

# HOUSE BILL 946

D1, P1

6lr2551

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By: **Delegate Wu**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government – Governor’s Appointments Office – Judicial Selection –**  
3 **Reporting**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor’s Appointments Office to annually report  
5 certain information regarding applicants and nominees for judicial office; and  
6 generally relating to applicants and nominees for judicial office.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – State Government  
9 Section 8–3A–01(a)(1)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
13 Article – State Government  
14 Section 8–3A–01(a)(3)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

17 BY adding to  
18 Article – State Government  
19 Section 8–3A–03  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – State Government**

25 8–3A–01.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(a) (1) In this [section] SUBTITLE the following words have the meanings indicated.

(3) “Office” means the Appointments Office in the Office of the Governor that performs the function of recommending to the Governor the appointment or nomination of an individual to serve as a member of a State or local board, commission, council, committee, authority, task force, or other entity that by law requires the membership to be appointed in whole or in part by the Governor, whether or not the appointment or nomination is with the advice and consent of the Senate or House of Delegates.

**8-3A-03.**

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “JUDGE” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 1-101 OF THE COURTS ARTICLE.

(B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2026, AND EACH DECEMBER 1 THEREAFTER, THE OFFICE SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THIS ARTICLE, AND MAKE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE A REPORT FOR THE PRIOR CALENDAR YEAR ON:

(1) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO APPLY TO A JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION SEEKING APPOINTMENT AS A JUDGE, DISAGGREGATED BY THE JUDICIAL OFFICE SOUGHT, ETHNICITY, GENDER IDENTITY, DISABILITY STATUS, VETERAN STATUS, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION;

(2) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS RECOMMENDED BY A JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION TO THE OFFICE FOR APPOINTMENT AS A JUDGE, DISAGGREGATED BY THE JUDICIAL OFFICE FOR WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL WAS RECOMMENDED, ETHNICITY, GENDER IDENTITY, DISABILITY STATUS, VETERAN STATUS, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION; AND

(3) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS NOMINATED BY THE GOVERNOR TO SERVE AS A JUDGE, DISAGGREGATED BY THE JUDICIAL OFFICE TO WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL WAS NOMINATED, ETHNICITY, GENDER IDENTITY, DISABILITY STATUS, VETERAN STATUS, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION.

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