



BILL: Senate Bill 204 **DATE:** March 23, 2022
SUBJECT: State Libraries – Maryland State Library Board – Membership **COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means
SPEAKER: Irene Padilla, State Librarian **POSITION:** Favorable

EXPLANATION

The Maryland State Library Board (MSLB) consists of twelve members. Seven members are appointed by the Governor; five are selected from the public at large, one is a professional librarian and one is a Maryland public library trustee. The remaining five members serve ex officio representing the Secretary of Higher Education, the President of the Board of Trustees of Enoch Pratt Free Library, the President of the Maryland Library Association, the Dean of the University of Maryland College of Library and Information Services, and the President of the Maryland Association of School Librarians, (MASL).

In general, the State Library Board represents the interests of Maryland citizens for better library services, advises all levels of government, and promotes the improvement of library services in the State. The Board is authorized to gather information on the needs of libraries, oversee the Maryland State Library Agency (MSLA) and exercise general direction and control of library development in Maryland. The Board is responsible for the adoption of rules and regulations, the establishment of library policies and procedures for the statewide system of libraries and advises the Governor on library matters. Each year the State Library Board reports to the Governor and Maryland citizens on the support, condition, progress, and needs of libraries. They consider the library needs of the State and recommend to the Governor and the General Assembly desirable legislation. The State Library Board approves MSLA's proposed operating budget and capital projects for State funding.

This proposed bill addresses the Ex officio members identified in § 23-107(b)(4)(i) *Maryland State Library Board*. The proposed change replaces the Secretary of Higher Education with the President of the Congress of Academic Library Directors.

The Maryland Higher Education Commission no longer has jurisdiction over academic libraries. The Congress of Academic Library Directors (CALD), which plays an important role in Maryland's library leadership, has been selected to replace MHEC in order to provide representation for libraries of higher education in Maryland.

CALD is an organization open to any and all library directors in post-secondary institutions in Maryland. The objectives of CALD are:

- to promote effective cooperation among the academic libraries of Maryland.
- to promote cooperation between academic libraries, other libraries, agencies of the State of Maryland, and other agencies
- to keep its members in touch with, and responsive to, library matters pending before the State or Federal legislature
- to promote the study and discussion of matters the membership may recommend

The Maryland State Library Board would appreciate your support of the proposed legislation recommending that the President of the Congress of Academic Library Directors (CALD) provide representation on the State Library Board for academic libraries in Maryland.