

STEPHANIE SMITH
Legislative District 45
Baltimore City

Ways and Means Committee
Education Subcommittee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 316
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3486 · 301-858-3486
800-492-7122 Ext. 3486
Stephanie.Smith@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 760- Maryland School for the Blind- Board of Directors- Reappointments

Hearing: February 25, 2020

Chairwoman McIntosh, Vice Chair Jackson, and Members of the Appropriations Committee,

House Bill 760 allows a member of the Board of Directors for the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) who serves three consecutive terms to be reappointed for an additional term after waiting one year from the completion of a third consecutive term. However, the chairman may be reappointed to serve additional terms immediately after completion of three consecutive terms.

A Board of Directors is critical to oversight, setting the vision and goals, and holding the school accountable for its financial management and educational results. In recent years, MSB has had difficulty attracting board members and filling vacancies.

The school would like to amend the school charter and bylaws to allow the Board to reengage former board members who were in good standing to return to the board following a year off. This bill will facilitate recruitment efforts to fill board vacancies.

I respectfully urge the Committee to vote favorably on HB 760.

Sincerely,

Delegate Stephanie M. Smith

Chair, Baltimore City House Delegation