

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2026, Legislative Day No. 17

Bill No. 94-26

Mr. Michael Ertel, Chairman
By Request of County Executive

By the County Council, September 22, 2026

A BILL
ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Boards, Commissions, Committees, Panels, and Foundations – Membership Updates

FOR the purpose of modifying the composition of membership of certain boards, commissions, committees, panels, and foundations due to Council expansion; adding term limits to certain boards and commissions; making additional technical changes; repealing certain defunct advisory panels, committees, and councils; and generally relating to boards, commissions, committees, panels, and foundations.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments

Sections 3-3-202, 3-3-503(a)-(c), 3-3-1102(a), 3-3-1202(a), 3-3-1902(a),
3-3-2002(a), 3-3-2102(a), 3-3-2403(a), 3-3-2602(a)-(b), 3-3-2702(a) and (h)-(i),
3-3-2904(a), and 3-3-3003(a)-(b)
Article 3 – Administration
Title 3 – Boards, Commissions, Committees, Panels, and Foundations
Baltimore County Code, 2015

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.

BY repealing

Sections 3-3-1801 through 3-3-1805, 3-3-2201 through 3-3-2206,
and 3-3-2301 through 3-3-2306
Article 3 – Administration
Title 3 – Boards, Commissions, Committees, Panels, and Foundations
Baltimore County Code, 2015

WHEREAS, many boards, committees, and commissions are established in the Baltimore
County Code; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, the County Council passed and the voters of the County approved
an amendment to the County Charter that increased the number of council districts from 7 to 9
districts; and

WHEREAS, other corresponding changes to composition are needed to a variety of
boards and commissions created in the Code to keep the intended balance of appointments
between the legislative and the executive branch; and

WHEREAS, term limits for boards and commissions are a best practice and adding term
limits to boards and commissions that do not currently have them brings consistency to all of the
boards and commissions in the Code; now therefore

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE
2 COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Laws of Baltimore County shall read as follows:

3
4 ARTICLE 3 – ADMINISTRATION

5 Title 3 – Boards, Commissions, Committees, Panels, and Foundations

6
7 Subtitle 2 – Commission on Aging

1
2 § 3-3-202. Membership.

3 (a) The Commission on Aging consists of [15] 19 members appointed by the County
4 Executive of whom:

5 (1) One resident of each councilmanic district shall be appointed on the
6 recommendation of the County Council member representing that district; and

7 (2) [Eight] 10 members shall be appointed solely at the discretion of the County
8 Executive.

9 (b) (1) The term of a member of the Commission is 3 years and begins on January 1.

10 (2) A MEMBER MAY NOT SERVE MORE THAN 3 CONSECUTIVE
11 TERMS.

12 [(2)] (3) Members of the Commission shall serve at the pleasure of the County
13 Executive.

14
15 Subtitle 5 – Commission on Arts and Sciences

16
17 § 3-3-503. Membership.

18 (a) (1) The Commission on Arts and Sciences consists of [17] 21 members.

19 (2) Of the [17] 20 members:

20 (i) The County Executive shall appoint [10] 12 members; and

21 (ii) Each member of the County Council shall appoint 1 member who
22 resides in the Council member's district.

23 (b) Each member of the Commission:

1 (1) Must be a resident of the county; and

2 (2) May not be a salaried manager, administrator, or director of an organization
3 that promotes arts and sciences activities in the county.

4 (c) (1) The term of a member is 3 years and begins on January 1.

5 (2) A MEMBER MAY NOT SERVE MORE THAN 3 CONSECUTIVE
6 TERMS.

7 [(2)] (3) Successors to vacated position on the commission shall be appointed as
8 provided in subsection (a)(2)(i) or (ii) of this section, as applicable.

9
10 Subtitle 11 – Human Relations Commission

11
12 § 3-3-1102. Membership.

13 (a) (1) The Human Relations Commission consists of [15] 19 members appointed by
14 the County Executive.

15 (2) Of the [15] 19 members of the Commission:

16 (i) [One county resident who may be a resident of the councilmanic
17 district must be appointed on the recommendation of the County Council member representing
18 that district] EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL RECOMMEND FOR
19 APPOINTMENT 1 MEMBER WHO RESIDES IN THE COUNCIL MEMBER’S DISTRICT;
20 and

21 (ii) [Eight] 10 members must be county residents appointed without
22 requirements regarding district residence who reflect the ethnic and minority diversity of the
23 county.

1 (3) (i) At least one but not more than three members of the Commission shall
2 be a youth member between 16 and 18 years of age at the time of appointment.

3 (ii) A youth member may be appointed under subparagraphs (2)(i) or
4 (2)(ii) of this subsection.

5
6 Subtitle 12 – Landmarks Preservation Commission

7
8 § 3-3-1202. Membership.

9 (a) (1) The Landmarks Preservation Commission consists of [15] 19 members.

10 (2) Each member of the County Council shall appoint one member who shall be a
11 resident of the Council member's district.

