

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Enrolled - Revised

Senate Bill 352

(Senator Salling, *et al.*)

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Ways and Means

Baltimore County - Political Party Central Committee - Elections

This bill reduces, from four to three, the number of members elected to the Baltimore County Republican Party Central Committee from each councilmanic district in Baltimore County. The bill also alters provisions that define the membership of the Baltimore County Democratic Party Central Committee based on legislative districts.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect Baltimore County finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill reduces, from four to three, the number of members elected to the Baltimore County Republican Party Central Committee from each councilmanic district in the county. The bill also modifies existing provisions (see Current Law) defining the membership of the Baltimore County Democratic Party Central Committee based on legislative districts, so that the membership consists of:

- 10 members, 2 from each district, elected from legislative districts 11A, 42A, 42B, 43B, and 44A, each located wholly in the county;
- 12 members, 4 from each district, elected from legislative districts 7A, 11B, and 44B, each located wholly in the county; and

- 18 members, 6 from each district, elected from legislative districts 6, 8, and 10, located wholly in the county.

Current Law: Each political party must have a State central committee that is the governing body of the political party and may be composed of the members of the central committees of the counties during their terms in office. A principal political party must elect the members of a county central committee at a primary election. Except as otherwise provided under county-specific provisions for certain counties (including Baltimore County), the central committee for a county must consist of the number of members determined by the party's constitution.

For the Baltimore County Republican Party Central Committee, statute establishes that the committee consists of four members elected from each councilmanic district in the county.

For the Baltimore County Democratic Party Central Committee, statute establishes that the committee consists of:

- 20 members, 5 from each district, elected from legislative districts 6, 8, 10, and 11, each located wholly within the county;
- 4 members elected from legislative district 44B, located wholly in the county;
- 4 members elected from the part of legislative district 7 that is located in the county;
- 4 members elected from the part of legislative district 12 that is located in the county; and
- 5 members, of which 2 must be from delegate district 42A and 3 must be from delegate district 42B, elected from legislative district 42, located wholly in the county.

Statute also establishes that the number of Democratic Party Central Committee members to be elected from each legislative district, or portion of legislative district, in Baltimore County must be determined upon completion of each legislative districting.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: HB 562 (Baltimore County Delegation) - Ways and Means.

Information Source(s): Baltimore County; Maryland State Board of Elections; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 5, 2025
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