

Introduced 6/6/16
Public Hearing 6/20/16
Council Action 7/8/16
Executive Action 7/11/16
Effective Date 9/10/16

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 7

Bill No. 36-2016

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT to establish a Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities; providing for the membership, officers, and staffing of the Commission; setting forth the requirement to meet; providing for the purpose and responsibilities of the Commission; providing the expiration dates of the terms of the initial members of the Commission; and generally relating to the Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities.

Introduced and read first time June 6, 2016. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.
By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, 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 20, 2016.
By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on July 8, 2016 and Passed , Passed with amendments , Failed
By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 11th day of July, 2016 at 10:15 a.m./p.m.
By order Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved Vetoed by the County Executive July 11, 2016
Allan H. Kittleman
Allan H. Kittleman, 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 1. By adding Section 6.343 "Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities" to:
4 Title 6. County Executive and the Executive Branch.
- 5 2. By adding Subtitle 19 "Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities" to:
6 Title 12, Health and Social Services.

7
8 **Title 6. County Executive and the Executive Branch.**

9 **Subtitle 3. Boards and Commissions.**

10
11 **6.343. COMMISSION FOR TRANSITIONING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.**

12 THERE IS A COMMISSION FOR TRANSITIONING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES. ITS MEMBERSHIP,
13 DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES ARE SET FORTH IN SUBTITLE 19, "COMMISSION FOR TRANSITIONING
14 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES," OF TITLE 12, "HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES," OF THIS CODE.

15
16 **Title 12. Health and Social Services.**

17 **SUBTITLE 19. COMMISSION FOR TRANSITIONING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.**

18
19 **SECTION 12.1900. COMMISSION FOR TRANSITIONING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES;**
20 **GENERAL PROVISIONS; PURPOSE.**

21 (A) *GENERAL PROVISIONS.* THERE IS A HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSION FOR TRANSITIONING
22 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES. GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE COMMISSION FOR
23 TRANSITIONING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE SET FORTH IN SUBTITLE 3, "BOARDS AND
24 COMMISSIONS," OF TITLE 6, "COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH" OF THIS CODE.

25 (B) *PURPOSE.* THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON WAYS TO
26 ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT, AND COMPREHENSIVE DELIVERY OF SERVICES THAT WILL
27 MOST SUCCESSFULLY MEET THE TRANSITION NEEDS OF HOWARD COUNTY STUDENTS WITH
28 DISABILITIES, AND TO IMPROVE STUDENT OUTCOMES THROUGH EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT AS
29 THEY TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

30 (C) *DEFINITIONS.* FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE, HCPSS MEANS THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC

1 SCHOOL SYSTEM.

2

3 **SECTION 12.1901. MEMBERSHIP.**

4 (A) *NUMBER OF MEMBERS.* THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIST OF A MINIMUM OF 22 MEMBERS AND
5 A MAXIMUM OF 30 MEMBERS.

6 (B) *QUALIFICATIONS.* ALL MEMBERS SHALL EITHER RESIDE OR WORK IN HOWARD COUNTY.

7 (C) *MEMBERSHIP.* THE COMMISSION SHALL BE COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING:

8 (1) EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

9 (I) PROGRAM HEAD, TRANSITION SERVICES, HCPSS;

10 (II) INSTRUCTIONAL FACILITATOR, SECONDARY EDUCATION, HCPSS;

11 (III) COORDINATOR, CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION, HCPSS;

12 (IV) ~~TRANSITION SPECIALIST, HCPSS~~ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SPECIAL
13 EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES;

14 (V) PARENT COORDINATOR, HCPSS;

15 (VI) COORDINATOR, SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES, HCPSS;

16 (VII) MANAGER, TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION, HCPSS;

17 (VIII) DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES,
18 HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT;

19 (IX) ADA COORDINATOR, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND
20 SERVICES, HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT;

21 (X) ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES, HOWARD COUNTY
22 GOVERNMENT;

23 (XI) ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, HOWARD
24 COUNTY GOVERNMENT;

25 (XII) ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, HOWARD COUNTY
26 GOVERNMENT;

27 (XIII) ADMINISTRATOR, DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES, REGION V,
28 STATE OF MARYLAND;

29 (XIV) REPRESENTATIVE, RESOURCE COORDINATION PROVIDERS; AND

30 (XV) REPRESENTATIVE, HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE; AND

1 (XVI) MANAGER, THERAPEUTIC RECREATION, DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND
2 PARKS, HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT; AND

3 (2) APPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR:

4 (I) TWO REPRESENTATIVES, HOWARD COUNTY BUSINESS COMMUNITY;

5 (II) THREE PARENT REPRESENTATIVES;

6 (III) AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY; AND

7 (IV) UP TO EIGHT COMMUNITY MEMBERS INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE
8 COMMISSION AND ITS WORK.

