

HOUSE BILL 1081

R2

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

6lr1880
CF SB 947

By: ~~Delegates Korman and Edelson~~, Edelson, Allen, Behler, Boyce, Foley, Guyton, Healey, Holmes, Lewis, Odom, Stein, and Ziegler

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Transit Administration Reform Act**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Board of Directors for Baltimore Core Transit Service
4 in the Maryland Transit Administration as a governing body with certain authority
5 over the provision of Baltimore Core Transit Service; establishing the Commuter
6 Services Advisory Board to provide certain oversight over and guidance for certain
7 Administration commuter rail and bus services in the State; requiring the Maryland
8 Transportation Commission to determine the qualifications, appointments,
9 compensation, and leave for certain management personnel positions in the
10 Administration; repealing the Baltimore Regional Transit Commission as an
11 advisory commission for transit in the Baltimore City region; proposing an
12 amendment to the Maryland Constitution authorizing the General Assembly to
13 apply certain condemnation authority to the Administration; authorizing the
14 Administration to exercise certain quick take condemnation authority; exempting
15 certain Administration capital construction ~~projects and maintenance contracts and~~
16 associated transit facilities and vehicles from certain provisions of the State
17 procurement law; limiting the liability of the Administration in a tort action to a
18 certain amount; requiring the Maryland Department of Transportation to contract
19 with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council to complete a technical study on the
20 creation of a rail authority in the State; and generally relating to reform of the
21 Maryland Transit Administration.

22 BY ~~adding to~~ repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

23 Article – State Finance and Procurement

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 ~~11-203(a)~~ 4-415, 10-202, 12-101(a), 12-103, 12-107(a), 12-108, and
 2 12-202(a)
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

5 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 6 Article – State Finance and Procurement
 7 Section 12-101(b), 12-107(b)(3), and 12-202(b)
 8 Annotated Code of Maryland
 9 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

10 BY adding to
 11 Article – Transportation
 12 Section 7-201.1, 7-201.2, 7-401.1, and 7-401.2
 13 Annotated Code of Maryland
 14 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 16 Article – Transportation
 17 Section 7-206, 7-702, 8-327, and 8-328
 18 Annotated Code of Maryland
 19 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

20 BY repealing
 21 Article – Transportation
 22 Section 7-213
 23 Annotated Code of Maryland
 24 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

25 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 26 Article – Transportation
 27 Section 8-329
 28 Annotated Code of Maryland
 29 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

30 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
 31 Article III – Legislative Department
 32 Section 40B

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

35 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

36 ~~11-203.~~

~~(L) THIS DIVISION II DOES NOT APPLY TO MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ON EXISTING AND DEFINED FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS.~~

4-415.

(a) This section does not apply to:

(1) any capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the Maryland Transportation Authority in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways;
OR

(2) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT FACILITIES AND VEHICLES.

(b) Before execution, a contract for the acquisition of land shall be:

(1) reviewed by the Secretary of General Services; and

(2) except as provided in § 12-204 of this article, after that review, approved by the Board of Public Works.

(c) (1) This subsection does not apply to any capital expenditure by:

(i) the Maryland Aviation Administration;

(ii) the Maryland Port Administration; or

(iii) the Maryland Transit Administration.

(2) At least 40 days before the Board of Public Works may act on a land acquisition, the Division shall give written notice of a potential acquisition of land:

(i) to the governing body of the county in which the land is located;
and

(ii) if the land is located within a municipal corporation, to the governing body of the municipal corporation.

(3) Within 30 days after receiving notice under this subsection, the governing body may submit written comments to the Division.

(d) The Board of Public Works shall supervise the expenditure of any money that the General Assembly appropriates for the acquisition of land.

1 10-202.

2 (a) This section does not apply to property to be acquired in connection with:

3 (1) State roads, bridges, or highways; OR

4 (2) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS TO
5 SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY
6 SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT FACILITIES AND VEHICLES.

7 (b) Subject to Title 12 of the Real Property Article, the Board may condemn
8 property for State use.

9 (c) The Department of General Services, with the approval of the Board, shall
10 adopt regulations in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the State Government Article
11 that establish a uniform method of determining the value of any applicable life estate
12 discount for property condemned in accordance with this section.

13 12-101.

14 (a) This section does not apply to:

15 (1) (I) capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the
16 Maryland Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways,
17 as provided in § 12-202 of this title; or

18 (II) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS
19 TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY
20 SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT FACILITIES AND VEHICLES; OR

21 (2) procurements by the Department of General Services for the purpose of
22 modernizing cybersecurity infrastructure for the State valued below \$1,000,000.

23 (b) (1) The Board may control procurement by units.

24 (2) To implement the provisions of this Division II, the Board may:

25 (i) set policy;

26 (ii) adopt regulations, in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the
27 State Government Article; and

28 (iii) establish internal operational procedures consistent with this
29 Division II.

1 (3) The Board shall ensure that the regulations of the primary
2 procurement units provide for procedures that are consistent with this Division II and Title
3 13, Subtitle 4 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article and, to the extent the
4 circumstances of a particular type of procurement or a particular unit do not require
5 otherwise, are substantially the same.

6 (4) The Board may delegate any of its authority that it determines to be
7 appropriate for delegation and may require prior Board approval for specified procurement
8 actions.

9 (5) Except as limited by the Maryland Constitution, the Board may
10 exercise any control authority conferred on a primary procurement unit by this Division II
11 and, to the extent that its action conflicts with the action of the primary procurement unit,
12 the action of the Board shall prevail.

13 12-103.

14 (a) This section does not apply to:

15 (1) capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the
16 Maryland Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways,
17 as provided in § 12-202 of this title; OR

18 (2) **MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS TO**
19 **SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY**
20 **SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT FACILITIES AND VEHICLES, AS PROVIDED IN §**
21 **12-202 OF THIS TITLE.**

22 (b) Notwithstanding any delegation of authority under § 12-101 of this subtitle,
23 the Board retains full authority to engage in procurement of services and supplies for itself.

24 (c) By resolution, the Board may authorize a Board member or a unit to exercise
25 all or any part of the authority of the Board for a specific Board procurement or for a
26 particular class of Board procurements.

27 12-107.

28 (a) This section does not apply to:

29 (1) capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the
30 Maryland Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways,
31 as provided in § 12-202 of this title; OR

32 (2) **MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS TO**
33 **SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY**
34 **SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT FACILITIES AND VEHICLES.**

1 (b) Subject to the authority of the Board, jurisdiction over procurement is as
2 follows:

3 (3) the Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transportation
4 Authority, without the approval of any of the other primary procurement units, may engage
5 in the procurement of:

6 (i) construction that is related to transportation, as provided in the
7 Transportation Article;

8 (ii) construction related services that are related to transportation,
9 as provided in the Transportation Article;

10 (iii) architectural or engineering services that are related to
11 transportation, under Title 13, Subtitle 3 of this article;

12 (iv) supplies for transportation-related activities, including
13 information technology supplies that are subject to Title 3.5 of this article, but excluding:

14 1. supplies funded by the proceeds from State general
15 obligation bonds; and

16 2. insurance;

17 (v) services for transportation-related activities, including
18 information technology services that are subject to Title 3.5 of this article, but excluding
19 banking and financial services under the authority of the State Treasurer under item (1) of
20 this subsection;

21 (vi) rolling stock and other property peculiar to the operation of a
22 transit system, as provided in § 7-403 of the Transportation Article;

23 (vii) supplies for aeronautics related activities, including motor
24 vehicles and information processing supplies, but excluding:

25 1. supplies funded by the proceeds from State general
26 obligation bonds; and

27 2. insurance; and

28 (viii) services for aeronautics related activities, including information
29 processing services, but excluding banking and financial services under the authority of the
30 State Treasurer under item (1) of this subsection; and

31 12-108.

