

HOUSE BILL 328

L5, G2

6lr1061

By: Prince George's County Delegation and Montgomery County Delegation

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Bicounty Commissions – Public Ethics – Financial Disclosure Statements**

3 **PG/MC 105–26**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring an applicant for appointment as a commissioner of a bicounty
5 commission to submit a certain statement to the Prince George's County Office of
6 Ethics and Accountability; requiring the chief administrative officer for Prince
7 George's County to transmit the financial disclosure statements of commissioners or
8 appointed applicants of bicounty commissions to the Office; requiring the Office,
9 rather than the chief administrative officer for Prince George's County, to retain the
10 statements, return the statements to certain applicants under certain
11 circumstances, provide certain notice to the State Ethics Commission, record certain
12 information of individuals examining or copying the statement, and maintain, make
13 available, and establish procedures governing the inspection of the statements; and
14 generally relating to financial disclosure statements for commissioners and
15 applicants for appointment as commissioners of bicounty commissions.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

17 Article – General Provisions

18 Section 5–822, 5–824(c)(1) and (2), and 5–825(a)

19 Annotated Code of Maryland

20 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

22 Article – General Provisions

23 Section 5–825(b)(1), 5–826, and 5–827

24 Annotated Code of Maryland

25 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

26 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

27 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



Article – General Provisions

2 5-822.

3 In this part, "commissioner" means a commissioner of a bicoounty commission.

4 5-824.

11 5-825.

12 (a) An applicant for appointment as commissioner shall file the financial
13 disclosure statement required by this part electronically with the Ethics Commission.

14 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an applicant
15 shall also print a paper copy of the electronically filed statement and submit it to:

18 (II) IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, THE PRINCE GEORGE'S
19 COUNTY OFFICE OF ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

20 5-826

21 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the chief
22 administrative officer of a county shall transmit each financial disclosure statement of a
23 commissioner or appointed applicant to the executive director of the appropriate bicounty
24 commission **AND, IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY**
25 **OFFICE OF ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**.

4 (1) THE executive director [and];

15 (I) the county council [and];

26 5-827.

27 (a) The Ethics Commission, the executive director of each bicoounty commission,
28 [and] the chief administrative officer [of each county] **FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, AND**
29 **THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY OFFICE OF ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY:**

30 (1) shall maintain financial disclosure statements of commissioners and
31 appointed applicants received under this part;

32 (2) shall make the statements available to the public for examination and
33 copying during normal office hours; and

(3) may charge a reasonable fee and adopt reasonable administrative procedures for the examination and copying of a statement.

7 (1) the person's name and home address; and

8 (2) the name of the individual whose statement was examined or copied.

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