

# HOUSE BILL 1503

L2

6lr2720  
CF SB 836

---

By: **Carroll County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026

Assigned to: Economic Matters

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Carroll County – District Planning Commission – Authorized**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the County Commissioners of Carroll County to enact a  
4 local law to divide the county into certain districts, establish a process for the  
5 appointment of certain district planning commissions, provide for the membership  
6 and terms of a certain district planning commission, and provide for the abolishment  
7 of a certain district planning commission; providing that a certain district planning  
8 commission has the same powers and duties within the district as a county planning  
9 commission; requiring a district planning commission to develop certain plans and  
10 regulations and hold public hearings; requiring the district planning commission to  
11 perform certain duties; require certain zoning regulations to be administered in the  
12 same manner as other land use regulations in the county unless otherwise stated in  
13 the regulation; and generally relating to district planning commissions in Carroll  
14 County.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

16 Article – Land Use  
17 Section 9–601  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2012 Volume and 2025 Supplement)

20 BY adding to

21 Article – Land Use  
22 Section 9–605  
23 Annotated Code of Maryland  
24 (2012 Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

27 **Article – Land Use**

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 9-601.

2 This subtitle applies to Carroll County.

3 **9-605.**

4 (A) IN ADDITION TO A PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTED IN ACCORDANCE  
5 WITH TITLE 2 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CARROLL  
6 COUNTY MAY ENACT A LOCAL LAW TO:

7 (1) DIVIDE THE COUNTY INTO DISTRICTS OF ANY NUMBER, SHAPE, OR  
8 AREA IT MAY DETERMINE; AND

9 (2) ESTABLISH A PROCESS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ONE OR MORE  
10 DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSIONS TO PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT PLANS FOR A  
11 DISTRICT;

12 (3) PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP AND TERM OF A DISTRICT  
13 PLANNING COMMISSION; AND

14 (4) PROVIDE FOR THE ABOLISHMENT OF A DISTRICT PLANNING  
15 COMMISSION AT ANY TIME AND FOR ANY REASON.

16 (B) (1) THE DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSION SHALL HAVE THE SAME  
17 POWERS AND DUTIES WITH REGARD TO THE DISTRICT AS A COUNTY PLANNING  
18 COMMISSION ESTABLISHED UNDER TITLE 2 OF THIS ARTICLE.

19 (2) THE DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSION SHALL:

20 (I) DEVELOP PLANS AND REGULATIONS FOR THE ZONING,  
21 SUBDIVISION, AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES TO THE DISTRICT FOR  
22 THE ORDERLY GROWTH OF THE DISTRICT;

23 (II) HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS; AND

24 (III) SUBMIT THE PROPOSED PLANS AND REGULATIONS,  
25 INCLUDING THE FULL TEXT OF ANY ZONING REGULATIONS AND MAPS, TO THE  
26 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CARROLL COUNTY FOR APPROVAL.

27 (C) ZONING REGULATIONS ADOPTED FOR A DISTRICT SHALL BE  
28 ADMINISTERED WITHIN THE DISTRICT IN THE SAME MANNER AS ALL OTHER LAND  
29 USE REGULATIONS OF THE COUNTY OR AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE DISTRICT  
30 ZONE REGULATIONS.

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