

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2026 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

Resolution No. 24 -2026

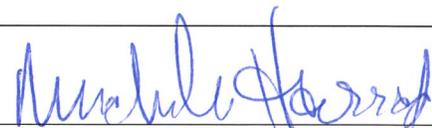
Introduced by: Christiana Rigby

SHORT TITLE: Charter Amendment – Howard County Board of Appeals

A **RESOLUTION** to amend the Howard County Charter to increase the number of members of the Howard County Board of Appeals from five to seven members; update the political party affiliation distribution of Board members; and submitting this amendment to the voters of Howard County for their adoption or rejection in accordance with Article X of the Howard County Charter and Article XI-A of the Maryland Constitution.

Introduced and read first time Jan 5, 2026.

By order


Michelle Harrod, Administrator

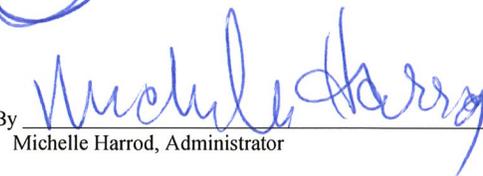
Read for a second time at a public hearing on Jan 20, 2026.

By order


Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted___, Adopted with amendments (X), Failed___, Withdrawn___, by the County Council on Mar 2, 2026.

Certified By


Michelle Harrod, Administrator

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment

LEG2525

Tabled Feb 2, 2026 Michelle Harrod

1 RESOLUTION. AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE NOMINATED BY A SUPERMAJORITY OF THE
2 COUNTY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE FROM A SELECTION OF NAMES SOLICITED THROUGH A PUBLIC
3 PROCESS. THE BOARD OF APPEALS SHALL BE COMPOSED SUCH THAT AT LEAST ONE MEMBER
4 RESIDES IN EACH COUNCIL DISTRICT; HOWEVER, NO COUNCIL DISTRICT MAY BE REPRESENTED BY
5 MORE THAN TWO MEMBERS. Appointees shall serve overlapping terms of five years from the first
6 day of January of the year of their appointments, or until their successors are appointed.
7 Vacancies, except those at the expiration of a term, shall be filled in the same manner as the
8 original appointment and for the unexpired term. No member shall be reappointed after having
9 served eight consecutive years immediately prior to reappointment. No more than ~~[[three]]~~ FOUR
10 members shall be registered with the same political party. The members of the Board shall be
11 paid at the rate of Twelve Hundred Dollars (\$1,200.00) per year unless such compensation be
12 changed as provided in [Section 501](#)(f) of this article. Members of the Board shall receive
13 reasonable and necessary expenses as may be provided in the budget.

14
15 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,
16 Maryland, that at the next General Election to be held in Maryland, the proposed amendment to
17 the Howard County Charter shall be submitted to the voters of Howard County for their adoption
18 or rejection in accordance with the provisions of the Article X of the Howard County Charter and
19 Article XI-A of the Maryland Constitution, and if adopted by the majority of the voters, shall
20 stand adopted from and after the 30th day following the general election.

21
22 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,
23 Maryland, that this Resolution, having been approved by two-thirds of the members of the
24 Howard County Council, stands adopted this 2 day of March, 2026 in accordance
25 with provisions of Article X of the Howard County Charter.

Amendment 1 to Council Resolution No. 24 - 2026

BY: Christiana Rigby

Legislative Day 2
Date: February 2, 2026

Amendment No. 1

(This Amendment adds language to clarify the process for selecting the Board of Appeals members.)

- 1 On page 1, in line 31, strike the period after “Council” and insert the following:
- 2 “BY COUNCIL RESOLUTION. AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE NOMINATED BY A SUPERMAJORITY
- 3 OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE FROM A SELECTION OF NAMES SOLICITED THROUGH A
- 4 PUBLIC PROCESS. THE BOARD OF APPEALS SHALL BE COMPOSED SUCH THAT AT LEAST ONE
- 5 MEMBER RESIDES IN EACH COUNCIL DISTRICT; HOWEVER, NO COUNCIL DISTRICT MAY BE
- 6 REPRESENTED BY MORE THAN TWO MEMBERS.”.

7
8

I certify that this a true copy of
Am 1 CR24-2026
passed on March 2, 2026
Michelle Perry
Council Administrator

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

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Introduced by: Christiana Rigby

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Introduced and read first time Jan 5, 2026.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on Jan 20, 2026.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted __, Adopted with amendments __, Failed __, Withdrawn __, by the County Council on Mar 2, 2026.

Certified By _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment

Tabled Feb 2, 2026 Michelle Harrod

LEG2525

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2 appointments, or until their successors are appointed. Vacancies, except those at the expiration of
3 a term, shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment and for the unexpired term.
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14 or rejection in accordance with the provisions of the Article X of the Howard County Charter and
15 Article XI-A of the Maryland Constitution, and if adopted by the majority of the voters, shall
16 stand adopted from and after the 30th day following the general election.

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18 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,
19 Maryland, that this Resolution, having been approved by two-thirds of the members of the
20 Howard County Council, stands adopted this ___ day of _____, 2026 in accordance
21 with provisions of Article X of the Howard County Charter.