1 (a) This section does not apply to:

2 (1) capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the
3 Maryland Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways,
4 as provided in § 12-202 of this title; OR

5 (2) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS TO
6 SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY
7 SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT FACILITIES AND VEHICLES, AS PROVIDED IN §
8 12-202 OF THIS TITLE.

9 (b) Subject to the approval of the Board and under the coordination of the
10 Governor, each of the primary procurement units shall:

11 (1) adopt regulations to carry out this Division II;

12 (2) send to the Board a copy of each proposed regulation under item (1) of
13 this subsection; and

14 (3) send to the Board a copy of each internal operating procedure that the
15 primary procurement unit adopts.

16 12-202.

17 (a) This section does not apply to capital expenditures:

18 (1) for public school construction under Title 5, Subtitle 3 of the Education
19 Article; or

20 (2) (I) by the Department of Transportation or the Maryland
21 Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways; OR

22 (II) FOR MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION
23 CONTRACTS TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
24 FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT FACILITIES AND VEHICLES.

25 (b) Before execution, a contract for a capital expenditure other than in connection
26 with a State correctional facility, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Morgan State University,
27 or the University System of Maryland shall be:

28 (1) reviewed by the Secretary of General Services; and

29 (2) except as provided in § 12-203 of this subtitle and § 13-108 of this
30 article, after that review, approved by the Board.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
2 as follows:

3 Article – State Finance and Procurement

4 4–415.

5 (a) This section does not apply to:

6 (1) any capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the
7 Maryland Transportation Authority in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways;
8 OR

9 (2) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS
10 VALUED BELOW \$500,000 TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT
11 ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT
12 FACILITIES AND VEHICLES.

13 (b) Before execution, a contract for the acquisition of land shall be:

14 (1) reviewed by the Secretary of General Services; and

15 (2) except as provided in § 12–204 of this article, after that review,
16 approved by the Board of Public Works.

17 (c) (1) This subsection does not apply to any capital expenditure by:

18 (i) the Maryland Aviation Administration;

19 (ii) the Maryland Port Administration; or

20 (iii) the Maryland Transit Administration.

21 (2) At least 40 days before the Board of Public Works may act on a land
22 acquisition, the Division shall give written notice of a potential acquisition of land:

23 (i) to the governing body of the county in which the land is located;
24 and

25 (ii) if the land is located within a municipal corporation, to the
26 governing body of the municipal corporation.

27 (3) Within 30 days after receiving notice under this subsection, the
28 governing body may submit written comments to the Division.

1 (d) The Board of Public Works shall supervise the expenditure of any money that
2 the General Assembly appropriates for the acquisition of land.

3 10-202.

4 (a) This section does not apply to property to be acquired in connection with:

5 (1) State roads, bridges, or highways; OR

6 (2) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS
7 VALUED BELOW \$500,000 TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT
8 ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT
9 FACILITIES AND VEHICLES.

10 (b) Subject to Title 12 of the Real Property Article, the Board may condemn
11 property for State use.

12 (c) The Department of General Services, with the approval of the Board, shall
13 adopt regulations in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the State Government Article
14 that establish a uniform method of determining the value of any applicable life estate
15 discount for property condemned in accordance with this section.

16 12-101.

17 (a) This section does not apply to:

18 (1) (I) capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the
19 Maryland Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways,
20 as provided in § 12-202 of this title; or

21 (II) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS
22 VALUED BELOW \$500,000 TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT
23 ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT
24 FACILITIES AND VEHICLES, AS PROVIDED IN § 12-202 OF THIS TITLE; OR

25 (2) procurements by the Department of General Services for the purpose of
26 modernizing cybersecurity infrastructure for the State valued below \$1,000,000.

27 (b) (1) The Board may control procurement by units.

28 (2) To implement the provisions of this Division II, the Board may:

29 (i) set policy;

30 (ii) adopt regulations, in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the
31 State Government Article; and

1 (iii) establish internal operational procedures consistent with this
2 Division II.

3 (3) The Board shall ensure that the regulations of the primary
4 procurement units provide for procedures that are consistent with this Division II and Title
5 13, Subtitle 4 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article and, to the extent the
6 circumstances of a particular type of procurement or a particular unit do not require
7 otherwise, are substantially the same.

8 (4) The Board may delegate any of its authority that it determines to be
9 appropriate for delegation and may require prior Board approval for specified procurement
10 actions.

11 (5) Except as limited by the Maryland Constitution, the Board may
12 exercise any control authority conferred on a primary procurement unit by this Division II
13 and, to the extent that its action conflicts with the action of the primary procurement unit,
14 the action of the Board shall prevail.

15 12-103.

16 (a) This section does not apply to:

17 (1) capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the
18 Maryland Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways,
19 as provided in § 12-202 of this title; OR

20 (2) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS
21 VALUED BELOW \$500,000 TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT
22 ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT
23 FACILITIES AND VEHICLES, AS PROVIDED IN § 12-202 OF THIS TITLE.

24 (b) Notwithstanding any delegation of authority under § 12-101 of this subtitle,
25 the Board retains full authority to engage in procurement of services and supplies for itself.

26 (c) By resolution, the Board may authorize a Board member or a unit to exercise
27 all or any part of the authority of the Board for a specific Board procurement or for a
28 particular class of Board procurements.

29 12-107.

30 (a) This section does not apply to:

31 (1) capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the
32 Maryland Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways,
33 as provided in § 12-202 of this title; OR

1 (2) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS
2 VALUED BELOW \$500,000 TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT
3 ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT
4 FACILITIES AND VEHICLES, AS PROVIDED IN § 12-202 OF THIS TITLE.

5 (b) Subject to the authority of the Board, jurisdiction over procurement is as
6 follows:

7 (3) the Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transportation
8 Authority, without the approval of any of the other primary procurement units, may engage
9 in the procurement of:

10 (i) construction that is related to transportation, as provided in the
11 Transportation Article;

12 (ii) construction related services that are related to transportation,
13 as provided in the Transportation Article;

14 (iii) architectural or engineering services that are related to
15 transportation, under Title 13, Subtitle 3 of this article;

16 (iv) supplies for transportation-related activities, including
17 information technology supplies that are subject to Title 3.5 of this article, but excluding:

18 1. supplies funded by the proceeds from State general
19 obligation bonds; and

20 2. insurance;

21 (v) services for transportation-related activities, including
22 information technology services that are subject to Title 3.5 of this article, but excluding
23 banking and financial services under the authority of the State Treasurer under item (1) of
24 this subsection;

25 (vi) rolling stock and other property peculiar to the operation of a
26 transit system, as provided in § 7-403 of the Transportation Article;

27 (vii) supplies for aeronautics related activities, including motor
28 vehicles and information processing supplies, but excluding:

29 1. supplies funded by the proceeds from State general
30 obligation bonds; and

31 2. insurance; and

1 (viii) services for aeronautics related activities, including information
 2 processing services, but excluding banking and financial services under the authority of the
 3 State Treasurer under item (1) of this subsection; and

4 12-108.

5 (a) This section does not apply to:

6 (1) capital expenditures by the Department of Transportation or the
 7 Maryland Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways,
 8 as provided in § 12-202 of this title; OR

9 (2) MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS
 10 VALUED BELOW \$500,000 TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON MARYLAND TRANSIT
 11 ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS AND ASSOCIATED TRANSIT
 12 FACILITIES AND VEHICLES, AS PROVIDED IN § 12-202 OF THIS TITLE.

13 (b) Subject to the approval of the Board and under the coordination of the
 14 Governor, each of the primary procurement units shall:

15 (1) adopt regulations to carry out this Division II;

16 (2) send to the Board a copy of each proposed regulation under item (1) of
 17 this subsection; and

18 (3) send to the Board a copy of each internal operating procedure that the
 19 primary procurement unit adopts.

