

SENATE BILL 823

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6lr0857

By: **Senator Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **3. THE PUBLIC DEFENDER OF MARYLAND;**

2 **4. THE PRESIDENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE'S**
3 **ATTORNEYS' ASSOCIATION;**

4 **5. THREE SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM THE FIELDS OF**
5 **MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT, VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL**
6 **TRAINING, OR COMMUNITY ORGANIZING, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;**

7 **6. THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS;**

8 **7. THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF**
9 **SOCIAL WORKERS – MARYLAND CHAPTER, OR THE PRESIDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

10 **8. THREE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC,**
11 **APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;**

12 **9. ONE PRISONERS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE, APPOINTED BY**
13 **THE GOVERNOR; AND**

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

16 **(II) THE PANEL SHALL SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR THE NAMES**
17 **OF AT LEAST THREE QUALIFIED NOMINEES FOR EACH COMMISSIONER VACANCY TO**
18 **BE FILLED.**

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

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