

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

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2020 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 15

Bill No. 60-2020

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

AN ACT amending and updating the duties of the Office on Aging and Independence and the Commission on Aging; updating terminology; and generally relating to the Older Howard Countians Act.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2020. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order _____
Diane Schwarz Jones, 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 _____, 2020.

By order _____
Diane Schwarz Jones, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on _____, 2020 and Passed ____, Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.

By order _____
Diane Schwarz Jones, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this ___ day of _____, 2020 at ___ a.m./p.m.

By order _____
Diane Schwarz Jones, Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive _____, 2020

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 1. *By amending*

4 Title 12 "Health and Social Services"

5 Section 12.500 "Office on Aging and Independence"

6
7 2. *By amending*

8 Title 12 "Health and Social Services"

9 Section 12.501 "Commission on Aging"

10
11 **Title 12. Health and Social Services.**

12 **Subtitle 5. Older Howard Countians Act.**

13
14 **Section 12.500. Office on Aging and Independence.**

15 (a) *General Provisions.* General provisions applicable to this Office are set forth in subtitle 2,
16 "Administrative Departments and Offices," of title 6, "County Executive and the Executive
17 Branch," of the Howard County Code.

18 (b) *Head.* The Administrator on Aging and Independence shall head the Office on Aging and
19 Independence. The Office is under the general supervision of the Director of Community
20 Resources and Services.

21 (c) *Qualifications of Administrator on Aging and Independence.* The Administrator on Aging and
22 Independence shall be thoroughly trained and experienced in the principles and practices of a social
23 services program with considerable knowledge of the financial, social, educational, organizational
24 and other special needs ~~[[and problems of the elderly]]~~ OF OLDER ADULTS. The Administrator shall
25 have ~~[[had]]~~ five years of increasingly responsible experience in social service or related work,
26 two years of which shall have been in a managerial position dealing with the provision of services
27 of ~~[[the elderly]]~~ OLDER ADULTS.

28 (d) *Duties and Responsibilities.* The Office shall:

29 (1) Develop, in cooperation with the Commission on Aging and with other County
30 organizations, both public and private, a comprehensive County-wide annual plan for a
31 coordinated system of health, social and community services for ~~[[the aged]]~~ OLDER

1 ADULTS, including housing and institutional and noninstitutional care, and present such
2 plan to the County Executive. The annual plan shall include statements of the long- and
3 short-term needs of [[the elderly]] OLDER ADULTS in Howard County, the long- and short-
4 term plans for serving those needs, and the proposed funding sources and administrative
5 responsibility for these plans.

6 (2) Administer those programs and activities for [[the aged]] OLDER ADULTS designated as the
7 responsibility of the Office in the annual plan.

8 (3) Subject to existing law, review and coordinate all local programs and services, both public
9 and private, insofar as they relate and are important to the well-being of the County's
10 [[aged]] OLDER ADULTS, including, but not limited to, programs and services in the areas of
11 income, maintenance, public health, mental health, housing and urban development,
12 employment, education, recreation and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

13 (4) Review and formulate policy recommendations to the County and County Council in
14 reference to publicly funded plans and programs which have an impact on the
15 [[aged]] OLDER ADULTS.

16 (5) [[Consult with the County Commission on Aging]] PROVIDE ADVICE on all matters
17 pertaining to policy and programs THAT IMPACT OLDER ADULTS. [[prior to making
18 recommendations to the Executive and County Council.]]

19 [[(6) After consultation with the Commission on Aging, present plans for programs for the
20 elderly to the County Executive and County Council for budgetary approval.]]

21 [[(7) Consult with and advise the head of the principal departments of the County Government
22 with respect to programs and services for the aged, for which they are primarily
23 responsible.]]

24 ([[8]]6) Cooperate with State, Federal and other local governmental units and agencies in
25 effectuating the purposes of this subtitle.

26 ([[9]]7) Establish and administer any programs or services deemed desirable by [[the
27 Commission on Aging and]] the County Executive, under direction of the State Department
28 of Aging or the provisions of the Older Americans Act, as amended.