20 12-202.

21 (a) This section does not apply to capital expenditures:

22 (1) for public school construction under Title 5, Subtitle 3 of the Education
 23 Article; or

24 (2) (I) by the Department of Transportation or the Maryland
 25 Transportation Authority, in connection with State roads, bridges, or highways; OR

26 (II) BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OR THE
 27 MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, FOR MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL
 28 CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS VALUED BELOW \$500,000 TO SUPPORT SERVICE ON
 29 MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEMS AND
 30 ASSOCIATED TRANSIT FACILITIES AND VEHICLES.

1 2. AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS RIDERS
2 WITH ACCESSIBILITY CHALLENGES;

3 3. AT LEAST ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING AN ANCHOR
4 INSTITUTION THAT ALSO PROVIDES TRANSPORTATION SERVICES IN THE
5 BALTIMORE CORE TRANSIT SERVICE AREA; AND

6 4. ONE MEMBER WHO IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE
7 ADMINISTRATION AND IS A MEMBER OF ~~A~~ THE LABOR UNION REPRESENTING THE
8 PLURALITY OF FRONTLINE WORKERS THAT HAS A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
9 AGREEMENT WITH THE ADMINISTRATION;

10 (ii) TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR OF BALTIMORE
11 CITY;

12 (iii) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE BALTIMORE COUNTY
13 EXECUTIVE; AND

14 (iv) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
15 EXECUTIVE.

16 (2) (i) THE SECRETARY AND THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL SERVE
17 AS NONVOTING EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS.

18 (ii) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT A STUDENT WHO
19 REGULARLY USES ADMINISTRATION SERVICES TO COMMUTE TO AND FROM SCHOOL
20 AS A NONVOTING BOARD MEMBER.

21 (3) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD,
22 WHO SHALL SERVE AS CHAIR AT THE PLEASURE OF THE GOVERNOR.

23 (D) (1) THE TERM OF A BOARD MEMBER IS 3 YEARS.

24 (2) THE TERMS OF THE MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY
25 THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ON JANUARY 1, 2027.

26 (3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL
27 A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.

28 (4) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES
29 ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND
30 QUALIFIES.

1 **(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL PROVIDE**
2 **STAFF FOR THE BOARD, INCLUDING A DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR WHO SHALL SERVE**
3 **AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE ADMINISTRATOR.**

4 **(2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE FOR THE**
5 **BOARD.**

6 **(F) A MEMBER OF THE BOARD:**

7 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD;**
8 **BUT**

9 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
10 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

11 **(G) THE BOARD SHALL:**

12 **(1) APPROVE MAJOR SERVICE PLANS, POLICIES, AND INITIATIVES**
13 **FOR BALTIMORE CORE TRANSIT SERVICE, AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD AND**
14 **THE ADMINISTRATION ON A REASONABLE BASIS;**

15 **(2) PROVIDE ADVICE ON MAJOR PROJECT INITIATIVES, AS**
16 **DETERMINED BY THE BOARD AND THE ADMINISTRATION ON A REASONABLE BASIS;**

17 **(3) ADVISE THE ADMINISTRATOR ON, AND CONSENT TO, THE**
18 **APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR BY THE ADMINISTRATOR AND**
19 **CONSULT WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR ON ANY REMOVAL OF THE DEPUTY**
20 **ADMINISTRATOR BY THE ADMINISTRATOR;**

21 **(4) (I) REVIEW AND APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATION'S**
22 **OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS FOR BALTIMORE CORE TRANSIT**
23 **SERVICE; AND**

24 **(II) ESTABLISH, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT**
25 **AND THE ADMINISTRATION, A TIMELINE FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL UNDER THIS**
26 **PARAGRAPH:**

27 **1. THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S**
28 **BUDGET PROCESS; AND**

1 **2. UNDER WHICH THE OPERATING AND CAPITAL**
2 **BUDGET REQUESTS SHALL BE CONSIDERED APPROVED BY OPERATION OF LAW IF**
3 **THE BOARD DOES NOT TAKE ACTION WITHIN THE TIMELINE;**

4 **(5) HAVE APPROVAL AUTHORITY, SUPPORTED BY AT LEAST**
5 **TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, OVER ANY DECISION BY THE**
6 **DEPARTMENT OR THE ADMINISTRATION TO WITHDRAW A NEW STARTS CAPITAL**
7 **INVESTMENT GRANT OR ANOTHER FEDERAL GRANT UNDER A SUBSTANTIALLY**
8 **SIMILAR PROGRAM FOR ANY BALTIMORE CORE TRANSIT SERVICE AREA PROJECT**
9 **ONCE THAT PROJECT HAS BEEN ACCEPTED INTO THE ENGINEERING PHASE BY THE**
10 **FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION;**

11 **(6) (I) MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY; AND**

12 **(II) ACCEPT PUBLIC COMMENTS DURING THE MEETINGS AND,**
13 **AT ALL TIMES, ELECTRONICALLY;**

14 **(7) INCLUDE IN THE QUARTERLY AGENDA EACH OF THE FOLLOWING**
15 **TOPICS AT LEAST ONCE EACH YEAR:**

16 **(I) THE CAPITAL NEEDS INVENTORY REPORT;**

17 **(II) THE CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM**
18 **PRIORITIES AND INITIAL BUDGET REQUESTS UNDER § 2-103.1 OF THIS ARTICLE;**
19 **AND**

20 **(III) ANY UPDATE ON THE CENTRAL MARYLAND REGIONAL**
21 **TRANSIT PLAN UNDER § 7-301.1 OF THIS TITLE;**

22 **(8) PROVIDE INPUT AND ENGAGE IN ADVOCACY FOR BALTIMORE**
23 **CORE TRANSIT SERVICE;**

24 **(9) (I) REQUEST AND REVIEW INFORMATION FROM THE ANNUAL**
25 **ATTAINMENT REPORT AND THE ADMINISTRATION CONCERNING THE ATTAINMENT**
26 **OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S GOALS, INCLUDING PERFORMANCE GOALS AND**
27 **METRICS;**

28 **(II) EVALUATE ANY OTHER MEASURES OF THE PERFORMANCE**
29 **OF BALTIMORE CORE TRANSIT SERVICE; AND**

30 **(III) ISSUE WRITTEN RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING HOW**
31 **THE RESULTS OF THE BOARD'S REVIEW AND EVALUATION SHOULD INFLUENCE THE**
32 **ADMINISTRATION'S PRIORITIES IN FUTURE YEARS;**

1 **(10) REVIEW SERVICE CHANGE REPORTS AND APPROVE MAJOR**
2 **SERVICE CHANGE PROPOSALS;**

3 **(11) REVIEW AND APPROVE ANY UPDATE TO THE CENTRAL**
4 **MARYLAND REGIONAL TRANSIT PLAN;**

5 **(12) REVIEW AND APPROVE THE CAPITAL NEEDS INVENTORY**
6 **REPORT;**

7 **(13) REVIEW LOCAL TRANSIT PLANS AND SERVICES IN THE**
8 **BALTIMORE REGION TO ENSURE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE LOCAL TRANSIT**
9 **SERVICES AND BALTIMORE CORE TRANSIT SERVICE;**

10 **(14) ORGANIZE AND ESTABLISH POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE**
11 **OPERATIONS OF THE BOARD, INCLUDING CONFLICT OF INTEREST STANDARDS,**
12 **CONSISTENT WITH TITLE 5 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE AND § 7-211 OF**
13 **THIS SUBTITLE, THAT PROHIBIT A BOARD MEMBER FROM HAVING ANY**
14 **INAPPROPRIATE ~~FINANCIAL~~ PROFESSIONAL, FINANCIAL, OR NONFINANCIAL**
15 **INTEREST IN A MATTER OVER WHICH THE BOARD HAS JURISDICTION;**