12 (3) [Eight] 10 members shall be appointed by the County Executive including:

13 (i) 1 representative of organizations active in historical preservation in the
14 county;

15 (ii) 1 registered architect whose principal office is in the county;

16 (iii) 1 representative primarily engaged in agriculture in the county;

17 (iv) 1 individual who is a member of the Planning Board;

18 (v) 1 representative of the home builders industry; and

19 (vi) 3 citizens actively interested in civic improvements as at-large
20 representatives of the residents of the county.

21 (4) Interested individuals and groups, including organizations active in historical
22 preservation, colleges, the Board of Library Trustees, architects, lawyers, realtors, history

1 teachers, archaeologists, and landowners, including farmers, may submit lists of suggested
2 members of the Commission.

3
4 Subtitle 19 – Commission for Women

5
6 § 3-3-1902. Membership.

7 (a) (1) The Commission for Women consists of [21] 25 voting members.

8 (2) Of the [21] 25 voting members:

9 (i) The County Executive shall appoint [14] 16 at-large members; and

10 (ii) Each County Council member shall appoint 1 resident of the Council
11 member's district.

12 (3) The County Executive shall appoint one representative from each of the
13 following county agencies to serve as nonvoting members of the Commission:

14 (i) The Department of Health;

15 (ii) The Department of Social Services;

16 (iii) The Board of Education;

17 (iv) The Department of Housing and Community Development; and

18 (v) The Human Relations Commission.
19

20 Subtitle 20 – Commission on Veterans' Affairs

21
22 § 3-3-2002. Membership; Appointment; Term of Office; Staffing.

1 (a) (1) The Commission on Veterans' Affairs consists of [12] 16 members, all of
2 whom must be residents of the county.

3 (2) The members shall be appointed as follows:

4 (i) Each member of the County Council shall appoint one veteran to the
5 Commission who must be a resident of the Councilmember's district and who is active in at least
6 one of the following organizations:

- 7 1. The Veterans of Foreign Wars;
- 8 2. The American Legion;
- 9 3. Disabled American Veterans;
- 10 4. Military Order of the Purple Heart;
- 11 5. Korean War Veterans Association;
- 12 6. Amvets;
- 13 7. American ex-prisoners of war;
- 14 8. Catholic War Veterans;
- 15 9. Jewish War Veterans;
- 16 10. Military Officers Association;
- 17 11. Vietnam Veterans of America;
- 18 12. Women Veterans of America; or
- 19 13. National Association of Black Veterans; and

20 (ii) The County Executive shall appoint [five] 7 members to the
21 Commission who need not be veterans as follows:

- 22 1. [Three] 5 at-large representatives of the residents of the county;

23 and

2. Two representatives employed by Community College of Baltimore County, Towson University, or University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

(iii) The following departments and agencies of Baltimore County Government shall provide one representative who shall serve as ex officio members of the Commission:

1. Department of Corrections;
2. Department of Health and Human Services;
3. Department of Housing and Community Development;
4. Fire Department;
5. Office of Diversity and Inclusion; and
6. Police Department.

Subtitle 21 – Advisory Commission on Environmental Quality

§ 3-3-2102. Membership.

(a) (1) The Advisory Commission on Environmental Quality shall consist [15] 19 members, all of whom shall possess demonstrated interest, knowledge, or training in environmental issues, environmental preservation, resource conservation, or related disciplines.

(2) Of the [15] 19 members of the Commission:

- (i) Each member of the County Council shall appoint one member;
- (ii) [Eight] 10 members shall be appointed by the County Executive, including:

1. One representative of organizations active in environmental preservation or conservation in the county;
2. One representative of the home builders industry;
3. One representative primarily engaged in agriculture in the county;
4. One representative who is a teacher, curator, or scientist at an institution in the county and has professional expertise in environmental policy, environmental management, or environmental preservation or conservation;
5. One representative actively involved in business or industry in the county; and
6. [Three] 5 at-large representatives of the residents of the county.

(3) The directors of the Departments of Environmental Protection and Sustainability, Planning, and Public Works and Transportation shall each designate to the Commission an ex officio, non-voting member to provide technical assistance.

Subtitle 24 – Advisory Committee on Animal Services

§ 3-3-2403. Membership.

(a) (1) The committee shall consist of [13] 15 members, each of whom shall be a resident of the county.

(2) Of the [13] 15 voting members of the committee:

(i) Each member of the County Council shall appoint 1 member; and

(ii) [4] 6 members shall be appointed by the County Executive as follows:

1 1. 3 members shall have 1 or more of the following qualifications
2 or titles:

- 3 A. A licensed veterinarian;
4 B. A representative from a humane organization;
5 C. A person with experience in the daily operation of an
6 animal shelter, including veterinary paraprofessionals; or
7 D. A person with experience with the operation of kennels,
8 animal therapy organizations, service animal organizations, or animal care facilities; and

9 2. The remaining members shall be at-large members from the
10 public.

11 (3) (i) The health officer or their designee shall serve as an ex officio, non-
12 voting member of the committee to provide technical assistance.

13 (ii) The ex officio non-voting member shall also have the right to address
14 the committee regarding any item on a meeting agenda.