9 (D) *COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON*. THE COMMISSION SHALL BE CHAIRED JOINTLY BY A
10 REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION, HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC
11 SCHOOL SYSTEM, AND A FAMILY MEMBER OF A STUDENT WITH A DISABILITY.

12 (E) *METHOD OF APPOINTMENT*. EACH APPOINTED MEMBER SHALL BE APPOINTED BY
13 THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND CONFIRMED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

14 ~~(F) *EXECUTIVE SECRETARY*. THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL DESIGNATE A COUNTY EMPLOYEE TO
15 SERVE AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION AND ATTEND ALL MEETINGS.~~

16 (F) *STAFFING*. THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES SHALL PROVIDE
17 STAFFING FOR THE COMMISSION.

18 (G) *MEETINGS*. THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY.

19
20 **SECTION 12.1902. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.**

21 (A) *IN GENERAL* THE HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSION FOR TRANSITIONING STUDENTS WITH
22 DISABILITIES MAY:

23 (1) ADVOCATE FOR POLICY ON BEHALF OF STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL,
24 INTELLECTUAL, AND/OR PHYSICAL DISABILITIES;

25 (2) EXAMINE CURRENT PRACTICES AND EXPLORE MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON WAYS
26 TO IMPROVE POSTSECONDARY OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
27 REQUIRING CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT;

28 (3) DEVELOP MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WOULD FACILITATE SUCCESSFUL
29 CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS
30 EXITING THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM; AND

1 ~~(4) FACILITATE SYSTEMIC COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC~~
2 ~~SCHOOL SYSTEM, THE HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE INDUSTRY,~~
3 ~~ADULT SERVICE PROVIDERS, AND THE FAMILIES OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.~~

4 (4) FOSTER GREATER COLLABORATION BETWEEN BUSINESS, ACADEMIC, NON-PROFIT,
5 AND PUBLIC SECTORS TO ENGAGE IN SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVES DESIGNED TO
6 IMMERSE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN A WORK ENVIRONMENT AND PROVIDE
7 IMPORTANT JOB SKILLS.

8
9 **SECTION 12.1903. ANNUAL REPORT.**

10 ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT
11 TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ON ITS ACTIVITIES DURING THE PREVIOUS
12 CALENDAR YEAR. THE REPORT MAY INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON ANY MATTER RELATED TO
13 THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

14
15 *Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that,*
16 *to establish the stagger of terms required by § 6.300 of the Howard County Code, of the initial*
17 *appointees to the Commission, 2 appointees shall have a term of 1 year, 3 appointees shall have*
18 *a term of 2 years, 3 appointees shall have a term of 3 years, 3 appointees shall have a term of 4*
19 *years, and 3 appointees shall have a term of 5 years, as provided in the Resolutions that confirm*
20 *the appointments.*

21
22 *Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that*
23 *this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*

Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 36-2016

**BY: The Chairperson at the
request of the County Executive**

**Legislative Day No. 8
Date: July 8, 2016**

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment:

- 1. Corrects the name of a position;*
- 2. Clarifies that the Director of the Department of Community Resources and Services, or the Director's designee, shall serve as the Executive Secretary for the Commission; and*
- 3. Clarifies the purpose, powers and duties of the Commission.)*

1 On page 1, in line 25, before "ESTABLISH" insert "MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON WAYS TO".

2
3 On page 1, strike beginning with ", AND" in line 27 down through and including "EMPLOYMENT"
4 in line 28 and substitute "AS THEY TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO POST-SECONDARY
5 EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT".

6
7 On page 2, in line 11, strike "TRANSITION SPECIALIST, HCPSS" and substitute "EXECUTIVE
8 DIRECTOR, SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES".

9
10 On page 3, in line 12, strike "COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL DESIGNATE A COUNTY EMPLOYEE TO"
11 and substitute "DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES OR
12 THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE SHALL".

13 On page 3, strike lines 12 through 13, inclusive and in their entirety and substitute:
14 "(F) STAFFING. THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES SHALL PROVIDE
15 STAFFING FOR THE COMMISSION."

16
17 On page 3, in line 21, strike "EXPLORE" and substitute "MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON".

