

# SENATE BILL 823

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By: Senator Smith

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Correctional Services – Maryland Parole Commission – Members**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the appointing authority and method of appointment of parole  
4 commissioners; and generally relating to the Maryland Parole Commission.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
6 Article – Correctional Services  
7 Section 7-202(a)  
8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
9 (2025 Replacement Volume)

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

12 **Article – Correctional Services**

13 7-202.

14 (a) (1) The Commission consists of ten members.

15 (2) (I) [With the approval of the] THE Governor [and], WITH the advice  
16 and consent of the Senate, [the Secretary] shall appoint the members of the Commission  
17 FROM AMONG NOMINEES CHOSEN BY A PANEL CONSISTING OF:

18 1. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND  
19 POLICE TRAINING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION;

20 2. THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
21 CORRECTIONAL SERVICES;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



### 3. THE PUBLIC DEFENDER OF MARYLAND;

## 4. THE PRESIDENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE'S ION;

5. THREE SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM THE FIELDS OF  
STANCE USE TREATMENT, VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL  
ITY ORGANIZING, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;

## 6. THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS;

**7. THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND CHAPTER, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

8. THREE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC,  
VERNOR;

**9. ONE PRISONERS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE, APPOINTED BY**

**10. ONE VICTIMS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE, APPOINTED BY THE**

**(II) THE PANEL SHALL SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR THE NAMES  
OF THREE QUALIFIED NOMINEES FOR EACH COMMISSIONER VACANCY TO**

**(III) THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION AND PROVIDE STAFFING FOR THE PANEL.**

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