16 **(15) NOT LATER THAN 6 MONTHS AFTER THE BOARD FIRST MEETS,**
17 **ADOPT BYLAWS TO GOVERN THE OPERATIONS OF THE BOARD;**

18 **(16) (I) KEEP MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS AND MAINTAIN**
19 **PROPER RECORDS OF ALL BOARD ACTIVITY; AND**

20 **(II) POST ALL MINUTES, RECORDS, NOTICES, COMMENTS, OR**
21 **OTHER INFORMATION ISSUED BY THE BOARD OR RECEIVED FROM THE PUBLIC ON A**
22 **PUBLIC WEBSITE ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED BY THE BOARD; AND**

23 **(17) (I) SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SENATE BUDGET AND**
24 **TAXATION COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THE**
25 **HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE**
26 **STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON SYSTEM PERFORMANCE, TRENDS, MAJOR**
27 **PROJECTS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES; AND**

28 **(II) MAKE THE REPORT AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC**
29 **AND ENSURE THAT THE REPORT IS READILY AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE OF THE**
30 **ADMINISTRATION.**

31 **(H) (1) THE BOARD SHALL MEET AT A TIME AND PLACE DESIGNATED BY**
32 **THE CHAIR.**

1 (2) THE BOARD SHALL MEET AS OFTEN AS ITS DUTIES REQUIRE, BUT
2 NOT LESS THAN QUARTERLY.

3 7-201.2.

4 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
5 INDICATED.

6 (2) “BOARD” MEANS THE COMMUTER SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD.

7 (3) “COMMUTER SERVICE” MEANS THE ADMINISTRATION’S:

8 (I) ~~MARC COMMUTER TRAIN SERVICE~~ MARYLAND AREA
9 REGIONAL COMMUTER (MARC) TRAIN SERVICE; AND

10 (II) ~~THE ADMINISTRATION’S COMMUTER~~ COMMUTER BUS
11 SERVICE.

12 (B) THERE IS A COMMUTER SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD IN THE
13 ADMINISTRATION.

14 (C) (1) THE BOARD CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING VOTING MEMBERS,
15 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

16 (I) THE SECRETARY, OR THE SECRETARY’S DESIGNEE;

17 (II) SIX MEMBERS WHO RESIDE IN AREAS SERVED BY MARC OR
18 ADMINISTRATION COMMUTER BUSES;

19 (III) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS RIDERS WITH
20 ACCESSIBILITY CHALLENGES; AND

21 (IV) ONE MEMBER WHO IS AN EMPLOYEE OF AN
22 ADMINISTRATION COMMUTER SERVICE CONTRACTOR AND IS A MEMBER OF A LABOR
23 UNION THAT HAS A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMUTER
24 SERVICE CONTRACTOR.

25 (2) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD,
26 WHO SHALL SERVE AS CHAIR AT THE PLEASURE OF THE GOVERNOR.

27 (D) (1) THE TERM OF A BOARD MEMBER IS 3 YEARS.

1 **(2) THE TERMS OF THE MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY**
2 **THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ON JANUARY 1, 2027.**

3 **(3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL**
4 **A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

5 **(4) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES**
6 **ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND**
7 **QUALIFIES.**

8 **(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL PROVIDE**
9 **STAFF FOR THE BOARD, INCLUDING A DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR WHO SHALL SERVE**
10 **AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE ADMINISTRATOR.**

11 **(2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE FOR THE**
12 **BOARD.**

13 **(F) A MEMBER OF THE BOARD:**

14 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD;**
15 **BUT**

16 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
17 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

18 **(G) THE BOARD SHALL:**

19 **(1) PROVIDE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ON MARC AND COMMUTER BUS**
20 **PLANS AND POLICIES;**

21 **(2) REVIEW AND COMMENT ON MAJOR MARC AND COMMUTER BUS**
22 **SERVICE PLANS AND UPDATES;**

23 **(3) PROVIDE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ON THE HIRING AND REMOVAL**
24 **OF THE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR;**

25 **(4) (I) REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S**
26 **OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS FOR MARC AND COMMUTER BUS**
27 **SERVICE; AND**

28 **(II) ESTABLISH, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT**
29 **AND THE ADMINISTRATION, A TIMELINE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT UNDER THIS**

1 PARAGRAPH THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET PROCESS;
2 AND

3 (5) (I) SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SENATE BUDGET AND
4 TAXATION COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THE
5 HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE
6 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON SYSTEM PERFORMANCE, TRENDS, MAJOR
7 PROJECTS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES; AND

8 (II) MAKE THE REPORT AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC
9 AND ENSURE THAT THE REPORT IS READILY AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE OF THE
10 ADMINISTRATION.

11 (H) (1) THE BOARD SHALL MEET AT A TIME AND PLACE DESIGNATED BY
12 THE CHAIR.

13 (2) THE BOARD SHALL MEET AS OFTEN AS THE DUTIES REQUIRE, BUT
14 NOT LESS THAN QUARTERLY.

15 7-206.

16 (a) (1) Without regard to the laws of this State relating to other State
17 employees, and subject to § 2-103.4 of this article, the Administration may:

18 (i) Create and abolish any position other than one specifically
19 provided for in this title; and

20 (ii) Determine the qualification, appointment, removal, term, and
21 tenure of its employees.

22 (2) The Administration may determine the compensation of:

23 (i) Employees if the compensation is determined pursuant to
24 Subtitle 6 of this title;

25 (ii) Executive management positions, as recommended by the
26 Secretary and approved by the Governor, subject to approval in the budget; and

27 (iii) Management positions, subject to approval by the Secretary and
28 the Governor and the availability of funds in the budget.

29 (b) (1) Subject to § 2-103.4 of this article, the Administration may establish a
30 personnel system based on merit and fitness.

31 (2) The Administration may:

1 (i) Subject to Division II of the State Personnel and Pensions
2 Article, participate in the Employees' Retirement System and the Employees' Pension
3 System of the State of Maryland on terms and conditions mutually acceptable to the
4 Administration and the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System;
5 and

6 (ii) Establish and maintain an independent system of pensions and
7 retirement benefits for its employees.

8 (c) The Administrator may appoint and remove all employees of the
9 Administration, subject to the rules of procedure and standards that the Secretary adopts.

10 **(D) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE**
11 **MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE THE**
12 **QUALIFICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS, AS WELL AS COMPENSATION AND LEAVE,**
13 **FOR UP TO 12 MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL POSITIONS REQUIRED BY THE**
14 **ADMINISTRATION TO OPERATE AND ADMINISTER ALL STATE-OWNED TRANSIT**
15 **FACILITIES.**

16 **(2) (I) IN MAKING DETERMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS UNDER**
17 **THIS SUBSECTION, THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION SHALL**
18 **CONSIDER THE COMPARATIVE STATUS OF EMPLOYEES SERVING IN SIMILAR**
19 **POSITIONS AND DISCHARGING SIMILAR DUTIES AT COMPARABLE TRANSIT**
20 **AGENCIES.**

21 **(II) IN SELECTING COMPARABLE TRANSIT AGENCIES, THE**
22 **MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION SHALL CONSIDER OPERATIONAL AND**
23 **TRAFFIC DATA, MARKET AREA CHARACTERISTICS, AGENCY COMPETITIVENESS, AND**
24 **ANY OTHER FACTORS THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE.**

25 **(3) EXCEPT FOR GENERAL SALARY INCREASES APPROVED BY THE**
26 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION SHALL**
27 **SUBMIT TO THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT AT LEAST 10 DAYS**
28 **BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF ANY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL POSITION SALARY**
29 **INCREASE NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT.**

30 **(4) THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SHALL:**

31 **(I) REVIEW THE PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT; AND**

32 **(II) WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE PROPOSED**
33 **ADJUSTMENT, ADVISE THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION WHETHER**
34 **THE ADJUSTMENT POSES AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON SPECIAL FUND EXPENDITURES.**

1 **(5) FAILURE OF THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT TO**
2 **ADVISE THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION IN A TIMELY MANNER**
3 **SHALL BE DEEMED A DETERMINATION THAT THE PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT POSES**
4 **NO ADVERSE IMPACT.**

5 **(6) EMPLOYEES APPOINTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION ARE STATE**
6 **EMPLOYEES AND SHALL BE ENTITLED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RETIREMENT AND**
7 **PENSION SYSTEMS FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND AUTHORIZED**
8 **UNDER DIVISION II OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS ARTICLE.**

9 [7-213.