18

1 On page 3, in line 22, strike “REQUIRING CUSTOMIZED”.

2

3 On page 3, in line 23, strike “EMPLOYMENT”.

4

5 On page 3, in line 24, strike “DEVELOP” and substitute “MAKE”.

6 On page 3, strike lines 27 through 29, inclusive and in their entirety and substitute:

7 “(4) FOSTER GREATER COLLABORATION BETWEEN BUSINESS, ACADEMIC, NON-PROFIT, AND
8 PUBLIC SECTORS TO ENGAGE IN SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVES DESIGNED TO IMMERSE STUDENTS
9 WITH DISABILITIES IN A WORK ENVIRONMENT AND PROVIDE IMPORTANT JOB SKILLS.”.

ADOPTED 7/8/16
FAILED _____
SIGNATURE Jessica Edwards

Amendment 1 to Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 36-2016

BY: The Chairperson at the
request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 8
Date: July 8, 2016

Amendment No. 1 to Amendment No. 1

(This amendment corrects who will serve as Executive Secretary to the Commission.)

- 1 On page 1, strike lines 10 through 12, inclusive and in their entirety and substitute:
2 “On page 3, strike lines 12 through 13, inclusive and in their entirety and substitute:
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ADOPTED 7/8/16
FAILED
SIGNATURE Jessica Oldman

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request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 8
Date: July 8, 2016

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

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 7

Bill No. 36-2016

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AN ACT to establish a Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities; providing for the membership, officers, and staffing of the Commission; setting forth the requirement to meet; providing for the purpose and responsibilities of the Commission; providing the expiration dates of the terms of the initial members of the Commission; and generally relating to the Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2016. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, 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 _____, 2016.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on _____, 2016 and Passed _____, Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this ___ day of _____, 2016 at ___ a.m./p.m.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive _____, 2016

Allan H. Kittleman, 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

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27 NEEDS OF HOWARD COUNTY STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, AND TO IMPROVE STUDENT OUTCOMES
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29 (C) *DEFINITIONS.* FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE, HCPSS MEANS THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC
30 SCHOOL SYSTEM.

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SECTION 12.1901. MEMBERSHIP.

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- (1) EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:
 - (I) PROGRAM HEAD, TRANSITION SERVICES, HCPSS;
 - (II) INSTRUCTIONAL FACILITATOR, SECONDARY EDUCATION, HCPSS;
 - (III) COORDINATOR, CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION, HCPSS;
 - (IV) TRANSITION SPECIALIST, HCPSS;
 - (V) PARENT COORDINATOR, HCPSS;
 - (VI) COORDINATOR, SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES, HCPSS;
 - (VII) MANAGER, TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION, HCPSS;
 - (VIII) DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES, HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT;
 - (IX) ADA COORDINATOR, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES, HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT;
 - (X) ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES, HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT;
 - (XI) ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT;
 - (XII) ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT;
 - (XIII) ADMINISTRATOR, DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES, REGION V, STATE OF MARYLAND;
 - (XIV) REPRESENTATIVE, RESOURCE COORDINATION PROVIDERS; AND
 - (XV) REPRESENTATIVE, HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE; AND
 - (XVI) MANAGER, THERAPEUTIC RECREATION, DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS, HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT; AND

1 (2) APPOINTED MEMBERS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR:

- 2 (I) TWO REPRESENTATIVES, HOWARD COUNTY BUSINESS COMMUNITY;
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7 (D) *COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON*. THE COMMISSION SHALL BE CHAIRED JOINTLY BY A
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9 SCHOOL SYSTEM, AND A FAMILY MEMBER OF A STUDENT WITH A DISABILITY.

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12 (F) *EXECUTIVE SECRETARY*. THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL DESIGNATE A COUNTY EMPLOYEE TO
13 SERVE AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION AND ATTEND ALL MEETINGS.

14 (G) *MEETINGS*. THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY.
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16 **SECTION 12.1902. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.**

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18 DISABILITIES MAY:

- 19 (1) ADVOCATE FOR POLICY ON BEHALF OF STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL,
20 INTELLECTUAL, AND/OR PHYSICAL DISABILITIES;
21 (2) EXAMINE CURRENT PRACTICES AND EXPLORE WAYS TO IMPROVE POSTSECONDARY
22 OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES REQUIRING CUSTOMIZED
23 EMPLOYMENT;
24 (3) DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WOULD FACILITATE SUCCESSFUL CUSTOMIZED
25 EMPLOYMENT AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS EXITING THE
26 HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM; AND
27 (4) FACILITATE SYSTEMIC COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC
28 SCHOOL SYSTEM, THE HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE INDUSTRY,
29 ADULT SERVICE PROVIDERS, AND THE FAMILIES OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.
30

1 **SECTION 12.1903. ANNUAL REPORT.**

2 ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 31 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT
3 TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ON ITS ACTIVITIES DURING THE PREVIOUS
4 CALENDAR YEAR. THE REPORT MAY INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON ANY MATTER RELATED TO
5 THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION.

