

HB1176/793425/1

BY: Appropriations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 1176
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “**Minimum Funding**” and substitute “**Percentage of County General Fund Revenue**”; strike beginning with “prohibiting” in line 4 down through “contingency” in line 7 and substitute “requiring, in the submission of the annual budget to the Howard County Council, the Howard County Executive to include the percentage of the county’s general fund revenue, excluding one–time expenses, that is allocated to the operating budget of the Howard County Board of Education and operating costs associated with the Howard County public school system; requiring a copy of the budget of the Howard County Board of Education as approved by the Howard County Council to include the percentage of the county’s general fund revenue, excluding one–time expenses, that is appropriated to the operating budget of the county board and operating costs associated with the school system”; and in line 16, strike “5–103” and substitute “5–102”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 3 through 34, inclusive, and substitute:

“5–102.

(a) In this subtitle, “county council” means, in Baltimore City, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore.

(b) (1) Each county board shall submit an annual school budget in writing to the county commissioners, county council, or county executive.

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(2) The budget shall be submitted not less than 45 days before the date for levying local taxes or on an earlier date on or after March 1 as may be requested by the county fiscal authority.

(c) (1) This subsection applies only to a county that has a county governing body that consists of a county executive and county council.

(2) (I) The county executive shall indicate in writing which major categories of the annual budget of the county board have been denied in whole or reduced in part and the reason for the denial or reduction.

(II) IN HOWARD COUNTY, IN ADDITION TO THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, IN THE SUBMISSION OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL, THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL INDICATE IN WRITING THE PERCENTAGE OF THE COUNTY'S GENERAL FUND REVENUE, EXCLUDING ONE-TIME EXPENSES, THAT IS ALLOCATED TO THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND OPERATING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, INCLUDING:

1. PENSION OBLIGATIONS;
2. EMPLOYEE AND RETIREE BENEFITS;
3. DEBT SERVICE;
4. SCHOOL AND STUDENT SAFETY; AND
5. TRANSPORTATION.

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(3) The county council may restore any denial or reduction made by the county executive in the annual budget submitted by the county board.

(4) In Baltimore County, the County Council may not restore any denial or reduction made by the County Executive.

(5) This paragraph applies to Baltimore County and supersedes paragraph (4) of this subsection only if the voters of Baltimore County approve an amendment to the Baltimore County Charter that grants the County Council the authority to restore any denial or reduction made by the County Executive in the budget submitted by the county board. The Baltimore County Council may restore any denial or reduction made by the County Executive if it publicly states the amount the restoration represents in the county tax rate.

(d) (1) In Baltimore City, the City Council may not restore any denial or reduction made by the Mayor.

(2) (i) This paragraph applies to Baltimore City and supersedes paragraph (1) of this subsection only if the voters of Baltimore City approve an amendment to the Baltimore City Charter that grants the City Council the authority to restore any denial or reduction made by the Mayor in the budget submitted by the county board.

(ii) The Baltimore City Council may restore any denial or reduction made by the Mayor if it publicly states the amount the restoration represents in the city tax rate.

(e) (1) Copies of the budget shall be made available to the public, on request, at the time it is submitted by the county board.

(Over)

(2) (I) A copy of the budget as approved by the county commissioners or county council shall be sent to the State Superintendent within 30 days after approval and posted on the county board’s public-facing website, in an easily identifiable location.

(II) IN HOWARD COUNTY, A COPY OF THE BUDGET AS APPROVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL INCLUDE, IN WRITING, THE PERCENTAGE OF THE COUNTY’S GENERAL FUND REVENUE, EXCLUDING ONE-TIME EXPENSES, THAT IS APPROPRIATED TO THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AND OPERATING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, INCLUDING:

1. PENSION OBLIGATIONS;
2. EMPLOYEE AND RETIREE BENEFITS;
3. DEBT SERVICE;
4. SCHOOL AND STUDENT SAFETY; AND
5. TRANSPORTATION.

(3) A copy of the budget submitted under subsection (b)(1) of this section shall be placed on the county board’s public-facing website, in an easily identifiable location.”.