Compensation**

4 FOR the purpose of altering, beginning with a certain election, the districts from which
5 certain members of the Wicomico County Board of Education are elected; adding ~~a~~
6 at least one student member to the county board; providing that the members of the
7 county board are entitled to certain compensation and reimbursement; and generally
8 relating to the Wicomico County Board of Education.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Education
11 Section 3–13A–01, 3–13A–02, 3–13A–03(a)(2), 3–13A–04, 3–13A–06, and 4–107(e)(7)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article – Education
16 Section 3–13A–03(a)(1)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

19 BY adding to
20 Article – Education
21 Section 3–13A–07 and 3–13A–08

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 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

3 BY repealing
4 Article – Education
5 Section 4–107(e)(6)
6 Annotated Code of Maryland
7 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

10 **Article – Education**

11 3–13A–01.

12 (a) (1) The Wicomico County Board consists of [seven]:

13 (I) **SEVEN** nonpartisan elected voting members; AND

14 (II) ~~ONE~~ AT LEAST ONE STUDENT MEMBER.

15 (2) [The] **BEGINNING WITH THE GENERAL ELECTION IN 2026, THE**
16 seven **ELECTED** members shall be elected [as follows:

17 (i) One member] from each of the [five] **SEVEN** councilmanic
18 districts in the county, elected by the voters of that district[]; and

19 (ii) Two members at large, elected by the voters of the county].

20 (b) (1) A candidate who becomes an elected member of the county board must
21 be a resident and registered voter of Wicomico County.

22 (2) (i) An elected member who no longer resides in Wicomico County
23 may not continue as a member of the board.

24 (ii) A member elected from a councilmanic district who no longer
25 resides in that district may not continue as a member of the board.

26 (3) If the boundary line of a Wicomico County councilmanic district is
27 changed, the term of an incumbent **ELECTED** member of the county board who no longer
28 resides in that councilmanic district because of the change is not affected during this term.

29 3–13A–02.

30 (a) The seven **ELECTED** members of the Wicomico County Board shall be elected:

1 (1) At the general election in 2018 and at the general election every 4 years
2 thereafter; and

3 (2) In accordance with § 3-13A-01 of this subtitle and Title 8, Subtitle 8 of
4 the Election Law Article.

5 (b) (1) The terms of the **ELECTED** members are as provided in this subsection.

6 (2) Each term of office begins on the first Monday in December after the
7 election of a member and until a successor is elected and qualifies.

8 (3) The term of office of each member is 4 years.

9 3-13A-03.

10 (a) (1) There is a Wicomico County School Board Nominating Commission.

11 (2) The purpose of the Commission is to select nominees to recommend to
12 the Wicomico County Council as qualified candidates for appointment to fill a vacancy **OF**
13 **AN ELECTED MEMBER** on the Wicomico County Board.

14 3-13A-04.

15 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the Wicomico County
16 Council shall appoint an individual to fill a vacancy **OF AN ELECTED MEMBER** on the
17 county board in accordance with § 3-13A-03 of this subtitle.

18 (b) (1) If a vacancy for **[a] AN ELECTED** member occurs before the date that is
19 30 days before the date for filing a certificate of candidacy for the primary election in the
20 presidential election year, the individual appointed under subsection (a) of this section shall
21 serve only until a successor is elected by the voters at the next general election.

22 (2) Candidates for the vacated office may be nominated at a primary
23 election in the same manner as for any other position on the county board.

24 3-13A-06.

25 At the first meeting of the county board in December of each year, the county board
26 shall elect a chair and vice chair from among the **ELECTED** members.

27 **3-13A-07.**

28 **(A) ~~THE~~ A STUDENT MEMBER OF THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL BE SELECTED**
29 **IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY BOARD.**

1 (B) (1) ~~THE~~ EACH STUDENT MEMBER SHALL:

2 (I) BE AN 11TH OR 12TH GRADE STUDENT IN GOOD STANDING
3 AND REGULARLY ENROLLED IN THE WICOMICO COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM;

4 (II) SERVE FOR 1 YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1 AFTER THE
5 SELECTION OF THE MEMBER;

6 (III) BE A NONVOTING MEMBER; AND

7 (IV) ADVISE THE COUNTY BOARD ON THE THOUGHTS AND
8 FEELINGS OF STUDENTS IN THE WICOMICO COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

9 (2) UNLESS INVITED TO ATTEND BY AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A
10 MAJORITY OF THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD, ~~THE~~ A STUDENT
11 MEMBER MAY NOT ATTEND A CLOSED SESSION OF THE COUNTY BOARD.

12 3-13A-08.

13 (A) (1) THE CHAIR OF THE COUNTY BOARD IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE
14 ANNUALLY AS COMPENSATION THE GREATER OF:

15 (I) \$4,000; OR

16 (II) A SALARY SET BY THE WICOMICO COUNTY COUNCIL.

17 (2) THE VICE CHAIR OF THE COUNTY BOARD AND THE OTHER
18 ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE ANNUALLY
19 AS COMPENSATION THE GREATER OF:

20 (I) \$3,700; OR

21 (II) A SALARY SET BY THE WICOMICO COUNTY COUNCIL.

22 (B) AFTER SUBMITTING VOUCHERS UNDER THE RULES AND REGULATIONS
23 ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY BOARD, THE ELECTED MEMBERS ARE ENTITLED TO
24 RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL AND OTHER EXPENSES AS PROVIDED IN
25 THE COUNTY BOARD'S BUDGET.

26 (C) (1) ON THE SUBMISSION OF EXPENSE VOUCHERS, ~~THE~~ A STUDENT
27 MEMBER IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL AND OTHER EXPENSES
28 INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES FOR THE COUNTY BOARD.

1 **(2) A STUDENT MEMBER MAY BE GRANTED A SCHOLARSHIP AS**
2 **AUTHORIZED BY THE COUNTY BOARD.**

3 ~~(2)~~ **(3) THE A STUDENT MEMBER IS NOT ENTITLED TO ANY**
4 **COMPENSATION OR PAYMENT OTHER THAN THAT SPECIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)**
5 **PARAGRAPHS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE STUDENT MEMBER’S WORK**
6 **AS THE A STUDENT MEMBER OF THE COUNTY BOARD.**

7 4–107.

8 (e) [(6) Each member of the Wicomico County Board shall receive the following
9 amounts annually as compensation:

10 (i) Member \$3,700; and

11 (ii) Chairman \$4,000.]

12 [(7) **(6)** Each member of the Worcester County Board shall receive an
13 amount annually for traveling and other expenses as determined by the County
14 Commissioners, but in the amount of at least:

15 (i) Member \$2,000; and

16 (ii) Chairman \$2,400.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2025.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.