COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2026, Legislative Day No. 9

Bill No. 52-26

Mr. David Marks, Councilman

By the County Council, April 20, 2026

A BILL
ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

County Charter – Charter Review Commission – Membership – Technical Update

FOR the purpose of amending the County Charter to update the membership of the Charter Review Commission to reflect the nine Council appointments; and generally relating to the Charter Review Commission.

BY repealing and re-enacting, with amendments

Section 1203(a)
Article XII – Manner of Terminating this Charter and Making Amendments Thereto
Baltimore County Charter

WHEREAS, with the approval of a ballot question by the voters of Baltimore County in the 2024 general election, the Baltimore County Council will expand from seven members to nine members, beginning with the 2026 election; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from bill.
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

WHEREAS, Bill 47-24, which initiated the 2024 ballot question, contained several technical updates to the Charter based on Council expansion, such as increasing the membership on the Board of Appeals and Planning Board to accommodate nine council appointees; and

WHEREAS, while the intent of Bill 47-24 was to include all necessary changes to board and commission memberships in the Charter, an increase to the membership of the Charter Review Commission was inadvertently not included; now therefore

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND, that under the authority granted to it by Section 1202 of the Baltimore County Charter, Section 1203(a) of Article XII – Manner of Terminating this Charter and Making Amendments Thereto of the Baltimore County Charter is proposed to be repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article XII – Manner of Terminating this Charter and Making Amendments Thereto

Sec. 1203. Charter review commission.

(a) A decennial Charter review commission shall be appointed by the county council and county executive by March 1 in the seventh year of each decade. The Charter review commission shall be established, by resolution, and be composed of [eleven] THIRTEEN members who must be residents of the county, with one member appointed by each council member and two appointed by the county executive. A person who holds elective office is not eligible for appointment to the commission. The county attorney shall be an ex officio member of the commission. The chairperson of the county council shall appoint an additional member to

serve as the chairperson of the commission.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that pursuant to Section 1202 of the Baltimore County Charter, the question of whether or not the Charter is to be amended as proposed by this Act shall be submitted to the voters of Baltimore County at the general election on November 3, 2026, and that this Act shall be published in at least two newspapers of general circulation in the County for five successive weeks prior to the election.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that upon ratification by the voters of Baltimore County, this Act shall become effective from and after the thirtieth day following the 2026 general election.

LEGISLATION DETAIL

LEGISLATION	BILL 52-26
DISPOSITION	PASSED
ENACTED	N/A
EFFECTIVE	N/A
AMENDMENTS	NO

ROLL CALL - BILL

MOTION MARKS SECOND PATOKA

AYE	NAY	
☑	☐	Councilman Young
☑	☐	Councilman Patoka
☐	☐	
☑	☐	Councilman Jones
☑	☐	Councilman Marks
☑	☐	Councilman Ertel
☑	☐	Councilman Crandell

ROLL CALL - AMENDMENTS

MOTION SECOND

AYE	NAY	
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☐	☐	Councilman Patoka
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