10 (a) There is a Baltimore Regional Transit Commission.

11 (b) The Commission consists of the following members:

12 (1) The following six members from Baltimore City, appointed as follows:

13 (i) Three members appointed by the Governor, including:

14 1. At least one member who uses transit in the Baltimore
15 region; and

16 2. At least one member from the business community; and

17 (ii) Three members appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore City;

18 (2) The following four members from Baltimore County, appointed as
19 follows:

20 (i) Two members appointed by the Governor, including:

21 1. At least one member who uses transit in the Baltimore
22 region; and

23 2. At least one member from the business community; and

24 (ii) Two members appointed by the County Executive of Baltimore
25 County;

26 (3) The following two members from Anne Arundel County, appointed as
27 follows:

28 (i) One member appointed by the Governor; and

- 1 (ii) One member appointed by the County Executive of Anne
2 Arundel County;
- 3 (4) The following two members from Howard County, appointed as follows:
- 4 (i) One member appointed by the Governor; and
- 5 (ii) One member appointed by the County Executive of Howard
6 County;
- 7 (5) One nonvoting member who is an employee of the Administration and
8 is a member of the Amalgamated Transit Union local labor union, designated by the labor
9 union; and
- 10 (6) The Secretary or the Secretary's designee, who shall vote only in the
11 case of a tie.
- 12 (c) (1) The Commission shall select a chair and a vice chair from among its
13 members.
- 14 (2) The chair and vice chair shall each serve a term of 2 years in those
15 capacities.
- 16 (d) (1) The term of a commissioner is 3 years.
- 17 (2) A commissioner may not serve more than two consecutive terms.
- 18 (3) The term of a commissioner begins January 1, 2024.
- 19 (4) The terms of the members are staggered as required by the terms
20 provided for members of the Commission on January 1, 2024.
- 21 (5) At the end of a term, a commissioner continues to serve until a successor
22 is appointed.
- 23 (e) (1) The Baltimore Metropolitan Council shall provide staff for the
24 Commission.
- 25 (2) The Administration shall allocate funds for operational expenses
26 incurred by the Commission, including funding for one senior planner and two junior
27 planner staffing positions.
- 28 (f) A member of the Commission:
- 29 (1) May not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

1 (2) Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
2 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

3 (g) The Commission shall:

4 (1) Organize and establish policies and procedures for the operations of the
5 Commission, including conflict of interest standards that prohibit a commissioner from
6 having any inappropriate financial or nonfinancial interest in a matter over which the
7 Commission has jurisdiction;

8 (2) Not later than 6 months after the Commission first meets, adopt bylaws
9 to govern the operations of the Commission;

10 (3) (i) Meet at least quarterly; and

11 (ii) Accept public comments during the meetings and, at all times,
12 electronically;

13 (4) Include in the quarterly agenda each of the following topics at least once
14 each year:

15 (i) The Capital Needs Inventory Report;

16 (ii) The Consolidated Transportation Program priorities and initial
17 budget requests under § 2–103.1 of this article; and

18 (iii) Any update on the Central Maryland Regional Transit Plan
19 under § 7–301.1 of this title;

20 (5) (i) Keep minutes of Commission meetings and maintain proper
21 records of all Commission activity; and

22 (ii) Post all minutes, records, notices, comments, or other
23 information issued by the Commission or received from the public on a public website
24 established and maintained by the Commission;

25 (6) Provide input and engage in advocacy for the Baltimore region public
26 transit systems maintained by the Administration;

27 (7) Request and review information from the Annual Attainment Report
28 and the Administration concerning the attainment of the Administration's goals, including
29 performance goals and metrics, evaluate any other measures of the performance of the
30 Baltimore region transit system, and issue written recommendations concerning how the
31 results of the Commission's review and evaluation should influence the Administration's
32 priorities in future years;

1 (8) Review and comment on service change reports and major service
2 change proposals on a quarterly basis;

3 (9) Review and comment on the Administration's annual operating and
4 capital budget request for the Baltimore region, including bus, light rail, metro, commuter
5 bus, MARC service, and paratransit as part of the development of the draft and final
6 Consolidated Transportation Program;

7 (10) Review and approve any update to the Central Maryland Regional
8 Transit Plan;

9 (11) Review and comment on the Capital Needs Inventory Report; and

10 (12) Review local transit plans and services in the Baltimore region to
11 ensure coordination between the local transit services and the Administration.

12 (h) In carrying out its duties under subsection (g) of this section, the Commission
13 shall endeavor to ensure that the Administration's plans, budgets, decisions, policies, goals,
14 priorities, operations, and services address the public transit needs of residents and
15 businesses in the Baltimore region.

16 (i) On or before December 1 each year, the Commission shall report its findings
17 and recommendations on the Baltimore region transit systems to the Administration, the
18 Governor, and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General
19 Assembly.]

20 7-702.

21 (a) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Administration is liable for its
22 contracts and torts and for the torts of its officers, agents, and employees in connection with
23 the performance of the duties and functions of the Administration under this title.

24 (b) (1) The exclusive remedy for a breach of contract or for a tort committed by
25 the Administration, its officers, agents, or employees is a suit against the Administration.

26 (2) No execution may be levied on any property of this State or of the
27 Administration.

28 (c) (1) ~~THE SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE~~
29 **LIABILITY OF THE ADMINISTRATION AS TO A TORT ACTION MAY NOT EXCEED**
30 **\$400,000 TO A SINGLE CLAIMANT FOR INJURIES ARISING FROM A SINGLE INCIDENT**
31 **OR OCCURRENCE.**

32 (2) **THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO LIMIT OR IMPAIR**
33 **THE APPLICATION OF 49 U.S.C. § 28103, OR THE ADMINISTRATION'S OBLIGATIONS**

1 UNDER AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO THAT PROVISION OF FEDERAL
2 LAW.

3 (D) Subsection ~~[(d)]~~ (E) of this section does not apply to a tort claim that is
4 asserted by cross-claim, counterclaim, or third-party claim.

5 ~~[(d)]~~ (E) A tort claimant may not institute an action under this section unless:

6 (1) The claimant submits a written notice of claim to the Administrator or
7 the Administrator's designee within 1 year after the injury to person or property that is the
8 basis of the claim;

9 (2) The Administrator or the Administrator's designee denies the claim;
10 and

11 (3) The action is filed within 3 years after the cause of action arises.

12 ~~[(e)]~~ (F) A notice of claim under this section shall:

13 (1) Contain a concise statement of facts that sets forth the nature of the
14 claim, including the date and place of the alleged tort;

15 (2) State the name and address of the claimant;

16 (3) State the name, address, and telephone number of counsel for the
17 claimant, if any; and

18 (4) Be signed by the claimant, or the legal representative or counsel for the
19 claimant.

