




Howard County

Internal Memorandum

DATE: January 21, 2021

TO: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Jennifer Sager 
Legislative Coordinator

SUBJECT: Testimony and Fiscal Analysis on Bill amending terms of board and commission members

An amendment to Section 404 of the County Charter, effective on or about December 3, 2020, reduced the term for members of most County citizen boards and commissions from five to three years and this change needs to be reflected in the following places in the County Code:

Section 6.300 applicable to boards and commissions generally.
Section 12.702 applicable to the Commission for Women.
Section 12.1702 applicable to the Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency.
Section 12.301 applicable to the Local Children's Board.

Based on the exceptions to Charter Section 404, the Board of Appeals and Personnel Board will remain 5-year terms. In some instances, state law may govern the term for membership on certain boards and commissions including, without limitation, the Planning Board and Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board.

Fiscal Analysis

There is no fiscal impact to this legislation as it is "housekeeping" following the recent change to the Charter. The Boards and Commissions amended by this Bill are not new. The change in length of term will not result in additional staff work as staff is already assigned to act as the Executive Secretary to each Board/Commission.