

Introduced 06.01.2026
Public Hearing 06.15.2026
Council Action 07.06.2026
Executive Action _____
Effective Date _____

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2026 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 8

Bill No. 44 -2026

Introduced by: Liz Walsh

SHORT TITLE: Board of Appeals – Administrative Agency Required to Appear

TITLE: AN ACT amending the Rules of Procedure of the Board of Appeals to require that a representative from the Administrative Agency appear before the Board of Appeals when named as a Party to certain Administrative Appeals; and generally relating to the Board of Appeals.

Introduced and read first time June 1, 2026. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on June 15, 2026.

By order

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on July 6, 2026 and Passed ☐, Passed with amendments ☐, Failed ☒.

By order

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this _____ day of _____, 2026 at ____ a.m./p.m.

By order

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive _____, 2026

Calvin Ball, County Executive

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.

Section 1. *Be It Enacted* by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Howard County Code is amended as follows:

By adding:

Title 2- “Administrative Procedure”

Subtitle 2.- “Rules of Procedure of the Board of Appeals”

Section 2.208.- “Appearances before the Board of Appeals”

New Subsection (e). – “Administrative agency requirement to appear”

Title 2 – Administrative Procedure

Subtitle 2.- Rules of Procedure of the Board of Appeals

Section 2.208. – Appearances before the Board of Appeals

(d) *Who May Appear.* The following individuals may appear before the Board providing that the individual, partnership, corporation, trust, association, political subdivision, body or department they represent is a party to the proceedings before the Board:

(1) An individual may appear on his or her own behalf.

(2) A member of a partnership may represent the Partnership.

(3) A duly authorized representative of a corporation, trust, or association may represent the Corporation, Trust, or Association.

(4) A duly authorized representative or employee of a political subdivision, body, or Department may represent the political subdivision, body, or Department-, UNLESS THAT REPRESENTATIVE OR EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO APPEAR UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION.

(E) *ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY REQUIREMENT TO APPEAR.* FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION [2.210](#), A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY NAMED AS A PARTY TO A CASE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD TO EXPLAIN THE AGENCY’S DECISION, AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE BOARD.

Section 2. *And Be It Further Enacted* by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that *this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*

Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 44- 2026

BY: Liz Walsh

Legislative Day 9

Date: July 6, 2026

Amendment No. 1

(This Amendment makes a technical correction to clarify instances when the Administrative Agency shall appear before the Board of Appeals.)

- 1 On page 1, in line 21, strike the period after “Department”, and insert the following: “, UNLESS
- 2 THAT REPRESENTATIVE OR EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO APPEAR UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS
- 3 SECTION.”
- 4

I certify that this a true copy of

Am 1 to CB44-2026
passed on July 6, 2026
Nicholas Haas
Council Administrator

Introduced _____
Public Hearing _____
Council Action _____
Executive Action _____
Effective Date _____

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2026 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 8

Bill No. 44-2026

Introduced by: Liz Walsh

SHORT TITLE: Board of Appeals – Administrative Agency Required to Appear

TITLE: AN ACT amending the Rules of Procedure of the Board of Appeals to require that a representative from the Administrative Agency appear before the Board of Appeals when named as a Party to certain Administrative Appeals; and generally relating to the Board of Appeals.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2026. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2026.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on _____, 2026 and Passed ____, Passed with amendments ____, Failed ____.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this _____ day of _____, 2026 at ____ a.m./p.m.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive _____, 2026

Calvin Ball, County Executive

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.

1 **Section 1. *Be It Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Howard
2 *County Code is amended as follows:*

3 *By adding:*

4 *Title 2- "Administrative Procedure"*

5 *Subtitle 2.- "Rules of Procedure of the Board of Appeals"*

6 *Section 2.208.- "Appearances before the Board of Appeals"*

7 *New Subsection (e). – "Administrative agency requirement*
8 *to appear"*

9
10 **Title 2 – Administrative Procedure**

11 **Subtitle 2.- Rules of Procedure of the Board of Appeals**

12 **Section 2.208. – Appearances before the Board of Appeals**

13 (d) *Who May Appear.* The following individuals may appear before the Board providing that the
14 individual, partnership, corporation, trust, association, political subdivision, body or department
15 they represent is a party to the proceedings before the Board:

16 (1) An individual may appear on his or her own behalf.

17 (2) A member of a partnership may represent the Partnership.

18 (3) A duly authorized representative of a corporation, trust, or association may represent
19 the Corporation, Trust, or Association.

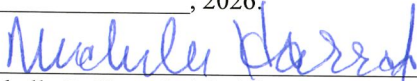
20 (4) A duly authorized representative or employee of a political subdivision, body, or
21 Department may represent the political subdivision, body, or Department.

22
23 (E) *ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY REQUIREMENT TO APPEAR.* FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE
24 BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION [2.210](#), A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY
25 NAMED AS A PARTY TO A CASE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD TO EXPLAIN
26 THE AGENCY'S DECISION, AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE BOARD.

27
28 **Section 2. *And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
29 *this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on _____, 2026.



Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council