

Office of the County Auditor

Auditor's Analysis

Council Bill No. 15-2022

Introduced: February 7, 2022

Auditor: Michael A. Martin

Fiscal Impact:

There is no anticipated fiscal impact as a result of this legislation as it will not result in the use of additional County resources.

Purpose:

This legislation proposes to add the following qualification requirements for those seeking appointment to the County's Planning Board:

- Each Planning Board member shall reside in a different Councilmanic District
- At least one member must be a resident of the Rural Conservation (RC) or Rural Reservation (RR) Districts
- Each member must complete the State of Maryland Planning Commission Education Course (a one-time, free, online course) within six months of being appointed
- All nominees must submit a resume to the County Council

The legislation specifies that once effective, the first appointment to fill a vacated spot will be from Councilmanic District 1 and the second appointment will be from Councilmanic District 5, unless either of these appointments leave any other District unrepresented.

Other Comments:

There is currently only one qualification required for an individual to serve as a Planning Board member, which is that they must be a resident of Howard County.

Of the five current Planning Board members, three are residents from Councilmanic District 2, one is a resident from District 3, and one is a resident from District 4. None of the current members reside in the RC or RR Districts.