

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 123
Finance

(Senator Simonaire)

**Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living
Facilities - Membership**

This bill alters the membership of the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities by (1) removing one member of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee (now known as the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee) and (2) reducing from two to one the number of members from the House Health and Government Operations Committee (now known as the House Health Committee).

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The change is technical in nature and does not directly affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: In general, the oversight committee evaluates progress in improving the quality of nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the State, including consideration of (1) standards for the identification of specified diseases and conditions; (2) staffing patterns and standards; (3) policies and procedures for inspecting facilities and responding to quality of care complaints; (4) the rights of residents; and (5) data on resident satisfaction.

The oversight committee consists of one member of the Senate Finance Committee; one member of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee; two members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee; the Secretaries of Aging, Health, Human Services, and Disabilities (or their designee); the Director of the Office of Health Care Quality (or their designee); the Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health (or their designee); the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman; two representatives of areas agencies on aging; one representative of a local long-term care ombudsman entity; three consumer members; three representatives from the assisted living industry; and several representatives from specified organizations.

Additional Comments: The House Health and Government Operations Committee was divided into the Health Committee and the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee during the 2025 Special Session. This analysis assumes that one member of the Health Committee will serve on the oversight committee.

The Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee (commonly known as EEE) was reorganized and renamed in December 2022 from the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. As part of this reorganization, all health matters previously overseen by EEE were transferred to the Senate Finance Committee.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years; however, legislation with similar provisions has been proposed. For example, see SB 153 of 2025.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

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jg/jc

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