

HOUSE BILL 322

J3

6lr1997
CF SB 260

By: ~~Delegate Kerr~~ Delegates Kerr, Alston, Bagnall, Cullison, Guzzone, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaufman, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Reilly, Rosenberg, Ross, Szeliga, Taveras, White Holland, and Woorman

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2026

Assigned to: Health

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 18, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Health Care Commission – Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the Maryland Health Care Commission by
4 reducing the number of members who are individuals who do not have any
5 connection with the management or policy of a health care provider or payor and
6 including ~~a representative~~ an administrator of a hospital; altering the number of
7 Commission members who must be residents of different counties with a certain
8 minimum population; and generally relating to the membership of the Maryland
9 Health Care Commission.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Health – General
12 Section 19–101
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Health – General
17 Section 19–104
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

3 **Article – Health – General**

4 19–101.

5 In this subtitle, “Commission” means the Maryland Health Care Commission.

6 19–104.

7 (a) (1) The Commission shall consist of 15 members appointed by the Governor
8 with the advice and consent of the Senate.

9 (2) Of the 15 members:

10 (i) **[Nine] EIGHT** shall be individuals who do not have any
11 connection with the management or policy of a health care provider or payor; and

12 (ii) Of the remaining **[six] SEVEN** members:

13 1. Two shall be physicians;

14 2. Two shall be payors, as defined in § 19–132 of this subtitle;

15 3. **ONE SHALL BE ~~A REPRESENTATIVE~~ AN**
16 **ADMINISTRATOR OF A HOSPITAL, AS DEFINED IN § 19–301 OF THIS TITLE;**

17 4. One shall be a nursing home administrator in the State;
18 and

19 **[4.] 5.** One shall be a nonphysician health care practitioner.

20 (b) (1) The term of a member is 4 years.

21 (2) The terms of members are staggered as required by the terms provided
22 for members of the Commission on October 1, 1999.

23 (3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is
24 appointed and qualifies.

25 (4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the
26 rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

27 (5) The Governor may remove a member for neglect of duty, incompetence,
28 or misconduct.

1 (6) A member may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

2 (c) When appointing members to the Commission, the Governor shall:

3 (1) Assure that:

4 (i) At least ~~five~~ **FOUR** members are residents of different counties
5 with a population of 300,000 or more; and

6 (ii) At least three members are residents of different counties with a
7 population of less than 300,000, of which at least:

8 1. One shall be a resident of the Eastern Shore;

9 2. One shall be a resident of Allegany County, Garrett
10 County, Washington County, Carroll County, or Frederick County; and

11 3. One shall be a resident of Southern Maryland; and

12 (2) To the extent practicable, assure geographic balance and promote
13 racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in the Commission’s membership.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.