15
16 Subtitle 26 – Baltimore County Fair Election Fund Commission
17

18 § 3-3-2602. Membership.

19 (a) The membership of the Baltimore County Fair Election Fund Commission shall
20 consist of [nine] 13 members, each of whom is a resident and registered voter of Baltimore
21 County and are reflective of the demographic, geographic and political diversity of the County.

22 (b) Of the [nine] 13 members of the Commission:

1 (1) One resident of each Councilmanic District shall be appointed on the
2 recommendation of the County Council member representing that District and approved by the
3 County Council; and

4 (2) [Two] 4 members shall be appointed by the County Executive and approved
5 by the County Council.

6
7 Subtitle 27 – Police Accountability Board

8
9 § 3-3-2702. Membership; Appointment of Chair.

10 (a) (1) The Board consists of [9] 13 members, including the chair, nominated by the
11 County Executive and confirmed by the County Council.

12 (2) [Seven] 9 members shall reside in each of the County's [7] 9 Councilmanic
13 Districts.

14 (3) [Two] 4 members shall be at-large representatives of the residents of the
15 County.

16 (4) (i) The County Administrative Officer shall notify the Council Secretary
17 in writing of any vacancy on the Board, other than an at-large representative.

18 (ii) Prior to any nomination by the County Executive to fill a vacancy, for
19 a period of 21 days following such notification under this paragraph, a member of the County
20 Council in whose district the vacancy exists may recommend to the County Executive up to 3
21 qualified persons from the Councilmember's District for potential appointment to the Board.

22 (h) (1) The term of a member of the Board is three years and begins on July 1.

(2) The terms of the initial members of the Board are staggered so that not more than 3 members' terms shall expire in any one year. Initially, 3 members shall serve for a term of 1 year; 3 members shall serve for a term of 2 years; and 3 members shall serve for a term of 3 years.

[(i)] (3) The chair and members of the Board:

[(1)] (I) Shall receive compensation as specified from time to time in Baltimore County Code § 4-6-101; and

[(2)] (II) Are entitled to reimbursement for expenses necessarily incurred, if approved by the Board and provided for in the county operating budget.

Subtitle 29 – Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission

§ 3-3-2904. Membership; Requirements.

(a) (1) The community reinvestment and repair commission shall consist of [9] 13 voting members, each of whom shall be a resident of the County and confirmed by the County Council.

(2) Of the voting members of the commission:

(i) The County Executive shall appoint [2] 4 members;

(ii) Each member of the County Council shall appoint one member who shall reside in the appointing councilmember's district; and

(iii) The voting membership shall include a diversity of experience and expertise and may include members with experience in the following categories:

1. Workforce or economic development;

2. Reentry services;
3. Health, including public health;
4. Education;
5. Justice, equity, and diversity;
6. Housing and homelessness services;
7. Community organization; and
8. Social work.

Subtitle 30 – Advisory Committee on Public School Capacity

§ 3-3-3003. Membership.

(a) The committee shall consist of [nine] 13 members confirmed by the County Council.

(b) Of the [nine] 13 members of the committee:

(1) One member shall be appointed by each councilmember and be a resident of the appointing councilmember's district; and

(2) [Two] 4 members shall be appointed by the County Executive and be a resident of the County.

SECTION 2. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND, that Sections 3-3-1801 through 3-3-1805 and Subtitle 18 – Telecommunications Advisory Panel of Article 3 – Administration, Title 3 – Boards, Commissions, Committees, Panels, and Foundations of the Baltimore County Code be and hereby are repealed.

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2 SECTION 3. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE
3 COUNTY, MARYLAND, that Sections 3-3-2201 through 3-3-2206 and Subtitle 22 – Baltimore
4 County Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee of Article 3 – Administration, Title 3 –
5 Boards, Commissions, Committees, Panels, and Foundations of the Baltimore County Code be
6 and hereby are repealed.

7
8 SECTION 4. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE
9 COUNTY, MARYLAND, that Sections 3-3-2301 through 3-3-2306 and Subtitle 23 – Baltimore
10 County Advisory Council on Physical Fitness of Article 3 – Administration, Title 3 – Boards,
11 Commissions, Committees, Panels, and Foundations of the Baltimore County Code be and
12 hereby are repealed.

13
14 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act shall be
15 applied prospectively and are not intended to result in the removal of any current members of
16 County boards, commissions, and committees.

17
18 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this section shall apply to any
19 member of a board, commission, or committee that was appointed by a Councilmember or that
20 was appointed upon the recommendation of a Councilmember who is serving a term that began
21 prior to the effective date of this Act and which is due to expire after the effective date of this
22 Act. For any such member, if their appointment was predicated at least in part on the member's
23 residency in a specific councilmanic district of the County, the member is considered qualified

1 for residency purposes until October 1, 2027. After October 1, 2027, if the member resides in a
2 councilmanic district other than the district of the appointing Councilmember, the member shall
3 be considered not qualified due to their residency and the member is deemed to have resigned
4 from the board, commission, or committee.

5
6 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this Act having been passed by
7 the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, shall take effect December 7, 2026.