20 ~~[(f)]~~ (G) A claim under this section is denied:

21 (1) If the Administrator or the Administrator's designee sends the
22 claimant, or the legal representative or counsel for the claimant, written notice of denial;
23 or

24 (2) If the Administrator or the Administrator's designee fails to give notice
25 of a denial within 6 months after the sending of the notice of claim.

26 ~~[(g)]~~ (H) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, unless the
27 Administration affirmatively shows that its defense has been prejudiced by the lack of the
28 required notice, a court may allow the action to proceed even if the written notice of claim
29 was not submitted.

1 SECTION ~~2~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, (Three-fifths of all the members
2 elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That it be proposed that the Maryland
3 Constitution read as follows:

4 **Article III – Legislative Department**

5 40B.

6 The General Assembly shall enact no law authorizing private property to be taken
7 for public use without just compensation, to be agreed upon between the parties or awarded
8 by a jury, being first paid or tendered to the party entitled to such compensation, except
9 that ~~where:~~

10 **(1) WHERE** such property in the judgment of the State ~~[Roads~~
11 ~~Commission]~~ ~~HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, OR A SUCCESSOR STATE AGENCY,~~ is
12 needed by the State for highway purposes ~~OR OF THE MARYLAND TRANSIT~~
13 ~~ADMINISTRATION, OR A SUCCESSOR STATE AGENCY, IS NEEDED BY THE STATE FOR~~
14 ~~TRANSIT PURPOSES,~~ the General Assembly may provide that such property may be taken
15 immediately upon payment therefor to the owner or owners thereof by said State ~~[Roads~~
16 ~~Commission]~~ ~~HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION OR MARYLAND TRANSIT~~
17 ~~ADMINISTRATION, OR ANY RESPECTIVE SUCCESSOR STATE AGENCIES, OR A~~
18 ~~SUCCESSOR STATE AGENCY,~~ or into Court, such amount as said State ~~[Roads~~
19 ~~Commission]~~ ~~HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION OR MARYLAND TRANSIT~~
20 ~~ADMINISTRATION, OR ANY RESPECTIVE STATE AGENCIES, OR A SUCCESSOR STATE~~
21 ~~AGENCY,~~ shall estimate to be of the fair value of said property, provided such legislation
22 also requires the payment of any further sum that may subsequently be awarded by a jury;
23 **OR**

24 **(2) WHERE SUCH PROPERTY IN THE JUDGMENT OF THE MARYLAND**
25 **TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, OR A SUCCESSOR STATE AGENCY, IS NEEDED BY THE**
26 **STATE FOR TRANSIT PURPOSES, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY PROVIDE THAT**
27 **SUCH PROPERTY MAY BE TAKEN IMMEDIATELY UPON PAYMENT THEREFOR TO THE**
28 **OWNER OR OWNERS THEREOF BY SAID MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, OR**
29 **SUCCESSOR STATE AGENCY, OR INTO COURT, SUCH AMOUNT AS SAID MARYLAND**
30 **TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, OR SUCCESSOR STATE AGENCY, SHALL ESTIMATE TO BE**
31 **OF THE FAIR VALUE OF SAID PROPERTY, PROVIDED SUCH LEGISLATION ALSO**
32 **REQUIRES THE PAYMENT OF ANY FURTHER SUM THAT MAY SUBSEQUENTLY BE**
33 **AWARDED BY A JURY.**

34 SECTION ~~2~~ 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
35 as follows:

36 **Article – Transportation**

37 **7-401.1.**

1 **(A) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IF**
2 **PROPERTY IS TO BE CONDEMNED FOR A TRANSIT PURPOSE, THE ADMINISTRATION**
3 **SHALL CONDEMN THE NECESSARY PROPERTY UNDER THIS SECTION.**

4 **(2) IF THE ADMINISTRATION CONSIDERS THE PROCEDURES UNDER**
5 **THIS SECTION INAPPROPRIATE, THE PROPERTY MAY BE CONDEMNED BY THE**
6 **ADMINISTRATION UNDER § 7-401.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR TITLE 12 OF THE REAL**
7 **PROPERTY ARTICLE.**

8 **(3) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION,**
9 **CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL FOLLOW THE**
10 **PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN TITLE 12 OF THE REAL PROPERTY ARTICLE AND THE**
11 **MARYLAND RULES.**

12 **(B) (1) BEFORE ANY PROPERTY IS CONDEMNED UNDER THIS SECTION**
13 **THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:**

14 **(I) COMPLETE APPROPRIATE ENGINEERING AND OTHER**
15 **STUDIES; AND**

16 **(II) PREPARE A CONSTRUCTION PLAN THAT SHOWS THE**
17 **LOCATION OF THE TRANSIT FACILITY TO BE CONSTRUCTED, IMPROVED, OR**
18 **RECONSTRUCTED.**

19 **(2) AFTER PREPARING THE CONSTRUCTION PLAN, THE**
20 **ADMINISTRATION SHALL PREPARE PLATS THAT INCLUDE:**

21 **(I) THE CONSTRUCTION PLAN;**

22 **(II) THE FEE SIMPLE AND EASEMENT AREA TO BE ACQUIRED;**
23 **AND**

24 **(III) THE PROPERTY LINES OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS WHOSE**
25 **PROPERTY WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE ACQUISITION.**

26 **(3) AFTER THE PLATS ARE PREPARED, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL:**

27 **(I) MAKE THE ENGINEERING AND REAL ESTATE STUDIES,**
28 **EVALUATIONS, AND INVESTIGATIONS NECESSARY TO DETERMINE, IN ITS OPINION:**

29 **1. THE FAIR VALUE OF THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED;**
30 **AND**

1 **2. THE FAIR COMPENSATION FOR ANY RESULTING**
2 **DAMAGES TO THE REMAINING PROPERTY OF THE OWNER;**

3 **(II) PREPARE AN ESTIMATE OF THIS FAIR VALUE AND FAIR**
4 **COMPENSATION; AND**

5 **(III) PROVIDE FOR PAYMENT OF THESE ESTIMATED AMOUNTS AS**
6 **REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION.**

7 **(C) (1) THE PLATS PREPARED BY THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL BE FILED**
8 **FOR RECORD WITH THE STATE ARCHIVES.**

9 **(2) PLATS FILED WITH THE STATE ARCHIVES SHALL BE**
10 **ELECTRONICALLY RECORDED AS PROVIDED IN § 9-1011 OF THE STATE**
11 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

12 **(D) (1) THE PLATS AND ESTIMATES APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATION**
13 **SHALL BE KEPT AS PART OF THE PERMANENT RECORDS OF THE ADMINISTRATION.**

14 **(2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER STATUTE TO THE CONTRARY:**

15 **(I) EXCEPT AS ALLOWED BY THE ADMINISTRATION, THE PLATS**
16 **PREPARED BY THE ADMINISTRATION ARE NOT PUBLIC INFORMATION OR OPEN TO**
17 **PUBLIC INSPECTION UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN RECORDED; AND**

18 **(II) EXCEPT WHEN FILED WITH A BOARD OF PROPERTY REVIEW**
19 **ESTABLISHED UNDER § 8-327 OF THIS ARTICLE OR A COURT, THE ESTIMATES**
20 **PREPARED BY THE ADMINISTRATION ARE NOT PUBLIC INFORMATION OR OPEN TO**
21 **PUBLIC INSPECTION UNTIL ALL THE PROPERTY SHOWN ON THE PLATS HAS BEEN**
22 **ACQUIRED OR ITS PRICE DETERMINED.**