6

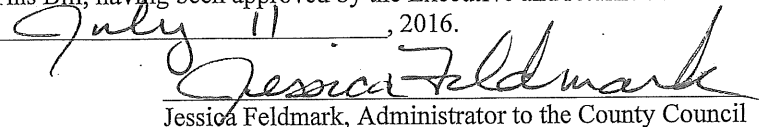
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9 *appointees to the Commission, 2 appointees shall have a term of 1 year, 3 appointees shall have*
10 *a term of 2 years, 3 appointees shall have a term of 3 years, 3 appointees shall have a term of 4*
11 *years, and 3 appointees shall have a term of 5 years, as provided in the Resolutions that confirm*
12 *the appointments.*

13

14 *Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that*
15 *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 July 11, 2016.



Jessica Feldmark, 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 _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, 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 _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, 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 _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, 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 _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, 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 _____, 2016.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 36-2016

BY: The Chairperson at the
request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 8
Date: July 8, 2016

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment:

- 1. Corrects the name of a position;*
- 2. Clarifies that the Director of the Department of Community Resources and Services, or the Director's designee, shall serve as the Executive Secretary for the Commission; and*
- 3. Clarifies the purpose, powers and duties of the Commission.)*

1 On page 1, in line 25, before "ESTABLISH" insert "MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON WAYS TO".

2

3 On page 1, strike beginning with ", AND" in line 27 down through and including "EMPLOYMENT"
4 in line 28 and substitute "AS THEY TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO POST-SECONDARY
5 EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT".

6

7 On page 2, in line 11, strike "TRANSITION SPECIALIST, HCPSS" and substitute "EXECUTIVE
8 DIRECTOR, SPECIAL EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES".

9

10 On page 3, in line 12, strike "COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL DESIGNATE A COUNTY EMPLOYEE TO"
11 and substitute "DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES OR
12 THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE SHALL".

13

14 On page 3, in line 21, strike "EXPLORE" and substitute "MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON".

15

16 On page 3, in line 22, strike "REQUIRING CUSTOMIZED".

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18 On page 3, in line 23, strike "EMPLOYMENT".

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On page 3, in line 24, strike “DEVELOP” and substitute “MAKE”.

On page 3, strike lines 27 through 29, inclusive and in their entirety and substitute:

“(4) FOSTER GREATER COLLABORATION BETWEEN BUSINESS, ACADEMIC, NON-PROFIT, AND
PUBLIC SECTORS TO ENGAGE IN SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVES DESIGNED TO IMMERSE STUDENTS
WITH DISABILITIES IN A WORK ENVIRONMENT AND PROVIDE IMPORTANT JOB SKILLS.”.

Amendment 1 to Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 36-2016

**BY: The Chairperson at the
request of the County Executive**

**Legislative Day No. 8
Date: July 8, 2016**

Amendment No. 1 to Amendment No. 1

(This amendment corrects who will serve as Executive Secretary to the Commission.)

- 1 On page 1, strike lines 10 through 12, inclusive and in their entirety and substitute:
- 2 “On page 3, strike lines 12 through 13, inclusive and in their entirety and substitute:
- 3 “(F) STAFFING. THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES SHALL PROVIDE
- 4 STAFFING FOR THE COMMISSION.””.



6021 University Blvd, Suite 490, Ellicott Cit

CB36-2016

Elizabeth Benevides
Associate Director for Autism Programs, Hussman Foundation
Co-Chair, Howard County Transition Council for Youth with Disabilities

County Council of Howard County, Maryland
Bill No. 36-2016
Act to Establish a Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities
June 20, 2016

Position: SUPPORT

The Howard County Transition Council for Youth with Disabilities strongly supports Bill No. 36-2016, which would establish a permanent county commission for transitioning students with disabilities.

Chairman Ball, respected County Council members, thank you for the opportunity to speak to you this evening about the importance of this legislation. By way of background, I am a longtime advocate for individuals with disabilities and their families, having entered the world of autism 15 years ago when my son was diagnosed with the developmental disability. I served for many years as president and board member of the Howard County Autism Society, and have been appointed to many workgroups within the Howard County Public School System. I am passionate about improving services for students with disabilities and am proud to promote the work of the county in supporting families. Professionally I am associate director of the Hussman Foundation, a foundation well known for its generous support of inclusive practices in our schools. I currently serve as co-chair of the Howard County Transition Council for Youth with Disabilities alongside Mr. Dawson Robertson, transition program head for the school system.