29 ([[10]]8) After [[prior consultation with the Commission on Aging and]] approval by the
30 County Executive, apply for, accept and use any State or Federal funds, or other grant, fund
31 and contributions, public or private, available for the purposes specified in this subtitle.

1 ([[11]]9) Prepare and submit to the [[County Executive]]DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
2 RESOURCES AND SERVICES, a budget for the Office and the Commission on Aging in
3 accordance with customary budget procedures.

4 ([[12]]10) [[Subject to section 22.1000 of the County Code prepare and submit an annual report
5 to the County Executive and the County Council, setting forth the activities of the Office
6 and the Commission on Aging in the preceding year, and its recommendations for
7 legislation and funding.]] THE OFFICE AND THE COMMISSION ON AGING SHALL PROVIDE
8 COMMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES ON THE
9 PRECEDING YEAR'S ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE AND THE COMMISSION AND ANY
10 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROGRAMS, LEGISLATION, OR FUNDING INITIATIVES. THE
11 DEPARTMENT SHALL INCORPORATE THOSE COMMENTS INTO THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL
12 REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

13 ([[13]]11) Initiate and carry out any appropriate action, where relevant, to implement the above
14 objectives, or other related objectives, as they become necessary and are deemed
15 appropriate.

16 ([[14]]12) The Office shall be the principal County agency responsible for the development of
17 services to [[the aged]]OLDER ADULTS and the medium through which organizations
18 exchange information, coordinate programs and engage in joint endeavors.

19 ([[15]]13) *Other duties and responsibilities* . The Office shall perform such other functions as
20 may be prescribed by directive of the County Executive or by law.

21 (e) *Guardianship Responsibilities*. The Administrator may serve as guardian of persons pursuant
22 to section 13-707 of the [[estates and trusts article]] ESTATES AND TRUSTS ARTICLE of the
23 Annotated Code of Maryland.

24
25 **Section 12.501. Commission on Aging.**

26 (a) *General Provisions*. General provisions applicable to this Commission are set forth in subtitle
27 3, "Boards and Commissions," of title 6, "County Executive and the Executive Branch," of the
28 Howard County Code.

29 (b) *Number of Members* . There is a Howard County Commission on Aging composed of no more
30 than 15 members.

31 (c) *Qualifications of Members*:

1 (1) All members shall be residents of Howard County.

2 (2) A majority of members of the Commission shall be at least [[55]]50 years old.

3 (3) Members shall be selected because of their interest in [[the problems of the aging]]ISSUES
4 IMPACTING OLDER ADULTS AND OLDER ADULTS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES and shall be
5 broadly representative of the [[citizens]]RESIDENTS of the County.

6 (d) *Executive Secretary.* The Administrator on Aging and Independence, or the Administrator's
7 designee, shall serve as Executive Secretary of the Commission and shall attend all meetings of
8 the Commission.

9 (e) *Duties of the Commission on Aging:*

10 (1) The Commission shall make such surveys concerning [[the problems of the aging]] ISSUES
11 AFFECTING OLDER ADULTS as it may determine, or as directed by the Executive or the
12 County Council, and promote in every manner possible the welfare and betterment of the
13 [[aged people]]OLDER ADULTS of the County.

14 (2) The Commission shall [[act as the advisory body]]PROVIDE ADVICE to the Office on Aging
15 and Independence and shall [[review and]] make recommendations concerning [[all new
16 programs]] PROGRAMS, RESOURCES, AND SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED TO OLDER ADULTS IN
17 HOWARD COUNTY [[proposed by the Administrator on aging prior to their
18 implementation]].

19 [[(3) The Commission shall review the proposed budget of the Office on Aging and
20 Independence and make such recommendations as it deems appropriate to the
21 Administrator on aging and the County Executive, prior to its submission to the County
22 Council.]]

23 ([[4]]3) Other matters. At the directive of the County Executive or by resolution of the County
24 Council, the Commission on Aging shall review and make recommendations on any matter
25 related to older [[residents of]]ADULTS IN the County.

26
27 ***Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
28 *this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*