23 **(E) (1) AFTER THE PLATS ARE FILED FOR RECORD, THE**
24 **ADMINISTRATION IMMEDIATELY SHALL:**

25 **(I) FILE, IN THE COURT FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE**
26 **PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED IS LOCATED, A PETITION FOR CONDEMNATION THAT**
27 **INCLUDES:**

28 **1. THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY OWNER;**

29 **2. THE LOCATION OF THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED;**

30 **AND**

1 **3. THE ESTIMATED FAIR VALUE OF THE PROPERTY TO**
2 **BE ACQUIRED AND ESTIMATED FAIR COMPENSATION FOR ANY DAMAGE RESULTING**
3 **TO THE REMAINING PROPERTY OF THE OWNER; AND**

4 **(II) PAY TO THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY OR INTO THE COURT**
5 **FOR THE OWNER'S BENEFIT, THE ESTIMATED FAIR VALUE AND FAIR COMPENSATION**
6 **SPECIFIED IN THE PETITION.**

7 **(2) ON WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT, THE**
8 **PROPERTY OWNER IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE ANY AMOUNT PAID INTO THE COURT**
9 **FOR THE PROPERTY OWNER'S BENEFIT, WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS OF THE**
10 **REQUEST, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ANY OF THE PROPERTY OWNER'S RIGHTS, IF THE**
11 **PROPERTY OWNER AGREES TO REPAY TO THE ADMINISTRATION ANY EXCESS OF**
12 **THAT AMOUNT OVER THE FINAL AWARD THAT IS ALLOWED IN THE SUBSEQUENT**
13 **CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS.**

14 **(3) A PAYMENT MADE UNDER THIS SECTION DOES NOT LIMIT IN ANY**
15 **WAY THE AMOUNT OF THE FINAL AWARD THAT MAY BE ALLOWED IN THE**
16 **SUBSEQUENT CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS.**

17 **(F) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,**
18 **AFTER THE PETITION IS FILED AND PAYMENT IS MADE UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF**
19 **THIS SECTION:**

20 **(I) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY TAKE POSSESSION OF THE**
21 **PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED, AS SHOWN ON THE RECORDED PLATS;**

22 **(II) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY PROCEED WITH**
23 **CONSTRUCTION WITHOUT INTERFERENCE BY THE OWNER; AND**

24 **(III) WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND**
25 **UNDER ITS SUPERVISION, ANY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE UTILITY MAY INSTALL ITS**
26 **FACILITIES ON ANY LAND BEING ACQUIRED BY THE ADMINISTRATION IN FEE**
27 **SIMPLE.**

28 **(2) UNLESS THE OWNER AGREES OTHERWISE, IF A DWELLING OR**
29 **PLACE OF BUSINESS IS TAKEN, THE RESIDENT OR OCCUPANT NEED NOT VACATE THE**
30 **DWELLING OR PLACE OF BUSINESS UNTIL THE TITLE TO THE PROPERTY HAS BEEN**
31 **ACQUIRED BY DEED OR CONDEMNATION.**

1 **(G) (1) AFTER THE PETITION IS FILED AND PAYMENT IS MADE UNDER**
2 **SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL SEEK TO ACQUIRE**
3 **THE PROPERTY BY AMICABLE NEGOTIATION.**

4 **(2) FOR PURPOSES OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS, THE ADMINISTRATION**
5 **SHALL DETERMINE THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED AS OF THE DATE**
6 **THE PAYMENT IS MADE TO THE PROPERTY OWNER OR INTO COURT UNDER**
7 **SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION.**

8 **(H) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IF**
9 **THE ADMINISTRATION IS UNABLE TO ACQUIRE THE PROPERTY BY NEGOTIATION, IT**
10 **SHALL CERTIFY THE CASE TO THE BOARD OF PROPERTY REVIEW FOR THE COUNTY**
11 **IN WHICH THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED, AS PROVIDED IN THE MARYLAND RULES.**

12 **(2) A CASE SHALL BE FILED AS A CONDEMNATION CASE IN THE COURT**
13 **FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED AND MAY NOT BE HEARD BY**
14 **A BOARD OF PROPERTY REVIEW IF:**

15 **(I) THE ADMINISTRATION DETERMINES THAT VALID,**
16 **MARKETABLE TITLE IS UNOBTAINABLE WITHOUT A COURT PROCEEDING; OR**

17 **(II) A NONRESIDENT HAS AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY AND**
18 **WILL NOT ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS AND AGREE TO THE BOARD'S**
19 **JURISDICTION.**

20 **(I) IF, WITHIN 1 YEAR AFTER PAYMENT IS MADE UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF**
21 **THIS SECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION FAILS TO ASCERTAIN THE ENTIRE AMOUNT TO**
22 **BE PAID FOR THE PROPERTY AND ACQUIRE TITLE TO IT BY DEED OR CONDEMNATION**
23 **OR, WITHIN THAT SAME 1-YEAR PERIOD, FAILS TO FILE TIMELY A PETITION FOR**
24 **CONDEMNATION AS REQUIRED BY THE MARYLAND RULES, THEN THE FAIR VALUE**
25 **OF THE PROPERTY SHALL BE THE GREATER OF THE VALUES DETERMINED AS OF:**

26 **(1) THE DATE THE TITLE TO THE PROPERTY IS ACQUIRED; AND**

27 **(2) THE DATE THE PAYMENT WAS MADE UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF**
28 **THIS SECTION.**

29 **(J) AT THE CONCLUSION OF ALL PROCEEDINGS, THE ADMINISTRATION**
30 **SHALL PAY TO THE PROPERTY OWNER:**

31 **(1) ANY EXCESS OF THE FINAL AWARD OVER THE AMOUNT PAID**
32 **UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION; AND**

1 **(2) INTEREST ON THE EXCESS FROM THE DATE OF PAYMENT UNDER**
2 **SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION AT THE RATE OF 6% A YEAR.**

3 **7-401.2.**

4 **(A) (1) IF THE ADMINISTRATION DETERMINES THAT CONDEMNATION**
5 **UNDER § 7-401.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE IS INAPPROPRIATE, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY**
6 **ACQUIRE PROPERTY BY CONDEMNATION UNDER THIS SECTION, AFTER MAKING**
7 **EVERY REASONABLE AND GOOD FAITH EFFORT TO NEGOTIATE.**

8 **(2) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION,**
9 **CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL FOLLOW THE**
10 **PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN TITLE 12 OF THE REAL PROPERTY ARTICLE AND THE**
11 **MARYLAND RULES.**

12 **(B) TO CONDEMN PROPERTY UNDER THIS SECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION**
13 **SHALL:**

14 **(1) FILE A PETITION FOR CONDEMNATION IN THE COURT FOR THE**
15 **COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED IS LOCATED; AND**

16 **(2) PAY TO THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY OR INTO THE COURT FOR**
17 **THE OWNER'S BENEFIT, THE AMOUNT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION ESTIMATES TO**
18 **BE THE FAIR VALUE OF THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED AND FAIR COMPENSATION**
19 **FOR ANY DAMAGE RESULTING TO THE REMAINING PROPERTY OF THE OWNER.**

20 **(C) AFTER THE PETITION IS FILED AND PAYMENT IS MADE UNDER**
21 **SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY:**

22 **(1) TAKE POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED; AND**

23 **(2) PROCEED WITH CONSTRUCTION WITHOUT INTERFERENCE BY THE**
24 **OWNER.**

25 **(D) ON WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT, THE PROPERTY**
26 **OWNER IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE ANY AMOUNT PAID INTO THE COURT FOR THE**
27 **PROPERTY OWNER'S BENEFIT WITHIN 10 BUSINESS DAYS OF THE REQUEST,**
28 **WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ANY OF THE PROPERTY OWNER'S RIGHTS, IF THE**
29 **PROPERTY OWNER AGREES TO REPAY TO THE ADMINISTRATION ANY EXCESS OF**
30 **THAT AMOUNT OVER THE FINAL AWARD THAT IS ALLOWED IN THE SUBSEQUENT**
31 **CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS.**

1 **(E) A PAYMENT MADE UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT**
2 **LIMIT IN ANY WAY THE AMOUNT OF THE FINAL AWARD THAT MAY BE ALLOWED IN**
3 **THE SUBSEQUENT CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS.**

4 **(F) AT THE CONCLUSION OF ALL PROCEEDINGS, THE ADMINISTRATION**
5 **SHALL PAY TO THE PROPERTY OWNER ANY EXCESS OF THE FINAL AWARD OVER THE**
6 **AMOUNT PAID UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

7 8-327.