Many families of children with disabilities face great uncertainty when they plan for their child's future. While that is not much different from typical families, families with special needs

often require greater coordination to prepare children for college, employment, and participation in the community.

We are most grateful for Executive Kittleman's commitment to support students with disabilities through this proposed legislation. In 2013, Executive Ulman created the Howard County Transition Council for Youth with Disabilities through an executive order. The charge was to develop and implement strategic recommendations to improve post-secondary outcomes for students with disabilities. Our focus was students ages 14 to 21, and their transition as young adults from high school to life after high school. Since then, the executive order has been renewed twice, recommendations have been implemented, and the work has continually expanded as national and state efforts highlight the importance of preparing these transitioning youth.

With your support, a standing county commission will elevate our efforts to bring stakeholders together to address concerns facing transitioning youth with disabilities and their families, and to create a roadmap for improvements in the transition process.

The Commission will include family members, students with disabilities, educators, transition specialists, agencies serving people with disabilities, state and local government officials, and business leaders. Together, we will develop thoughtful, purposeful steps to successfully transition students with disabilities.

In its work thus far, the Howard County Transition Council for Youth with Disabilities has made several improvements to the transition process during students' final years in high school. **The Commission will look to expand its focus on transition beginning at the age of 14, as is required by law (under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and COMAR), to ensure that students are better equipped for living and participating in their community, attending college if desired, and working in paid positions.**

The Commission will also heavily focus on engaging the local business community to provide opportunities for students to explore a variety of work experiences while in school

and to attain gainful employment after exiting the school system. Our students with disabilities have great talents to share, just as every student does. Project SEARCH, which the County Council strongly supports, is just one example of how students with disabilities can excel and find employment, simply by being given an internship, an opportunity. We hope to show employers that these transitioning students are capable of working, committed to their jobs, and, most importantly, competent in their ability to contribute to the business community. They just need the opportunity.

The Commission will also focus on those students with the most significant needs. It will strive to provide families with necessary resources for the post-secondary years, for life after 21.

Howard County has much to be proud of in its values as a community. We strive for inclusion, collaboration, partnership. We value diversity and accept differences. We believe in working together so that everyone has a chance—a chance to succeed, a chance to contribute, a chance to live fulfilled lives.

In closing, I strongly support the establishment of the Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities. I assure you that the Commission will be steadfast in its efforts to promote the importance of including all people in Howard County in our schools, businesses, and community.

Please support the passage of this bill in order to improve the outcomes for students with disabilities as they transition from the school system to adulthood.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Benevides

APPENDIX:

It is currently projected that the Howard County Public School System will transition 1700 students with disabilities out of the school system in the next five years.

Grade	Diploma	Certificate of	Total
8	317	42	359
9	349	44	393
10	247	51	298
11	227	84	311
12+ (includes traditional 12 th grade students as well as certificate- seeking students through age 21)*	232	109	341
Totals	1372	330	1702

*Students who do not earn a diploma and instead seek a certificate of program completion are entitled by law to educational services until age 21. The purpose of this additional time is to provide more opportunities for building educational, employment, and independent skills.



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

To: Lonnie Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer

From: David Lee, Director of Constituent Services and Community Partnerships *DL*

Re: CB35-2016 and **CB36-2016**

Date: June 2, 2016

The Administration has filed legislation creating two new Howard County commissions – the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission (CB35) and the Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities (CB36). The County Executive is taking this action because he values the mission and role of both Commissions, and firmly believes that their work should continue on a permanent basis.

Originally created by Council Resolution in 1985, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission has been re-authorized each year by Executive Order.

The Transition Council for Youth with Disabilities was created by Executive Order in 2013 and re-authorized by Executive Order in 2014.

According to the Howard County Code, boards and commissions established by Executive Order are meant to be temporary, typically do not exceed 18 months in term, and cease to exist at the expiration of the Executive Order.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission encourages and coordinates appropriate ceremonies and activities of service throughout Howard County in observance of the holiday honoring the birthday of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. Each year, the Commission recognizes outstanding essays written by middle- and high-school students reflecting on the impact of Dr. King. The Commission also organizes service opportunities and encourages participation in a Day of Service on the holiday observing Dr. King's birthday.

The Commission for Transitioning Students with Disabilities will establish an effective, efficient, and comprehensive delivery of services that will help meet the needs of Howard County students with disabilities as they transition from high school to post-secondary education and employment. The Commission will examine current practices and make recommendations to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. The Commission will also help foster greater collaboration between business, academic, non-profit and public sectors to engage in successful initiatives like Project SEARCH, an internship program designed to immerse students with disabilities in a work environment and provide important job skills.