8 (a) (1) There is a board of property review in each county.

9 (2) If necessary, additional boards may be appointed in any county.

10 (b) (1) Each board of property review of a county has three members who are
11 appointed by the judges of the circuit court for the county.

12 (2) Of the members of each board:

13 (i) One shall be a lawyer;

14 (ii) One shall be a farmer engaged in some agricultural pursuit; and

15 (iii) One shall be an engineer or a person with an engineering
16 background and knowledge.

17 (3) A member of the General Assembly may not be a member of a board
18 during his term of office.

19 (c) (1) Each board member serves for a term of 2 years and until his successor
20 is appointed and qualifies.

21 (2) A member appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term serves only
22 for the remainder of that term.

23 (d) A board member is entitled to the per diem compensation set by the Supreme
24 Court of Maryland. The compensation shall be uniform statewide and shall be paid monthly
25 by the Commission, on vouchers approved by the clerk of the court.

26 (e) Each board shall appoint its chairman and may adopt rules not inconsistent
27 with this title or the Maryland Rules.

28 (f) Each county shall provide a suitable place for its board to meet and, whenever
29 possible, the clerk of the court shall provide suitable clerical assistance. If the clerk fails to
30 provide clerical assistance, the Administration **OR THE MARYLAND TRANSIT**
31 **ADMINISTRATION, AS APPROPRIATE,** shall provide it on request of the board.

1 (g) Each board is under the jurisdiction of the court and each member of the board
2 is an officer of the court.

3 8-328.

4 (a) Each board of property review:

5 (1) Shall hear promptly all cases certified to it by the Commission **OR THE**
6 **MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION**;

7 (2) Shall determine the total amount of the award to be paid by the
8 Commission **OR THE MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION**; and

9 (3) May determine the portion of an award to be paid to persons, other than
10 the fee owner, who have an interest in the property.

11 (b) Unless all parties in a case certified to a board agree otherwise, the full board
12 shall hear and decide the case. If a member of the board is absent or disqualified from
13 hearing or deciding any case, the judges of the court that appointed the board shall
14 designate another individual with qualifications similar to those of the absent or
15 disqualified member to serve instead.

16 (c) The board shall determine the fair value of the property to be acquired as of
17 the date payment is made under **§ 7-401.1 OR § 7-401.2 OF THIS ARTICLE OR § 8-323**
18 of this subtitle.

19 8-329.

20 If any party is dissatisfied with the findings or award of a board of property review,
21 the case may be appealed to the court. On appeal, the court shall hear and determine the
22 case de novo, as provided by law and the Maryland Rules.

23 SECTION ~~4~~ 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding § 7-201.1
24 of the Transportation Article, as enacted by Section ~~1~~ 3 of this Act, the initial terms of the
25 Board of Directors for Baltimore Core Transit Service established under this Act shall be
26 staggered as follows:

27 (1) the five members appointed by the Governor shall serve an initial term
28 of 4 years; and

29 (2) the members appointed by the Mayor of Baltimore City, the Baltimore
30 County Executive, and the Anne Arundel County Executive shall serve an initial term of 3
31 years.

32 SECTION ~~5~~ 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding § 7-201.2
33 of the Transportation Article, as enacted by Section ~~1~~ 3 of this Act, the initial terms of the

1 Commuter Services Advisory Board established under this Act shall be staggered as
2 follows:

3 (1) of the six members who reside in areas served by MARC or Maryland
4 Transit Administration commuter buses, three members shall serve an initial term of 4
5 years and three members shall serve an initial term of 3 years;

6 (2) the member who represents riders with accessibility challenges shall
7 serve an initial term of 4 years; and

8 (3) the member who is an employee of a Maryland Transit Administration
9 commuter service contractor and is a member of a labor union that has a collective
10 bargaining agreement with the commuter service contractor shall serve an initial term of
11 3 years.

12 SECTION ~~6~~ 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

13 (a) The Department of Transportation shall contract with the Baltimore
14 Metropolitan Council to complete a technical study on or before December 1, 2026, that:

15 (1) provides findings and considerations on the creation of a rail authority
16 in Maryland, with the intent that this rail authority would be focused on financing for rail
17 services;

18 (2) examines peer models that may provide insight for the findings and
19 considerations, including models in the Commonwealth of Virginia and Austin, Texas;

20 (3) provides potential next steps to consider in the creation of a rail
21 authority in Maryland; and

22 (4) ensures that current rail transit services remain under the Maryland
23 Transit Administration and that funding options for a statewide rail authority do not
24 undermine future financial support for Baltimore Core Transit Services.

25 (b) The Baltimore Metropolitan Council may consult with the Metropolitan
26 Washington Council of Governments in completing the technical study.

27 SECTION ~~7~~ 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Transit
28 Administration shall:

29 (1) reallocate its staff to ensure sufficient support for the Board of Directors
30 for Baltimore Core Transit Service and the Commuter Services Advisory Board; and

31 (2) at a minimum establish the following staff positions:

32 (i) a Deputy Administrator and an analyst for the Board of Directors
33 for Baltimore Core Transit Service;

1 (ii) a Deputy Administrator and an analyst for the Commuter
2 Services Advisory Board; and

3 (iii) a support officer to be shared between the Board of Directors for
4 Baltimore Core Transit Service and the Commuter Services Advisory Board.

5 SECTION 10. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall
6 take effect October 1, 2026, contingent on the failure of H.B. 587 during the 2026 Session
7 of the General Assembly. If H.B. 587 takes effect, Section 1 of this Act, with no further
8 action required by the General Assembly, shall be null and void. If Section 1 of this Act
9 takes effect, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly,
10 shall be abrogated and of no further effect.

11 ~~SECTION 11.~~ SECTION 11. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly
12 determines that the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by Section ~~2~~ 4 of
13 this Act affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, § 1 of the
14 Maryland Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not
15 apply.

16 ~~SECTION 12.~~ SECTION 12. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the
17 Maryland Constitution proposed by Section ~~2~~ 4 of this Act shall be submitted to the
18 qualified voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2026 for
19 adoption or rejection in accordance with Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that
20 general election, the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot,
21 and on each ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment”
22 and “Against the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after
23 the election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the
24 proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further
25 proceedings held in accordance with Article XIV.

26 ~~SECTION 13.~~ SECTION 13. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section ~~3~~ 5 of this Act is
27 contingent on the passage of Section ~~2~~ 4 of this Act, a constitutional amendment, and its
28 ratification by the voters of the State.

29 ~~SECTION 14.~~ SECTION 14. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to Section ~~10~~ 13
30 of this Act, Section ~~3~~ 5 of this Act shall take effect on the proclamation of the Governor that
31 the constitutional amendment, having received a majority of the votes cast at the general
32 election, has been adopted by the people of Maryland.

33 ~~SECTION 15.~~ SECTION 15. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in
34 Sections ~~9 and 11~~ 10, 12, and 14 of this Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.